

SPECIALIST  
**HIGH SKILLS**

Halton District School Board

MAJOR



Environment  
**RBG ECO STUDIES**

**Program Overview:**

Aldershot School has recently entered into a partnership with Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) to develop a new and innovative Environmental program called ECO Studies. ECO Studies is an Experiential Education program with an Environmental and Earth Science focus. It is one of the first programs of its kind to offer core courses linked to the new Provincial Environment Specialist High Skills Major Certificate.

One of the world's largest urban parks is your classroom for part of one semester. RBG provides access to modern scientific equipment and research facilities and expertise. The 1000 hectare site is one of the most biodiverse locations in Canada, overlapping 5 distinct forest ecosystems,

a protected wetland (Cootes Paradise) and the Niagara Escarpment UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. It is an ecological playground waiting to be explored.

As an RBG ECO Studies student you will have opportunities to experience the following:

- Participate in, and plan habitat restoration and other Environmental Stewardship initiatives
- Learn outdoor leadership and survival skills
- Canoe, snowshoe, hike, climb, camp, and orienteer with GPS
- Use cutting edge technology to undertake environmental projects
- Study local environmental issues and make connections to global perspectives



- View examples of Earth surface processes (erosion and weathering) on and around the RBG grounds

### Course Package:

- Earth and Space Science (SES 4U)
- Environment and Resource Management (CGR 4M)
- Outdoor Education (PAD 4O)
- Environmental Science (SNC 4M)

### Who Can Take the RBG ECO Studies Program:

- Anyone who has completed Grade 10 Science
- Anyone who is passionate about the Environment
- Anyone who is looking for an academic challenge outside of the traditional classroom
- Anyone who wants the experience of a lifetime!

### ECO Studies Timetable (3 days/week):

Period 1 and 2	Meet in ECO Studies classroom at Aldershot. Gain fundamental course concepts to apply at RBG.
Period 3	Lunch until 11:50 am, board bus to RBG.
Period 4 and 5	At RBG Nature Interpretive Centre for afternoon experiential activities and course work. Return to Aldershot for afternoon dismissal.

### Application Details:

For more information on the SHSM Environment RBG ECO Studies program, visit [schooltocareer.ca](http://schooltocareer.ca) or call Aldershot School at (905) 637-2383. To register for the program, go to [www.onsorts.ca](http://www.onsorts.ca) or visit your school to career guidance counsellor. Finalists may be asked to participate in a personal interview. The top 22 students will have the opportunity to participate in the program.

### Program Costs:

Participants in the program will be required to help supplement the cost of transportation, purchasing new scientific supplies and outdoor equipment. The fee for the program will be \$350.

Students will also be responsible to cover the costs of certain activities and are required to purchase equipment/clothing for personal use. (ie., food costs for camping trips, appropriate outdoor footwear, etc.)

