

Members of the Wetland Ecology 2010 class:

Attached is an information package that describes the class this year, including a draft copy of the course outline and some information on the Delta Marsh Field Station where the course is held.

Because this is a field course, it is a little different from other courses you have taken. The entire course is completed in just two weeks but you get the same course credit (3 hours) as a course lasting 12 weeks on the main University campus. The pace is busy but not crazy. We usually start each day at 9:00 am (after breakfast at 8:00), break at mid-morning for 15-20 minutes, lunch for 60-90 minutes, afternoon exercises, supper 5:00, then maybe a couple of hours in the evening to finish up work. The atmosphere is social—the class is small so everyone gets to know each other and we are all on a first-name basis. We are situated on the shore of Lake Manitoba so there are always opportunities for going for a swim, if you wish. There are canoes and mountain bikes for your use during the course. Yes, there will be time for rest and recreation!

Mornings are mostly occupied with lectures—more or less like the ones on the main University campus—then the afternoons are field exercises, usually (but not always) on the theme of the morning lecture. Each student will begin a project early in the first week where you do some field work, collect samples for analysis back at the lab, then prepare an oral presentation (usually a Powerpoint) and a written report. This forms one part of the course mark, along with a midterm test, and a final exam on the last day. When you leave at the end of two weeks, the course is done—there are no assignments that you submit later.

We all reside at the Field Station during the course, which provides room (beds with sheets, blankets and pillows—you only need bring your personal toiletries such as towels and, of course, your own clothing) and meals in our dining room overlooking Lake Manitoba. Special dietary needs (vegetarian, no-pork, no-gluten, etc.) are accommodated—just let the Field Station staff know. As for clothes, don't bring anything that you would not want to get dirty. Be sure to bring sun and insect protection. If you have rubber boots, there may be times it would be good to have them but, if you don't, we have a few extra pairs around the station, as well as chest waders, for general use.

The Field Station has wireless high-speed Internet access so if you wish to bring a laptop computer, feel free to do so. Otherwise, there are desktop computers for general use on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you need to reach me, my office phone (at the Fort Garry campus) is 204-474-7469. My email address is goldsb@cc.umanitoba.ca. Please note that I won't be on campus before the course starts so, if you need to reach me, send email or call my cell (204-782-8829). For those without a means of getting to Delta Marsh, note that I will be driving out late in the afternoon of the 8th and I can bring up to three people with me. If you need a ride, please get in touch with me.

See you on the 8th!

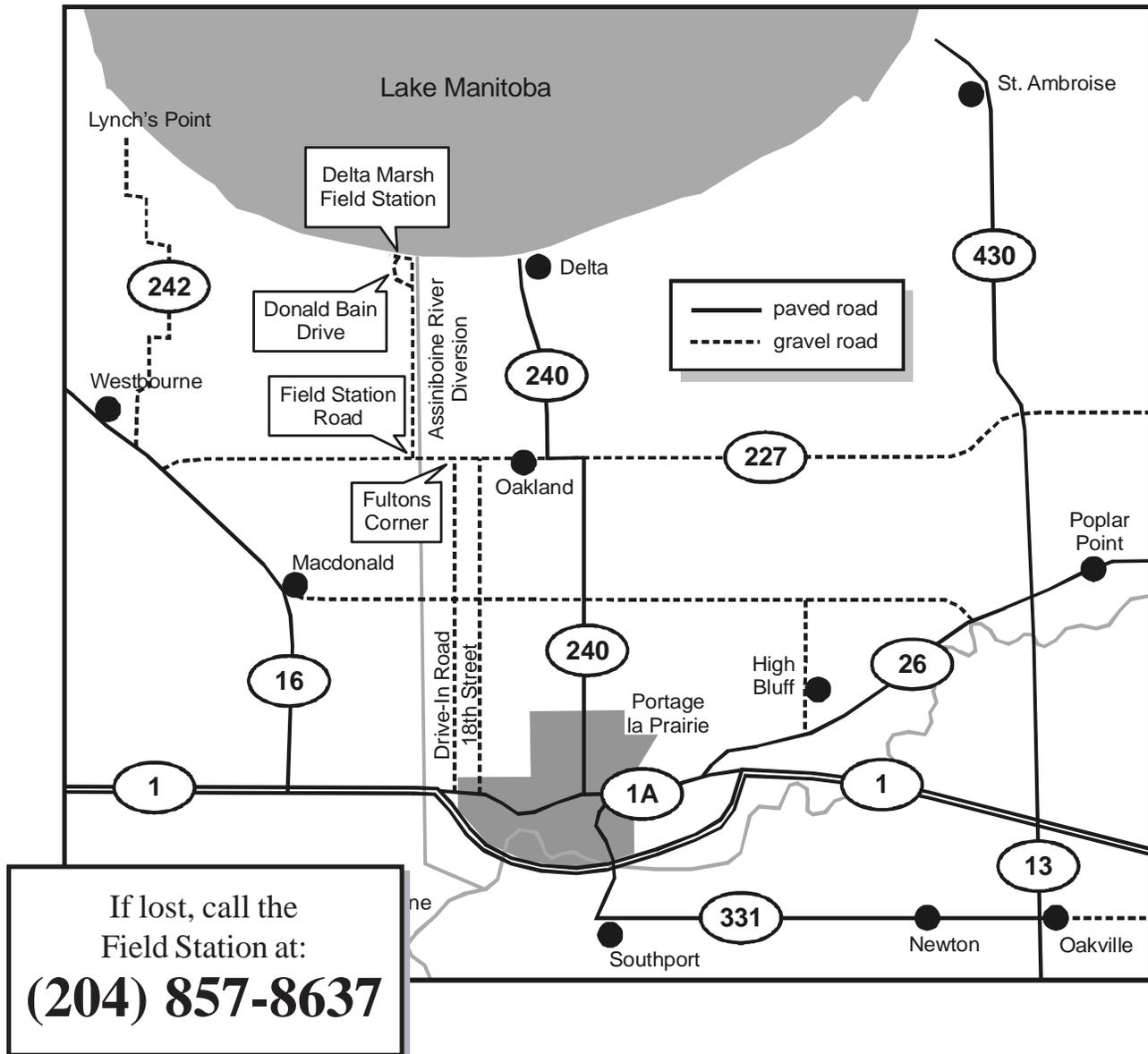
Gordon Goldsborough



Road directions to the Delta Marsh Field Station

Take the Trans-Canada Highway #1 to Portage la Prairie. Continue into the city center on #1A (Saskatchewan Ave.) and turn north at Highway 240 (Tupper Street). Continue on #240 to the STOP sign (about 15 km north of Portage), then turn west (left) onto Highway 227. Keep traveling west, proceeding off the pavement and through the village of Oakland. **DO NOT FOLLOW #240 TO DELTA BEACH.** Travel about 7 km further to the Assiniboine River Diversion bridge. Turn north (right) immediately after the bridge onto **Field Station Road** and travel about 7 km, turning onto **Donald Bain Drive** to the Field Station. Watch for large posted signs along Field Station Road indicating the turn off to Donald Bain Drive.

Caution: Drive with care on gravel roads. They can sometimes be muddy, rutted, or wash-boarded. Watch for deer on the roadside, especially at dawn and dusk, and at night.



Wetland Ecology
BIOL 3372

General Information

The Delta Marsh Field Station is located on the southern shore of Lake Manitoba. During your stay you will be comfortably housed in student dormitories. The meals are more than adequate as we have excellent cooks and full dining facilities. Laundry facilities are available; however, you must bring your own detergent.

Postal address: Delta Marsh Field Station
Box 38, R.R. #2
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3A2

Pay phone: (204) 239-9855

Dining room: (204) 857-4190

Office phone: (204) 857-8637

Office fax: (204) 857-4683

Internet: Free wireless Internet access is available for those bringing their own computers.

Meal times: Breakfast 8:00 a.m.
Lunch 12:00 noon
Dinner 5:00 p.m.

Arrival time: Students are expected to arrive around 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, 8 August to attend a compulsory orientation session by Dr. Gordon Goldsborough beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Transportation: Students should arrange their own transportation to and from the Field Station. Those unable to obtain rides in private cars and who have to take a Greyhound bus to Portage la Prairie should contact the Field Station office, (204) 857-8637, at least four (4) days in advance of the course to arrange to be picked up in Portage la Prairie. A map with road instructions to the Field Station is enclosed.

One of the course instructors is driving to the Field Station in late afternoon (around 4:30 pm) of 13 July and can take up to three people. If you wish a ride, please call Dr. Gordon Goldsborough at (204) 782-8829.

Recommended List of Items for Wetland Ecology

Personal Gear

- Raingear
- Sunhat
- Sweater or polar fleece – it is sometimes cool, especially in morning and evening
- Windbreaker
- Flannel or cotton shirts and t-shirts
- Field pants – cotton or jeans
- Socks – be prepared to have wet feet (occasionally)
- Sneakers
- Flashlight (optional)
- Towels and wash cloth
- Toiletries – toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, etc.
- Bathing suit (optional)
- Rubber boots (optional)
- Laundry detergent for washing clothes (optional)
- Personal first aid and miscellaneous items like mending kit (optional)

Note: If you wish to bring “snack foods” or beverages (including beer, wine, etc.), please put in containers labeled with your name, as they will be stored in a communal area. Drinking water at the Field Station is acceptable but high in minerals. If this concerns you, you may want to bring bottled water.

Field Gear

- Sunglasses and sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Small day-pack for field use
- Clipboard and writing paper, and 3-ring binder or equivalent
- Pencils with erasers
- Canteen or plastic water bottle
- One USB memory stick or similar storage device (if you want copies of files used in class)

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8 - 21 August 2010

Please fill in the enclosed Student Information Form and return it to the Delta Marsh Field Station office by 4 August 2010 or email the appropriate information (address, fax number and email address is listed below).

Delta Marsh Field Station
Box 38, R.R. #2
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3A2
Fax: (204) 857-4683
Phone: (204) 857-8637
Email: buhr@cc.umanitoba.ca

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Wendy Buhr Nikkel
Office Manager

**Wetland Ecology
BIOL 3372**

Student Information Form

Please fill in all requested information and return this form to the Delta Marsh Field Station office (Portage la Prairie) by 4 August 2010. Thank you.

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please list any dietary restrictions, allergies or medical conditions you may have.

Do you prefer vegetarian meals? _____ or vegan meals? (no meat or dairy) _____

Contact person(s) in event of accident, illness, etc.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: (H) _____ (W) _____

(Cell) _____

Thank You!

Please return this information (by 4 August 2010), to the attention of Wendy Buhr Nikkel, by fax or email, as follows:

Fax: (204) 857-4683 or Email: buhr@cc.umanitoba.ca