

World Scout Environment Award

PURPOSE: To demonstrate a Scout's concern for, and active stewardship of, the environment.

The World Scout Environment Award badge shows Antarctica—the only collectively managed continent in the world and one of the most at risk from climate change—at its centre. The other landforms create a “world” image—not showing any one particular continent or country, as Scouts are encouraged to look beyond their own borders and think of the world. The colours of blue, green and white are commonly associated with nature; the purple of World Scouting is blended with these. The sun is reflected in the water.

The World Scout Environment Award is an international award, which means that Scouts in other countries are also working to earn it, even though they may be working on slightly different requirements.

Requirements:

The requirements for the World Scout Environment Award are based on the framework provided by the World Organization of the Scouting Movement. Some of these requirements may also be completed in support of select Personal Achievement badges and Outdoor Adventure Skills. Likely, many senior Scouts will complete some or even all requirements for the World Scout Environment Award as part of their personal progression.

1. Explore the sources of clean water and clean air in your local environment, and identify potential threats to these fundamental resources. Consider possible solutions to these threats.

Possible activities include:

- Plan, do and review a shoreline clean-up with your Patrol or Troop.
- Plan, do and review an urban hike with your Patrol or Troop. Photograph evidence of clean air and water, and evidence of threats to clean air and water.
- Create promotional materials (such as posters or videos) to encourage people to commute by mass transit or bike.

2. Explore a local wilderness area. Understand the ecosystem connections of native species of plants and animals and their habitat needs.

Possible activities may include:

- Plan, do and review a day hike at a local conservation area or provincial park with your Patrol or Troop. Survey the living things you find on your way. Discuss how they interact with each other and how they contribute to the whole ecosystem.
- Plan, do and review a weekend wilderness canoe trip with your Patrol or Troop. Pay attention to the wildlife in the water and how it interacts with the living things on the land.
- Plan, do and review a weekend survival camp with your Patrol or Troop. During your review, discuss what food sources you were able to find, and the place of these food sources in the local ecosystem.



3. Demonstrate what personal action can be taken to reduce the risk of harmful substances in your community to people and the broader environment.

Possible activities include:

- Organize an e-waste collection with your Patrol or Troop.
- Participate in a Yellow Fish Road program to raise awareness about stormwater pollution.
- Design and build a model car or appliance that works on a renewable source of energy.

4. Identify and promote potentially better environmental practices for your local area.

Possible activities include:

- Volunteer to sort recyclables at a local festival.
- Organize a composting program at your school.
- Find ways to save energy in your home. Discuss your experience with your Patrol or Troop.

5. Demonstrate how to help other people to be prepared to respond to environmental hazards and natural disasters in the local area.

Possible activities include:

- Prepare a 72-hour kit for your family for an extreme emergency.
- Take part in a training session for oil spill response and register as a responder.
- Create promotional materials (such as posters or videos) to educate

others on how to be prepared for environmental hazards and natural disasters.

6. Plan, do and review an environmental project that will benefit your local environment. Planning the project can be done on your own, or as part of a team (such as your Patrol). The project you organize can include the entire Troop, other Sections and/or members of the wider community. As part of your Review, discuss the project's possible impact on the wider world.

Possible projects include:

- Organize your Group's spring Scoutrees plant.
- Plant milkweed to support bee and monarch butterfly populations.
- Organize your Troop's adoption of a road or park. Plan, do and review seasonal clean-ups.
- Plan and implement a project to increase recycling in your community.
- Make your camping trips more environmentally friendly. Document and promote your experience so that others can follow your example.
- Plant and tend an organic vegetable garden in your community.

