

Ugliest Schoolyard Contest 2022

Why should your school apply?

Benefits for students:

- Improve moods
- Increase information retention
- Reduce bullying
- Improve social skills
- Connect with natural environment

Benefits for nature:

- Increase urban forest canopy cover
- Increase biodiversity
- Empower the next generation of environmental stewards

You could win an “Outdoor Classroom” featuring:

- cluster of native trees providing shade
- stone planter doubles as seating
- large area for entire class to gather





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Contest Rules

Qualifying schools will:

1. Be located within the City of Greater Sudbury municipal boundaries, and
2. Not have been recipients of this award in the past, or since 2013 (check the [interactive map](#))

Interested schools must submit a **letter of intent** to enter the Ugliest Schoolyard Contest by **Friday, April 22, 2022**.

Contest **entry form** must be received by the **contest deadline** of Thursday, **May 5, 2022**.

Email your submission to:

Wayne Hugli at whugli@hotmail.com
and

Tina McCaffrey at tina.mccaffrey@greatersudbury.ca

Note: Large files may be sent via Dropbox.

The winning school must commit to:

- hosting the launch of the project at the school site,
- erecting a suitable sign on the site which will include the logos of our organization and the sponsors (signage cost will be provided through project sponsors), and
- supporting the project for three years – will involve submitting video interviews with students on how they interact with the outdoor classroom (for classes, recess, after hours), how they have maintained the trees planted as part of this project, any renovations, or additions to their outdoor environments (i.e. addition of perennials or shrubs, vegetable, or pollinator gardens etc.), engagement with community experts (i.e. Sudbury Horticultural Society, Sudbury Shared Harvest, Community Garden Network) and establishment of a school based garden club to secure the future success of the project.

Judging

A judging panel of representatives from the City of Greater Sudbury's VETAC committee will review the submissions and announce a winner **in early June**. The judges' decision will be final.



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Responsibilities and Commitments

VETAC will work with the winning school to plan the official launch of the project. The school will be asked to host this event and will be encouraged to hold an assembly of the student body.

VETAC will be responsible for drawing up an agreement with the winning school and will help the school through the surveying and planning process and assist in drawing up the plans for the schoolyard project. VETAC will also guide the school through the implementation stages of the first year of the project and provide on-site management, support, and advice.

The prizes will be administered by VETAC on behalf of the winning school for the implementation of the project following acceptance of the landscape plan.

VETAC, with your approval, will use photographs of your schoolyard improvement project to promote the contest to potential sponsors in future years.

Winning school commits to three-year maintenance of the prize package including a yearly submission to VETAC on how the outdoor classroom is used, maintained, and appreciated by the student body.

Important!

Please read the Contest Rules carefully and make sure that you enclose photographs of your schoolyard, the required letters of support and the completed entry form with the responses to Sections 1-5.

Also, please ensure that your school fully understands the responsibilities and commitments to the schoolyard project that are required of the winning school.

If you have any questions about the contest, please contact:

Wayne Hugli

Phone: 705-561-1750

Email: whugli@hotmail.com

OR

Tina McCaffrey

Phone: 705-674-4455, ext. 4605

Email: tina.mccaffrey@greatersudbury.ca



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Entry Form

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of School:

Type of School: Elementary Secondary

Mailing Address:

Phone: Fax:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal: Email:

Contact Teacher: Email:

Contact Parent: Email:
 Phone:

Please respond to the following FIVE (5) SECTIONS and attach your responses (preferable typed) to the entry form.

Section 1: Describe your schoolyard. Include photographs of your schoolyard.

Section 2: What improvements have you already made? Does your school have a garden club? Do you have a group of volunteers that is committed to assisting with your greening project for the next three years?

Section 3: What additional improvements would you like to make? Is there a suitable location for an outdoor classroom? Include photographs of the area(s) you wish to transform.

Section 4: Why does your schoolyard qualify for this contest?

Section 5: Provide proven support for this project by the school community. Include a letter of support from the principal, the teachers, the school council and approval of your School Board.

This contest was initiated by the Canadian Biodiversity Institute and Earth Day Ottawa in 1998. For further information, visit www.biodiversityonline.ca . This entry form and a look at past winning schools can be viewed at www.greatersudbury.ca/VETAC .