



About Citizens' Environment Watch (CEW)

Citizens' Environment Watch empowers people in Ontario to pay attention to their local environment. We provide education, equipment and support to monitor local ecosystem health, and opportunities to participate in informed community decision-making and active stewardship.

CEW works across Ontario with a particular focus on the Greater Toronto Area, Greenbelt, and Oak Ridges Moraine. We provide the education, equipment, and support that people need to participate in fun, worthwhile environmental projects. We offer teachers the support of CEW "Field Guides" (trained university or college students), who act as educational assistants (for the teacher) and mentors (for the students) each time they bring their class into the outdoors.

Our programs are based on three principles:

- *Education*: teaching and learning about local ecosystems and the environment
- *Evidence*: collecting accurate and defensible scientific data about local ecosystem health
- *Action*: using scientific data to start local projects and influence community decision-making

Our Programs

TLC 2006: The Toronto Lichen Count – Join people across the city as they stand up for Toronto's air – Let's get outside and count our lichen.

Monitoring the Moraine - a collaborative project between Citizens' Environment Watch (CEW), Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM) Coalition, and Centre for Community Mapping (COMAP), designed to engage and sustain community volunteers in environmental and policy monitoring across the Oak Ridges Moraine (within an overall Oak Ridges Moraine monitoring framework). www.monitoringthemoraine.ca

Wattwize - a student-driven energy conservation program in schools across Ontario. www.wattwize.ca

Ontario Adopt-a-Site - for people who like science and discovery, nature and the outdoors, and want to get involved in their community.

Participants learn about plants, animals and even weather patterns that are indicators of local ecological health, and how to use this information to make a difference. Anyone can adopt-a-site and measure/monitor what matters most to them! This program includes three different aspects:

Reconnect: a series of outdoor workshops that 'reconnect' people to nature, and get started on their project.

Field Guides: a training program for post-secondary students and other community members to become a local science leader and mentor in their community

Equipment Bank: a program that allows people to borrow CEW's scientific and outdoor equipment for their project.