



Cold Regions Eco-Hydrology Field Course Now accepting applications for 2017

- ***Spend ten exciting days in the Boreal forest!***
- ***Work closely with research scientists***
- ***Learn from Dehcho Elders their way of knowing the land and traditional skills***
- ***Experience field research techniques in water resources, hydrology, ecology, climate, botany, greenhouse gasses and more***
- ***Learn about the snow, water and the land***
- ***Become a “Partner in Learning” with other students and researchers.***

The Scotty Creek Research Station (<http://www.scottycreek.com>) near Fort Simpson, Northwest Territories (NWT) is a research and teaching facility of the Cold Regions Research Centre (<http://coldregions.ca/>), Wilfrid Laurier University. Scotty Creek is dedicated to environmental research and education. Scotty is situated in one of the most rapidly warming regions of the world, so it is an ideal “*outdoor lab*” to study and learn about climate change and how the environment is changing as a result.

Cold Regions Eco-Hydrology is a winter outdoor environmental education course for high school students and teachers in the Dehcho region. The programme runs from 11 to 18 March, 2017 at the Scotty Creek Research Station (SCRS).

Students work closely with a variety of instructors including scientists, environmental educators, on-site researchers and Dehcho Elders. The focus is on learning about the land and water during winter from both scientific and traditional aboriginal perspectives.

Students will learn about winter ecology and hydrology including precipitation, energy balances, snow accumulation and redistribution by wind, plant physiology, plant-snow interactions, over-winter moisture redistribution in soils and snow, and greenhouse gas (GHG) flux processes, traditional knowledge, and the Dene language. Students will also learn about decision-making and water resource management using real-life examples. For more information, see the Cold Regions Eco-Hydrology Field Course Outline at

<http://www.scottycreek.com/site/info?p=fieldcourses>

Who are the programme staff?

Professional scientists, Dehcho Elders, and an environmental educators from the GNWT Department of Education Culture and Employment.

What will I learn?

- ***Current environmental sampling and monitoring methods through hands-on experience.***
- ***Traditional skills and knowledge from Dehcho Elders.***
- ***Different ways of knowing about the land.***
- ***Learn about ongoing research and its connection to international projects.***

Students will also conduct their own project in an area of interest to them, and with the assistance of an instructor.

There will also be opportunities for recreation, including snowshoeing, photography, storytelling and games.

What is the facility like?

The SCRS is located 50 km south of Fort Simpson. Access in winter is by snowmobile. Research began at Scotty Creek in 1999, and has expanded since then. Today it is one of the leading research stations in the North. Facilities include insulated tents for dining, washing, lectures and laboratory work, and platforms with all-weather sleeping tents. The station is powered primarily by solar arrays and is supplied with satellite internet for communication and data transfer. Several of the programme staff are qualified to administer first-aid and CPR.

What does it cost?

The course fee is \$300. This fee pays for the cost of the programme, including transportation to the SCRS, all meals, and accommodation.

This course is a collaborative effort among Wilfrid Laurier University, the GNWT Departments of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), and Education, Culture and Employment (ECE), and the Dehcho First Nations. The course cost is subsidised by Wilfrid Laurier University in support of the Laurier-GNWT Partnership Agreement (<https://nwtwlu.com/>).

Who can apply?

If you are a Grade 12 student in the Dehcho with an interest in environmental science, you are encouraged to apply.

How can I apply?

To apply, please send the following by email attachment to Bill Quinton, Wilfrid Laurier University (wquinton@wlu.ca):

- ***A brief (500 word) letter explaining why you are interested in taking this course,***
- ***A letter of recommendation from your school liaison,***
- ***A copy of your academic transcript for the last two years.***

Important dates:

- ***1 February - Deadline for receipt of applications.***
- ***7 February - Applicants will be informed if they have been selected. Payment instructions and Acknowledgement of Risk forms will be provided.***
- ***14 February - Deadline for payment (credit card payment only please). No refunds after 28 February.***
- ***11 March - Students arrive at Checkpoint in the evening, introductions.***
- ***12 March - Students depart for Scotty Creek.***

More information:

For more information on the course content, please contact Bill Quinton at 519-884-0710, ext. 3281, wquinton@wlu.ca, or visit the course website at:

<http://www.scottycreek.com/site/info?p=fieldcourses>

For more information on how to apply, please contact Terry Jaffray, Superintendent, Fort Simpson, Terry_Jaffray@dehcho.learnnet.nt.ca, Phone: 867-695-7308.