



Sector: Environment

SHSM Certifications:

Customer Service (1/2)

Students learn the fundamental components in delivering effective customer service, including greeting, questioning to understand need, listening skills, confirming understanding of need, responding with value, using positive and clear language, and concluding interactions. Students also learn about the importance of body language and tone of voice when interacting with customers, and they will learn how to deal with conflict in sector-specific customer service scenarios.

GIS (Please Inquire)

At the GFC, students are introduced to the functioning and benefits of using GIS through an interactive demonstration in a quarter-day program. This program can be extended to a half-day program in which students complete a GPS challenge. The data collected during the GPS challenge will be incorporated into a GIS map in order to interpret student behaviour exhibited during the GPS challenge. Alternatively, a GFC instructor can visit your school to complete a hands-on GIS laboratory in your school's computer lab.

GPS (1/2)

Students learn how GPS works, what it can be used for, and how it relates to topographical maps. After gaining familiarity with the GPS device, students navigate the Forest Centre grounds and compete in a geocache challenge course.

Green Check GPS Certification (2xFull)

A more advanced 2-day program provides students with industry-recognized certification with the Green Check National GPS Certification Program. The Green Check Certification clarifies the connections between the map, compass, and GPS unit, and ensures that the students can utilize their GPS unit with a standard 1:50,000 topographic map. *Ask about our Global Information Systems (GIS) capabilities.*

Hike Ontario (1/2 or Full)

In a half-day program, students learn the fundamental skills required to prepare and safely undertake a hiking trip in the wilderness. In the full day program, students further develop their hiking awareness and skills while taking to the trails at the Ganaraska Forest Centre. Participants of the full day program will be credited with the Hike Ontario Safe Hiker certification.

I.C.E. Training (Full)

Need a sector partner for your innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship training? Put your students to work for us! Let the ICE-trained and Ontario-certified teachers of the GFC host this exciting training for your students. We can develop an authentic challenge statement and facilitate the movement of students through the three gears of ICE: empathy and need finding, ideation and prototyping, and strategy and testing.

Leadership Skills (1/2 or Full)

Students develop their character and leadership by completing a series of fun team challenges and group program solving tasks. Students are challenged to identify the roles and responsibilities of leadership, and they are given many opportunities to demonstrate their leadership skills in this engaging program. This program can be extended into an advanced full-day certification in which students are tested on our certified Low Ropes course.

Map and Compass (1/2)

This is an engaging program that challenges each student's compass and map-reading skills on two adventure courses. Students hone their orienteering skills on a field course with visible landmarks, and if successful, are then challenged to

navigate our extensive forest trail system. Students gain an appreciation for the importance of maps and compasses in the workplace and in their daily lives.

Species Identification (1/2)

Trees (1/4): In the quarter-day program, students gain an understanding of and appreciation for a wide variety of local tree species, and learn how to use a dichotomous key to assist in identifying coniferous and deciduous tree species. Students will then complete a tree identification hike to demonstrate their species ID skills.

Benthics (1/2): In the half-day program, students visit a beaver pond to collect benthic macroinvertebrates (bottom-dwelling creatures). Students utilize key anatomical features to assist in identifying the species of benthic, and will learn more about their life cycles and their importance to the ecosystem. Students will then complete a benthic station gallery walk to demonstrate their species ID skills.

Watershed Management (1/2)

Students learn about the anatomy of a watershed as well as the fundamental considerations and processes for the management of a watershed. In small groups, each student embodies the role of a particular stakeholder in watershed management, and they are challenged to come to a consensus solution for a watershed management challenge. The students will then design their own watershed model and investigate different engineering systems to regulate flooding and pollution controls.

Wilderness First Aid (1/2)

In this extension of the student's Standard First Aid certification, students are introduced to the unique environment of the wilderness in administering First Aid. Students are challenged to utilise a number of readily-available natural materials to deliver aid in mock scenarios. Although the fundamental considerations of wilderness first aid will be taught, this awareness course is not a substitute for advanced certification by recognized providers of Wilderness First Aid. Pre-requisite: Standard First Aid.

Wilderness Survival (1/2)

Students are immersed in a wilderness survival situation in this engaging program. To survive the scenario, the students must demonstrate their ability to plan and pack for a trip, to safeguard their essential survival needs, to design and construct a wilderness shelter, and to safely ignite a wilderness fire. Across all components, students develop the attitudes and mindset of a survivor.

Other Opportunities: Other GFC Programs of interest to Environment SHSMs: Low Ropes, Oak Ridges Moraine, and Introduction to Stream Assessment Protocol. Overnight programs at the GFC: Campfire, Night Hike, Survival Game, and Jeopardy.

Program Pricing: \$60 per student per day + tax (overnight option available)

Information and Booking: Please contact the Ganaraska Forest Centre Outdoor Education Staff for further information about our current programs and future opportunities: 905-797-2721 or education@grca.on.ca.