

Envirothon Program

What:

The Envirothon program is a program for five member high school and middle school teams to compete with other teams in a natural resources knowledge and ecology field day.

An entire school class or group may participate in studying natural resources; however, only five members may be on the team taking the test. Each team must have an advisor and may have alternates.

There are five resources stations, usually set up in an outside setting, where the teams will be given an exam on soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatics, and current environmental issues. The team with the highest score will be declared the area winner and will be eligible to compete in the state competition.

The written test will last for 25-30 minutes and will have approximately 25 questions. These questions are answered as a team and not individual students. After finishing one station and at a set time, the teams will rotate to the next station. The test papers are graded and scores tallied to select the winner.

Test Stations Are:

- ❖ **Wildlife** – challenges teams on habitat, identification, foods, rules & regulations, birdcalls, diseases, management;
- ❖ **Aquatics** – ecology of water, stream improvement, water chemistry, plants & animals living in or a-round water, pollution, conservation;
- ❖ **Forestry** – tree identification, improvement of timber stands, forest ecology, insect diseases, forest management, forest measurements;
- ❖ **Soils** – classifications, erosion, soil surveys, site suitability, current issues, profiles, soils characteristics, conservation practices', and
- ❖ **Current Environmental Issues** – any current or newsworthy environmental issues.

Who:

The competition is open to ecology clubs, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, soil-judging teams, environmental groups, home schooled students or any group interested. Team members must be middle school student's grade 6-8 or high school student's grades 9-12. **The middle school teams DO NOT compete against the high school teams.** There are two separate tests and competitions. Students on a team do not have to be in the same class or grade. For example, a high school team may be made up of students in the 9-12 grades and a middle school team may be made up of students in 5-8.

When:

The Area competition, referred to as the **Northwest Envirothon** (13 counties in the Caldwell Soil & Water Conservation District Area), will be held in Wilkesboro, NC in **March/April** at the McGee Center. **The State Competition** will be held in Burlington, NC and is usually the 3rd or 4th Friday and Saturday in April.

Information and Registration:

Once a team has registered for the Area Competition, a study guide will be sent to the team advisor. The Area II Northwest Envirothon has no registration fee. The State Competition will have a \$150 registration, which will most likely be paid for, by this district. Lunch will be provided for teams and advisors at both events. Only the top 7 middle school and high school teams at the Area Competition will advance to the State Envirothon.

Deadline to register for the Northwest Area Competition: February 1 each year

For More Information Contact:

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