

Envirothon



"Envirothon is a great way for my interested students to learn more about the environment."
Amy Coan, Teacher
East Catholic High School

"Incoming students that have participated in the CT Envirothon are enthusiastic and are familiar with many of the environmental science concepts."
Professor Jack Clausen
UCONN



The Steering Committee Members Represent:

Connecticut Council on Soil and Water
CT Conservation Districts
USDA NRES
University of Connecticut
Coop-Extension
MDC (Metropolitan District)
GEJ Consultants, Inc.
Manchester Community College
CT Water Company
CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Yale Peabody Museum

This brochure was originally designed by:



Connecticut Envirothon



MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE



The Natural Challenge for High School Students

- Outdoor Learning
 - Hands On
- Problem Solving
 - Leadership
 - Team Work
- Scholarships

Connecticut



"The Envirothon has been awesome, it gives me a chance to learn about the environment in a fun and interactive way."
Student from Nonnewaug High School

"It's great being around a group of people who truly care about the environment."
Sabrina Camboulives
Bacon Academy class of '09



Take the Natural Challenge!



More Than Just a Competition

Envirothon Students:

- Develop team and leadership skills
 - Develop problem solving skills based on real world issues
 - Interact with a wide variety of environmental professionals
 - Enrich their high school experience
 - Improve college applications
 - Often pursue careers in the environmental sciences
 - Have Fun!
- ### Envirothon Advisors:
- Collaborate with other teachers
 - Develop unique opportunities to meet CT State Science Standards
 - Learn alongside their students
 - Have Fun!

www.ctenvirothon.org



Soils

Envirothon students will learn about the importance of soil in natural resource management and the inter-relationships between soil, water, and other resources. Soil provides a growth medium for all plant life, including food and energy resources. Soil also provides habitat, filters and retains water.



Aquatics

Envirothon students learn through hands-on training with experts how to identify organisms from Long Island Sound, fresh water streams and ponds, and vernal pools. Workshops cover skills and information necessary to protect our most vital natural resource from stormwater runoff, aquifer over-drawdown, invasive species and other negative impacts.



Forestry

Forests are a renewable resource. Envirothon students will explore the dynamics, management and value of forest ecosystems with the help of professional foresters. Using the same tools that foresters use, they learn the basics of tree identification, tree and forest measurements and forest management strategies.



Wildlife

Diverse wildlife populations are valuable from many standpoints, as indicators of a healthy ecosystem, as well as recreation, and aesthetics. Understanding a species' habits and needs is the first step in ensuring its survival. Proper protection and management of an animal's habitat will encourage optimum populations.



Current Issue

The current issue changes annually and reflects real issues facing environmental professionals. Envirothon students receive relevant topic information at a specially designed workshop. For the Envirothon event, students prepare and present their solutions to the current issue challenge to a panel of judges.

History:

Envirothon is a natural resource based education program that was started in 1992 by the state's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Since 1995, CT has placed first three times in the North American Competition.

Connecticut Competition:

The Connecticut Envirothon competition is held at a park, wildlife preserve, camp or other outdoor facility usually the third week in May.

North American Competition:

Certified winners of the Connecticut Envirothon compete in a week-long international competition in the summer following the state competition. For more information about this event visit the website at www.envirothon.org

More Information:

For more information about the Connecticut Envirothon, event dates, workshops, and resource materials, visit the website at www.ctenvirothon.org

What: The Connecticut Envirothon is a natural resource based environmental education program which culminates in an exciting and fun field day competition. Winners are eligible to compete in The North American Envirothon Competition.

Who: Any eligible high school team with an advisor may participate in the training workshops and annual Envirothon competitions. Envirothon team members come from science classes, vocational agricultural programs and ecology clubs.

When: Four to five training workshops by soil scientists, foresters, wildlife and aquatic biologists, natural resource managers and other working environmental professionals are conducted throughout the school year. The state competition takes place in May each year followed by the North American Envirothon competition in the summer.

Why: Participating in the Connecticut Envirothon provides unique opportunities for high school students and their advisors to interact with working environmental professionals in the increasingly diverse field of environmental studies. Beyond simple species identification, the competition challenges students to problem solve and address real-world issues.

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