

## Program Overview

The Environment is an emerging sector in our world as we continue to expect a clean and safe environment to live in that is essential for our health and quality of life. As such, the government and other organizations have launched various programs to protect our air, water and land resources. The environment sector offers career opportunities in conservation, research, recreation, innovation and more to students who are interested in this field.

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program in the Environment gives students an opportunity to specialize, gain qualifications, and plan a career pathway in various areas of the Environment sector while still in high school. The SHSM Program has a number of required components, designed to give students a "leg-up" to pursue post-secondary opportunities in each of the identified sectors, valuing apprenticeship, college, university and work.

## The Experience

Students in the SHSM Environment program will have an opportunity to:

- Develop an understanding of current environmental issues and make connections to global perspectives
- Develop leadership skills while promoting change to better the school, community and global environment
- Participate in field trips, job shadowing and experiential learning to develop environmental knowledge and employability skills necessary to pursue post-secondary education or employment
- Canoe, snowshoe, hike, climb, camp, orienteer and learn in an outdoor classroom

For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major Environment programs, contact your school guidance counsellor and log onto [haltonpathways.ca](http://haltonpathways.ca).

[haltonpathways.ca](http://haltonpathways.ca)

# Environment



Conservation Officer  
Environmental Consultant

*Biologist*

Recreation Guide  
Urban Planner



## Course Package

Each SHSM program offers students a bundle of 8 - 10 credits. These courses are regular Ontario secondary school courses that allow students to work towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, but have been bundled as the most relevant courses to prepare students for a future in the Environment sector.

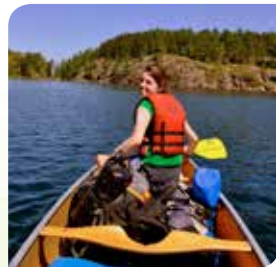
### The bundle includes:

- **4 “major” credits** in Environment in grade 11 and 12, such as environmental science, biology, outdoor education and geography
- Supporting credits, which include Contextualized Learning Activities (opportunities for students to learn the subject in the context of the Environment sector):
  - > 1 Grade 11 and 1 Grade 12 English credit
  - > 1 Grade 11 math credit
  - > 2 cooperative education credits to experience life in the Environment sector



## Achievements in the Program

- **Certifications and Awareness Training:** Students complete sector-recognized certifications related to the major and selected from a list, including Standard First Aid, CPR Training, WHMIS and three electives specific to the Environment sector, such as Wilderness First Aid, GPS for Environment Training and Paddling Techniques
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
  - > Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
  - > Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the Environment sector
  - > See guest speakers, go on field trips and other workplace experiences to explore careers in the Environment
- Document your essential skills and work habits through the **Ontario Skills Passport**
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Explore the field and post-secondary education opportunities in the Environment sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



## HDSB SHSM Program Locations: Environment

Focus	Location	Region of Halton
Royal Botanical Gardens ECO Studies	Aldershot School	Aldershot
Bronte Creek Project	Gary Allan High School	Burlington
SHSM Environment	Garth Webb Secondary School	Oakville
E.A.R.T.H. Program	Georgetown District High School	Georgetown

