



CANADA'S lakes and rivers are excellent indicators of climate change. Scientists learn a lot about climate change by looking at annual freeze and thaw dates - days of the year when ice completely covers, then completely disappears from bodies of water. Changes in this cycle from year to year may be a sign that climate change is affecting our environment.

Many people live near water and pay close attention to freeze-thaw cycles. By recording this information, all Canadians can help scientists understand how our country is changing.

IceWatch, one of four NatureWatch programs of Nature Canada and Environment Canada's Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network, is your chance to help!

You can help scientists study climate change in Canada!

On this card, fill in the days when the ice came ON and when it came OFF.

ICE ON DATE:

Day (DD)

Month (MM)

Year (YYYY)

ICE OFF DATE:

Day (DD)

Month (MM)

Year (YYYY)



Environment Canada

Environnement Canada

Canada

BECOME AN ICEWATCH OBSERVER AND HELP SCIENTISTS
MONITOR CLIMATE CHANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY!

- 1 Pick a water body in your area that you can easily monitor, for example, a bay in a lake or a straight stretch of a gently flowing river.
- 2 Watch the water over the year and take note of when it freezes (the day ice completely covers the area you're observing) and the day it completely disappears.
- 3 Note what kind of area you're observing (and its latitude and longitude coordinates).
- 4 Detach the card, apply a stamp and drop it in the mailbox.

REMEMBER:

- Icewatching should be done from a distance. There is no need to walk onto a freezing body of water or right to the shoreline.
- The key to providing reliable data is to monitor the same location in the same way every year.
- Indicate if there's something exceptional about your observation area, for example, if it's downstream from a dam or if you're monitoring salt water.

For additional data cards or to submit your data electronically go to:

www.naturewatch.ca

All personal information will be kept confidential

Location name: (e.g. Spear Lake) _____

Your name and address: _____

Phone #: (_____) _____
(note: this will be used as your Observer ID)

Email: _____

Description of the area you're observing: _____

Lake River Saltwater

Latitude: _____ - _____ N
(e.g. 49.583 N) Air temperature: _____ °C
(if available)

Longitude: - _____ - _____ W
(e.g. - 80.561 W)

You can look up latitude and longitude at your local library or at the following Web sites:

English: www.naturewatch.ca/latlong_e

French: www.naturewatch.ca/latlong_f



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

Canada



Ecological Monitoring and
Assessment Network
Coordinating Office

Environment Canada
Canada Centre for Inland Waters

867 Lakeshore Road
Burlington, Ontario
L7R 4A6