



Environment Resource Studies - Welcome Weekend Package:

Congratulations for being accepted into the Environment and Resource Studies (ERS) Program at the University of Waterloo. The Environment and Resource Studies Student Association (ERSSA), your program student council, would like to welcome you into the Environment Faculty and ERS Community. To celebrate your acceptance into ERS, ERSSA would like to invite you to our annual camping trip weekend held at Elora Gorge.

ERSSA's Welcome Weekend provides an opportunity for first year ERS students to meet and develop relationships with peers, senior students and faculty staff.

General Information:

Who?

Welcome weekend is a social event specifically organized for first year students. Students from upper program years cannot attend the event; unless they are acting as a Trip Leader. Trip Leaders are 2nd-5th year ERS students who will be facilitating all weekend activities.

What?

Welcome Weekend is an ERS tradition, hosted and organized by ERSSA, that takes place at the beginning of every Fall term. Its purpose is to introduce first year students to the ERS Community. Over the weekend, Trip Leaders will facilitate several fun activities. This includes: arts and crafts, bonfire games and stories, glow in the dark competitions, hiking Elora Gorge and star gazing.

Where?

This Fall 2014 term, Welcome Weekend will be held at the Elora Conservation Area, a pristine protected area located within the Region of Waterloo. It is approximately a 30-minute drive northeast of the University of Waterloo.

When?

Welcome Weekend will take place from Friday, September 19th to Sunday, September 21st, 2014. Students participating in the event are asked to meet at the EV2 Ring Road Entrance (with all their gear) on Friday, September 19th at 12:30pm. At this time, students will board the bus to Elora Conservation Area. Students will return to campus on Sunday, September 21st at 12:30pm.

Questions?

If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding Welcome Weekend, please feel free to contact either Nicole Cerpnjak, ERSSA President, at necerpnjak@uwaterloo.ca or Jon Jorna, ERSSA Vice-President, at jmjorna@uwaterloo.ca. Thank you! Hope to see you there!

Camping Gear - What should I pack?

-Bathing Suit	-Mug	-Snacks (to supplement provided meals)
-Bug Repellent	-Musical Instruments	- Something special (that you feel represents you)
-Binoculars and I.D.	-Outdoor Clothing/ Warming Clothes (Toque, Sweater)	-Sun Block
-Books	-Rain Gear	-Tent (optional)
-Camera	-Sleeping Bag	-Towel
-Flashlight		
-Health Card		

Recommendation - Check the weather for the weekend on Thursday, September 18th to ensure you have packed appropriately.

Welcome Weekend Fee:

To participate in Welcome Weekend you must pay a **\$40.00 fee**. This fee includes the campground-booking cost, your meals for the entire weekend (Friday's dinner to Sunday's brunch), supplies for activities and games and your transportation to and from Elora Conservation Area.

ERSSA has conducted fundraising efforts for Welcome Weekend to assist in lowering costs for student. **As a council, we believe that all ERS students should experience equal opportunities.** Therefore, if insufficient funds are preventing you from attending Welcome Weekend, please contact Nicole Cerpnjak, ERSSA President, at necerpnjak@uwaterloo.ca or Jon Jorna, ERSSA Vice-President, at jmjorna@uwaterloo.ca. We are more than happy and willing to work together to make alternative arrangements.

Options of Payment:

If you are interested in attending Welcome Weekend, please print and complete the following forms. Payments are due by Wednesday, September 17th, 2014 and can be made by cash or cheque via one of the payment options outlined below. Please make cheques payable to ERSSA Student Association.

Option One - On Campus:

Please bring your completed forms with your preferred payment method to your ERS 110 Class. ERSSA representatives will be present at your first and second week of classes. You can also hand in your forms to Patti Bester (ERS Undergraduate Academic Advisor). Patti's office is located in EV2, room 2012.

Option Two- Off Campus:

Before classes start, mail in your forms and payment method to:

Patricia Bester, UG Advisor
Environment and Resource Studies
Environment 2 Bldg. Rm. 2012
University of Waterloo
200 University Ave. West
Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1 Canada

APPLICATION FORM

ERS Welcome Weekend – Elora Conservation Area:

Welcome to the ERS Community! If you would like to attend Welcome Weekend, please complete this form and hand it into ERSSA or Patti Bester. The cost of this trip is **\$40.00**, which includes two great nights at Elora Conservation Area’s campgrounds, transportation, many filling meals, and tons of great activities organized by 2nd-5th year ERS students. Please enclose a cheque payable to ERSSA Student Association. An ERSSA representative will attend ERS 110 to collect your fees and forms.

Please print clearly on the form below.

LAST NAME: _____

FIRST NAME: _____

STUDENT ID #: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ Do you have access to a car? YES ___ NO ___

Medical Information:

Health Card #: _____

Emergency Contact:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Dietary Restrictions:

Medical Conditions or special considerations Trip Leaders should be informed of:

-Examples: Asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, food allergies, weak joints etc.

Can you bring a tent? YES ___ NO ___

How many people can your tent house? _____

Bursaries:

A portion of the Welcome Weekend budget will be allocated to assisting disadvantaged students in paying for this trip. The total allotted for this, will be equally divided between the applicants requesting assistance. For this reason, we ask that only students who cannot afford the trip apply for a bursary. Thank you!

() **Check here if you require financial assistance.**

ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

Please print clearly on the form below.

NAME

ID #

E-MAIL

LOCAL PHONE #

PERMANENT ADDRESS CITY PROVINCE POSTAL CODE

PERMANENT PHONE #

Please read this form carefully. When you sign this form you waive and release all claims for injuries you might sustain arising out of the facilities and participation in the activities and programs at Elora Conservation Area.

I assume the responsibility for injuries to myself while participating in the ERSSA Welcome Weekend Excursion, and I will not bring any action for damages, which might arise from these injuries. I acknowledge that I have completed the registration form and medical information fully and truthfully. In the case of accident or illness, the participant must pay for any emergency transport and hospital/physician/medical expenses.

I have read and fully understand the above Waiver and Release of all Claims Form.

DATE: __ / __ / ____

SIGNATURE: _____