



Envirothon School – Envirothon 101

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District

What is Envirothon?

- Awesome!
- “... a fun, hands-on, natural science academic event that engages and challenges students to think critically about the natural world and their role in it.”
- Combines in-class studies with outdoor training to help students learn and experience the natural world, its processes, and related current issues

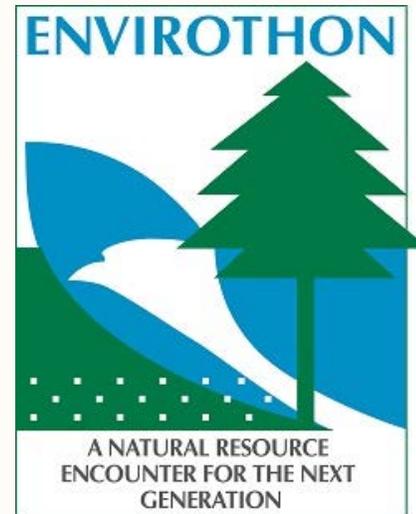
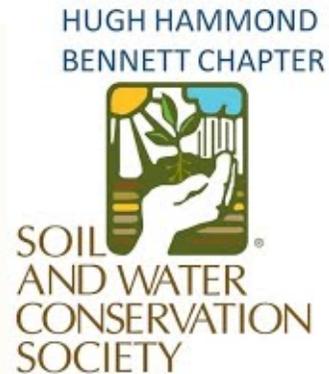


State and National Envirothon stats

- NC Envirothon was founded in 1991, over 25 years ago
- Over 290 teams participate in NC each year
- North America's largest high school environmental education competition
- Reaches more than 500,000 students each year
- Over \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes awarded each year
- Participants come from the US, Canada, and China



Who organizes and supports Envirothon?



What are the Envirothon topics?

- Soils and land use
- Forestry and plant life
- Wildlife and habitat
- Aquatics and water quality
- Current environmental issues
- For high school teams only:
Oral Presentation



What do I need to form an Envirothon team?

- 3-5 students from the same middle/high school, non-traditional school, or youth organization such as 4-H, FFA, science or Envirothon clubs.
- Two optional alternates allowed – compete on mock alternate team
- High school teams must have 5 members to place at State. Teams with 3-4 members may win station high score awards.
- At least one volunteer advisor.



What does a year in Envirothon look like?

- October-February: Topics training and team building
 - Meet as a team regularly to study materials
 - Field trip opportunities to gain field experience
 - Review sessions and mock competitions
- March-April: Area Competition
 - 7 highest scoring middle & high school teams from each Area qualify for State
- April: State Competition
 - Two-day event
 - Cedarrock Park, Burlington
 - At least 1 FFA team will advance
- July: North American High School Envirothon



Roles: Advisor

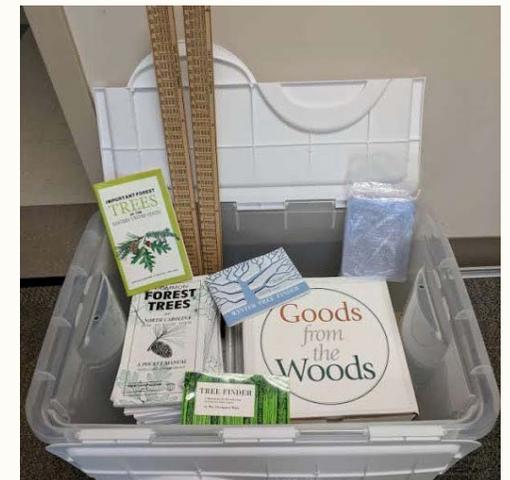
- Schedule meeting dates for your team(s)
- Ensure students are studying materials
- Secure resource professionals for enrichment
- Schedule field trips at local field sites
- Register team(s) for Area competitions
- Many advisors will:
 - Create supplemental study materials for their students
 - Decide who will act as team members and who will act as alternates
 - Attend Envirothon School for Advisors & Teachers in summer to increase knowledge



Roles: Districts and District Employees

Varies by District

- Provide supplemental study materials (lending libraries)
 - Skulls, pelts, forestry tools, macroinvertebrate samples, soil samples, soil manuals, etc.
- “Coach” teams
 - Share examples of Envirothon questions
 - Prepare high school teams for Oral Presentation
 - Develop sample tests for teams/lead mock competitions
- Disseminate information from Envirothon committees
- Many Districts will:
 - Pay State competition registration
 - Cover costs of travel and lodging
 - Host training events for teams



Envirothon Study Materials

- NC Envirothon Website
NCEnvirothon.org
- NC Division of Soil and Water Website
ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/envirothon
- Supplemental Materials
 - District Lending Libraries
 - Resource Professionals
 - Field Trips
 - *Local parks/forests, museums, and EE centers*





Service Learning Project

- Optional/voluntary and does not impact score but a great learning experience
- Open to middle and high school teams
 - Must compete at Area competition, but not required to advance to state Envirothon
- Three categories:
 - Physical Project: outdoor classroom, nature trail, wildlife habitat, etc.
 - Service Project: litter clean up, teaching younger students, etc.
 - Data-sharing Project: collecting and presenting weather/wildlife/other data
- Must be written and presented to public body
 - Presentation is recorded and send to state committee along with write-up

Why Envirothon?

- Because it's a blast!
- Learn new and interesting material
- Spend time in nature
- Teamwork and leadership experience
- College application building
- Professional development
- Networking
- Scholarships and cash prizes
- Travel with your friends!



Questions and comments

