

Envirothon Region

Missouri has been divided into seven regional Envirothon competition sections. The Central Region includes: Audrain, Benton, Boone, Callaway, Camden, Cole, Cooper, Gasconade, Henry, Howard, Maries, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Osage, Pettis, and Saline Counties.

Central Region Competition

The central region competition will be held Wednesday, April 13, 2016. Competition will be from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Runge Nature Center, Hwy 179, Jefferson City, MO. Each of the top three regional team winners will compete in the State Competition which will be held on April 28, 2016 somewhere near Jefferson City. Missouri's winning team will then compete in the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon, the international competition which will be held in Ontario, Canada, July 24-29, 2016.



For More Information

Contact your local Soil & Water Conservation District Office

Your contact is:

Peggy Lemons
Cole County SWCD
1911 Boggs Creek Rd
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone: 573-893-5188

Fax: 855-826-0253

Peggy will send you a Registration Form for your team. This must be completed and returned by January 29, 2016. There is a \$50 entry fee per team. Please contact Peggy for information on handling the registration payment. Once you are registered, you will receive a packet of study guides and competition information.

Peggy can also help you find information regarding soils, forestry, aquatics, or wildlife.



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Get Involved in Envirothon!



**2015 First Place
Camdenton High School Team
Camden County**

Regional Envirothon competitions are sponsored by the local county Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Missouri Department of Conservation in partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the University of Missouri Extension Service.

What is Envirothon?

Envirothon is a problem-solving natural resource competition for students in grades 9 through 12 or ages 14 to 19. Teams of high school students are tested on their knowledge of the state's natural resources: soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatics, and a current conservation issue. Students visit five "in-the-field" test stations (30 minutes each) where written and hands-on problem solving are required. Using visual aids, each team will give an oral presentation addressing the current conservation issue to a panel of judges.

What Will Students Learn from this Experience?

Participants will gain a deeper knowledge of:

- Responsible resource management to ensure adequate supplies of food and fiber
- The effect individual actions have on the environment
- The interactions and inter-dependencies of our environment
- Current environmental issues
- The agencies available to assist in resource matters



Key Points of Topics Tested on

The following key points briefly describe the topics teams will be tested on at each station.

Aquatics: Understand the processes of the water cycle, understand stream dynamics and erosion processes; identify methods used to manage fish populations and fish biology; understand the parts of a watershed and how the parts affect stream dynamics. Understand pollution types and the effects of pollution on aquatic organisms and be able to use a key to identify aquatic organisms.

Forestry: Identify trees; understand forest ecology, forest management, cause and effect relationship of tree growth factors; describe how wildlife habitat relates to forest communities; apply silviculture concepts and methods.

Soils: Describe soil properties and soil formation factors; identify soil erosion; utilize soil survey information (map units/soil descriptions); discuss how soil is a factor in, or is impacted by recreational activities.

Wildlife: Identify wildlife and survival needs; evaluate habitat for suitability; describe impact of non-native species and factors affecting threatened species; describe predator/prey relationships and food chains/food webs.

Current Issue: "Invasive Species: A Challenge to the Environment, Economy, and Society" —the fifth test site. This test site and the Oral Presentation will both deal with this subject.

2016 Oral Presentation Topic: "Invasive Species: A Challenge to the Environment, Economy, and Society". A specific oral presentation problem relating to this topic will be given to participating teams one month prior to the competition. It is required that all teams participate in the oral component.

Check out the Envirothon web site for links to additional resources. [Www.moenvirothon.org](http://www.moenvirothon.org)

Envirothon History

Envirothon was started in 1979 by three Pennsylvania Soil & Water Conservation Districts. By 1988, the idea had caught on and the first national contest was held. By 1995, the program attracted participants from 31 states in the United States and from Canada and Australia. Missouri held its first state Envirothon in 1998. Ten teams participated in the pilot event. Since then Missouri has sent teams to the national competitions in Michigan, California, Nova Scotia, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Maryland, West Virginia, Springfield, Missouri, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, New York, Arizona, North Carolina, California, and Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. The 2016 International Envirothon will be held in Ontario, Canada from July 24-29.

Where To Go For Information

Technical information relating to each station may be obtained from the Missouri Department of Conservation, University Extension, Department of Natural Resources, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. We also have an Envirothon Resource Trunk that can be scheduled to help your students study. Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District to schedule a specific date.

Additional information may be arranged through your local Soil & Water Conservation District.

Web sites to look at:

www.swcd.mo.gov/howard/projects

www.envirothon.org

[Www.moenvirothon.org](http://www.moenvirothon.org)

These web sites will provide information on your local, state and national competition. You can also find an overview of the current issue, the learning objectives, sample tests, rules and regulations, and more.