

# NATURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE

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Focusing on the core of conservation enforcement – “bears and bad guys,” as one instructor explains – the Natural Resource Compliance program turns the outdoor activities you enjoy into a career you’ll love. If you’re thinking of a career in conservation enforcement, start in the Natural Resource Compliance program.

You’ll put in two fast-paced years learning about natural resources and how to detect and investigate natural resource violations through a mixture of lectures, labs and field trips. With our blend of academic and practical learning, you’ll be equipped with the skills and knowledge to begin upholding the law and protecting the resources of our beautiful landscape and wildlife.

## Employability

- Natural Resource Law Enforcement Officer positions have specific physical requirements such as vision, hearing and physical fitness. The specific requirements differ with each agency. It is the applicant’s responsibility to confirm that they meet the requirements of the agencies with which they hope to work.
- Persons with a criminal record may have difficulty competing for jobs as Conservation Enforcement Officers in Canada.
- Employers often require that students hold a valid Standard First Aid or Wilderness First Aid Certificate and/or a CPR Certificate to be eligible for seasonal and/or permanent employment. Students are encouraged to obtain these certificates either prior to entering the program or during the first term.
- A number of workshops and short courses sponsored by various agencies are available on evenings and weekends. Students are encouraged to attend these sessions to enhance their credentials for employment.

## Field Studies Supplies

Students on field studies are expected to provide their own equipment and supplies. This may include:

- 30 cm metric steel ruler
- adequate clothing for cold/wet weather
- backpack for gear
- binoculars
- digital camera (standard feature)
- field equipment vest (recommended)
- food
- hiking boots
- orienteering compass
- sunscreen
- safety glasses
- water bottle
- warm sleeping bag
- work gloves
- “write-in-the-rain” treated field notebook/surveyors book

Equipment and supplies may not be required in all courses or terms. Please consult the course outlines for specific equipment required before purchasing. Field studies schedules are dependent on many variables and may require students to participate on weekends. All program field studies require mandatory attendance.

## Other Required Supplies

Available from Lethbridge College Bookstore:

- 16x hand lens
- dissection kit
- lab coat
- metric triangular scale with 1:1, 1:2, 1:5, 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50 graduations
- safety glasses
- “write-in-the-rain” field notebook/surveyors book

Available from Sporting, Hardware and Office Supply Stores:

- 4 GB or higher USB memory stick
- 12 or more coloured pencils (pencil crayons)
- 30 cm metric steel ruler
- binoculars (8X40 or 10X50 magnification)
- chest waders (rubber soled)
- clipboard
- Nexus Type 115 or Silva Ranger compass (with declination adjustment screw)
- scientific calculator (\$15-\$30 range)

For additional information concerning lab or field equipment, contact the lab coordinator at 403.320.3202 ext. 5594.

## Your Investment

Program fees will vary. To view fee information for your program, go to [lethbridgecollege.ca/programs](https://lethbridgecollege.ca/programs) (<https://lethbridgecollege.ca/programs/>) and select your program.

Students are responsible for the cost of the field trips relating to this program.

## Graduation

Upon successful completion of all program requirements, students are awarded a Natural Resource Compliance diploma.

## ADMISSIONS

New students are accepted into the Natural Resource Compliance program for the Fall term only.

## General Admissions Requirements

All applicants must meet the general admission requirements for Lethbridge College programs, as indicated in the Admission section of this calendar.

## Academic Requirements

In addition to meeting the general admission requirements indicated in the Admission section of this calendar, applicants to this program must also satisfy the following specific course requirements (or equivalencies):

- Grade 11 biology
- Grade 12 math (equivalent to Alberta's Math 30-2 or a higher level math)

**Note:** Admission is competitive. Competitive marks will be based on the average of grades in Grade 12 math and English and Grade 11 biology.

Basic computer literacy in the use of the Internet, e-mail, word processing and fundamental processes of spreadsheets is required for the student to be successful in this program.

Students lacking these skills are strongly urged to complete a basic computer literacy course prior to entering this program.

## CURRICULUM

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Term I</b>		
BIO-1172	Ecology <sup>1</sup>	3
CEN-2255	Ethics and Career Development	3
ENG-1150	Composition	3
GEO-1166	Physical Geology	3
LAW-1161	Introduction to Natural Resource Law	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Term II</b>		
BIO-1167	Botany <sup>1</sup>	3
BIO-1168	Zoology <sup>1</sup>	3
COM-2263	Interpersonal Skills in Enforcement	3
RRM-1197	Spatial Information Techniques <sup>1</sup>	3
STS-1155	Descriptive Statistics	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Term I</b>		
CEN-2259	Operational Procedures	3
ENV-2265	Parks and Recreation Operations	3
LAW-2264	Courtroom Procedures	3
RRM-2250	Grassland and Forest Resources <sup>1</sup>	3
RRM-2299	Fire Management <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Term II</b>		
CEN-2267	Natural Resource Legislation	3
CEN-2269	Field Investigation Techniques <sup>1</sup>	3
RRM-2258	Principles of Wildlife Biology <sup>1</sup>	3
RRM-2259	Principles of Fishery Science <sup>1</sup>	3
RRM-2298	Conservation Biology	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

<sup>1</sup> Indicates courses with a field study component.

Students will be expected to complete non-credit environmental field techniques courses as part of the requirements to complete the program. Courses such as bear safety, firearms safety, pleasure craft operator's card and boat operations will occur as part of field trip season activities. Students will be responsible for the fees associated with these courses.

Prior valid training possessed by students will be considered for recognition.

## TRANSFERS

Interested students can obtain further information on these partnerships from the School of Environmental Sciences Chair. Students who wish to continue studies at other institutions must meet the entrance requirements of that institution.

## Lethbridge College

Lethbridge College's Natural Resource Compliance diploma graduates may be eligible to receive up to 60 credits towards a Bachelor of Applied Science in Conservation Enforcement or a Bachelor of Ecosystem Management. Details regarding these programs can be found in the Academic Calendar or on the Lethbridge College website (<https://lethbridgecollege.ca/>).

## Royal Roads University

Graduates of Lethbridge College's Natural Resource Compliance diploma program are eligible for full block transfer into the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Practice or the Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Practice at Royal Roads University. Graduates may also receive full block transfer to the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, with the completion of one additional university-level math course (calculus or linear algebra preferred) and two university-level chemistry courses on arrival.

## CAREERS

- Conservation Officer
- Environmental Investigator/Inspector
- Fish and Wildlife Officer
- Fishery Officer
- Municipal Police Officer
- Park Patrol Officer
- Park Ranger
- Pollution Control Officer
- Resource Management Officer
- RCMP Officer
- Wildlife Investigator