

LEARNING OUTCOMES: AQUATIC ECOLOGY

Abiotic

Identify the processes and phases of the water cycle.

Understand the concept of watersheds. Know the features of a healthy and unhealthy watershed.

Biotic

Identify aquatic species common to Nova Scotia and understand their dependence on one another. Know which aquatic species are considered 'at risk' and what their status is. Know how to use a dichotomous key to identify micro- and macro-invertebrates. Habitat: Understand habitat needs of aquatic species.

Understand the concept of migratory fish and give local examples.

Understand the impact invasive and introduced species can have on an ecosystem and give local examples.

Aquatic Environments

Know what classifies a wetland from other ecosystems. Understand the functions and values of wetlands.

Watercourse Protection & Conservation

Understand ways that the Province manages, conserves and protects aquatic resources. Give examples of local regulations which are in place to protect aquatic resources. How can you protect aquatic resources?

Know various methods of conserving water and why they are important. How can you conserve water?

Understand water quality testing and monitoring and why these tests are used to assess and manage aquatic environments. Understand point and non-point source pollution and ways to reduce them. Explain how water quality can be improved.

