

CWSF 2013 - Lethbridge, Alberta



Nick Chodura

175,000 tons: Can it just disappear?

Challenge: Environment

Category: Junior

Region: Ottawa

City: Ottawa, ON

School: Turnbull School

Abstract: My experiment used saline testing strips to measure sodium-based chemicals in water samples from my neighbourhood before and after road salt was applied. I monitored water toxicity using *Daphnia*, an indicator species. Realizing that road salt was a major issue, I tested an alternative de-icing agent, dried sugar beet, to observe whether it was less harmful to aquatic organisms yet still effective at reducing ice.

Biography

I was born in Ottawa but lived in England for four years and had the opportunity to travel to a lot of other countries while I was there. Outside of school, I enjoy playing the drums, martial arts, running, skiing, tennis, rock climbing, reading, writing, drawing and painting. I plan to combine my interests in technology and visual arts into a career in engineering, design or architecture. My project was inspired by living in a neighbourhood with wells and septic systems and being concerned about the effects of road salt on the water in our area. My advice to other students thinking about doing a project would be to pick a subject that really interests you.