

EcoSpark Program's Covid-19 Infection Prevention and Control Measures Strategy

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1.0. COVID Screening

1.1. Staff COVID Self Screening

- Prior to each Changing Currents session all EcoSpark staff members are required to complete the [Ontario Ministry of Health self-assessment for COVID-19](#).
- If staff do not pass the self-assessment test, they will not be able to attend the session.
 - Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19 include:
 - new or worsening cough
 - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - temperature equal to or over 38°C
 - feeling feverish
 - chills
 - fatigue or weakness
 - muscle or body aches
 - new loss of smell or taste
 - headache
 - gastrointestinal symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
 - feeling very unwell
- If staff members show any of the signs or symptoms of COVID-19 listed above prior to a session they should:
 - Contact their EcoSpark supervisor immediately and reach out to the back-up staff member listed to fill in for the session. Whenever possible, staff should try to notify the back-up staff member the night before the sessions.
 - If a back-up staff member is unable to attend, EcoSpark will reach out to the facilitator to reschedule the session.
 - Stay home or return home to self-isolate immediately

- Contact their health care provider
- If they don't have a health care provider they should:
 - Call Telehealth Ontario at 1-855-797-0000
 - Or visit their Local [public health unit](#).

1.2. Participant COVID Self Screening

- Prior to each session it is important to connect with each facilitator (teacher/organizer) when they arrive to site to ensure all participants have been properly screened for COVID on the day of the field study before they attend their session(s).
 - It is important to note that any participants who fail the screening will not be allowed to participate in the sessions.
- A reminder will be included within the "Upcoming Study" email sent 1-2 weeks prior to their scheduled session.

1.3. Incidents of COVID-19 Exposure During or after a sessions

- Staff Members
 - If a staff member, facilitator, or program participant shows any signs/symptoms of COVID during a session they should notify their partner and leave the session immediately to self-isolate at home and contact their local health care provider.
 - EcoSpark back-up staff members for the day should also be notified and whenever possible try to attend the remainder of the session.
 - Should staff exhibit signs of symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of a session they should notify their immediate supervisor and contact their local Public Health agency.
 - Staff exhibiting signs/symptoms of COVID will be asked to get tested for COVID-19 promptly and report the result to EcoSpark to assist in contact tracing.
- Program Participants
 - If a participant exhibits any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 during a session they will be asked to leave the session immediately to self-isolate at home.
 - If the individual(s) is unable to leave the session right away, they should remove themselves from the group and isolate until they are able to leave.
 - Should participants exhibit signs of symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of a session they should contact their local Public Health agency.

1.4. If COVID is confirmed

- The individual testing positive should continue to self-isolate and contact their local health care providers.
- Program Participant Tests Positive for COVID-19
 - If the individual is a program participant, the participant should notify their program facilitator immediately (i.e. teacher, school, and/or community coordinator).

- The program facilitator should then notify EcoSpark immediately by calling first, followed up by email until they receive acknowledgement from an EcoSpark staff member. Contact information as follows:
 - Changing Currents
 - Phone: 647-258-3280 x 2011
 - holli@ecospark.ca
 - School Watch
 - 647-258-3280 x 2005
 - dana@ecospark.ca
- EcoSpark Staff Member Test Positive for COVID-19
 - If the individual is an EcoSpark staff member, the staff member will notify their supervisor immediately and EcoSpark will contact each event facilitator by phone, followed by email from **ALL events that the staff person attended for the prior 2 weeks.**
 - EcoSpark will confirm that Facilitators will agree to contact each participant if notified of a positive COVID-19 test result.

1.5. Contact tracing

- Program facilitators such as teachers and/or community group coordinators will keep detailed records of all participants that attend EcoSpark sessions for contact tracing purposes. Key information includes:
 - First and last name
 - Email and phone number
 - School and/or community group name
 - Total number of program participants
- EcoSpark staff will keep detailed records of all program facilitators' information (refer to list above). EcoSpark will contact each program facilitator for events that occurred in the 2 weeks before and after the positive test result.
- Program facilitators are responsible for contacting the individual participants for their event.

2.0. Equipment, Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

2.1. Personal Protective Equipment and Respiratory Etiquette

- All EcoSpark staff members, facilitators, and program participants are required to wear a face mask and/or face shield at all times during each session.
 - Optional mask "breaks", if agreed on by the entire group, are to be conducted only during designated times, outdoors, once all participants confirm physical distancing of 2 meters or more. After handling masks, each participant shall wash and/or sanitize their hands according.
- Gloves are not mandatory but are recommended if handing out supplies, for example. The gloves should be removed without touching the outside surface.

2.2. Hand Hygiene and Physical Distancing

- All EcoSpark staff members, facilitators, and program participants are expected to keep a distance of at least 2 meters where possible from each other at all times during a session.
 - An exception will be made for participants residing in the same household.
- EcoSpark staff members when carpooling together will wear masks and have windows rolled down to allow air flow. In addition, when possible the passenger will sit in the backseat of the car, opposite of the driver to maintain proper social distancing.
- All EcoSpark staff members, facilitators, and program participants are expected to clean their hands often (ex. Sanitize hands between each equipment/material use)
 - EcoSpark staff will all be provided with an alcohol-based (70-90%) hand sanitizer and will carry a spare bottle for program participants to use.

2.3. Equipment and Materials Safety

- All EcoSpark equipment and materials will be sanitized prior to, throughout and after each session with a disinfectant and/or alcohol-based (70-90%) solution to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 as per outlined in the [Public Health Ontario, Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Setting Guidelines](#).
- Additional equipment will be provided to minimize contact between individuals to help maintain social distancing.
- During each session staff and program participants will sanitize/disinfect each piece of equipment used before passing it on to others (i.e. insect nets, beat sheet, rinse bottles etc.).
- After each session staff will sanitize/disinfect all equipment before putting it back into storage.
- Staff will do a thorough site check before leaving each site to ensure no materials, disinfectant/sanitizing products or garbage is left on site.

2.4. Ranavirus Stream Equipment Cleaning (Changing Currents Only)

- The Ranavirus has been confirmed in the Credit River watershed. Ranavirus are fatal and can infect amphibians, reptiles and fish.
- If staff or participants come across spills, dead or lethargic frogs, dead fish or visibly ill turtles contact the local Conservation Authority and MNR.
 - For Credit Valley Conservation contact Jessica Consiglio at (jessica.consiglio@cvc.ca)
 - For the MNR call the Toll-Free hotline at: 1-886-MOETIPS (6638477). Refer to the Government of Ontario's "[Report Pollution and Spills](#)" website for more information.