

CLIMATE TRACKERS

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do I need to register to become a climate tracker to use the UPEI Climate Lab's App?

No – anyone can use the online application! If you are a first-time user, you'll be required to create an account and then you can report an observation.

2. Why register if anyone can use the UPEI Climate Lab's App?

By registering to become a climate tracker you are making a commitment to record your observations on a regular/semi-regular basis to provide meaningful nature and climate data to climate scientists and municipal staff. You'll also receive some great perks for making this commitment including a Nature Field Guide with photos and descriptions of nature and climate related items you could be reporting on, a custom-made hard copy Climate Diary for you to record written observations as well, and a chance to win great prizes like bird feeders, and garden center gift cards as a reward for your contributions to climate science!

3. How do I finalize my registration and receive my Nature Field Guide and printed Climate Diary?

Step 1: Register online to become a climate tracker. Next you will be contacted by a staff person from your local municipality with further instructions to finalize your registration and pick up your Nature Field Guide and Climate Diary. Staff can also help you at this time to ensure you have the www.diary.peiclimete.ca app properly uploaded to your phone or tablet's home screen for easy access so you can start reporting your observations right away!

4. If I register to become a Climate Tracker how often and how long am I expected to participate?

It is a very self-driven initiative, and you can choose to participate by reporting as often and for however long as you choose. The printed climate diary you will receive if you register isn't dated but is intended to hold 1 year's worth of data.

5. Can I participate with my family or a group that I am affiliated with?

Yes, you are welcome to participate as a group, family, or individual. If you are part of a group that spends time in nature, are looking for a nature related past-time to share with your family, or are simply interested in nature and climate change then you'd make an excellent climate tracker!

6. What types of observations should be recorded?

There are different categories of observations including: Agriculture/Lawns/Gardens, Plants, Amphibians/Reptiles, Birds, Fish, Insects, Mammals, Weather, and Climate Change Impacts. Each of these categories has a list of items related to it that you can easily search on the app. If your observation is so unique that it isn't already listed – that is ok too! There is an option to report something new in the application.

7. Do I have to include a photo with my observation? What if I see something worth reporting but I am not able to capture a photo?

No, you can report an observation without taking a photo of it.

8. Do I need to report my observation immediately after seeing it or can I record at a later date?

You don't need to record your observation immediately and can easily post-date your observations in the app and record them at a time that is more convenient for you. Just make note of when and where you made your observation to keep the information on the app accurate!

9. What will happen with the climate data reported to the app?

The climate data reported to the app will be tracked by climatologists at the UPEI school of climate change and adaptation and used to help inform their research on climate change. It will also be used by staff at the participating municipalities to expand their knowledge of local climate change impacts and inform climate change policy and adaptation initiatives.

10. Can I download the UPEI Climate Diary app through the app store?

No. Visit: www.diary.peiclimate.ca website and then add the website to the home screen of your smart device so that it shows up like an app icon and is easily accessible for you to record future observations!

Learn how to do this easily on any iphone, android phone, or tablet here: <https://www.howtogeek.com/196087/how-to-add-websites-to-the-home-screen-on-any-smartphone-or-tablet/>