

# Central Region Envirothon

## Competition Rules and Regulations

(Revised November 10, 2015)

The Central Region Envirothon shall be conducted under the following rules and regulations.

1. Advisors will be responsible to assure that their teams have read and understood the rules and that the teams will display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facility even when the advisors are absent. These rules are written and expected to be followed in order to have a better quality event.
2. Appropriate student dress promotes the safety and discipline of the Central Region Envirothon competition. Each student's appearance should reflect a positive image of the school they attend and contribute to a distraction-free learning environment. The following applies.
  - a. During the entire event, all team members must wear a Central Region Envirothon T-shirt.
  - b. During the entire event, no clothing, or any written or verbal reference to the high school or town from which you are a representative is permitted.
  - c. Pants and shorts must be worn at the waist or upper hip and must not reveal underclothing. No sagging pants or shorts.
  - d. Shorts must be to the fingertips, mid-thigh in length or longer.
  - e. Tops, Shirts and Blouses must not reveal underclothing, midsection, torso, chest, breasts or cleavage.
  - f. We strongly encourage wearing shoes that are safe and appropriate for walking outdoors. Tennis shoes or closed-toe shoes are preferred.
  - g. If a student violates any part of the dress code, they will be given one chance to correct the problem and if they cannot or will not make the change, then their team will receive a 25 point reduction of the overall score.
3. Only students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or equivalent home school ranking in the current school year are eligible to compete in the Central Region Envirothon.
4. Each Region will send up to three teams to the state competition. Teams advancing to the state competition must have scored at least 55% in their regional competition.
  - a. If one of the top three teams from a Regional Competition is not able to attend the Missouri Envirothon, then the Regional Committee should offer the opportunity to their 4<sup>th</sup> place team.
  - b. A maximum of 2 teams per school are eligible to register for the Central Region Envirothon.

5. Each team will consist of five students and they must be from the same school and/or organization/association.
  - a. **A registration form listing the names of team members and advisors, including advisor's cell phone number, must be submitted by the date set by the Central Region Envirothon Committee.**
  - b. Ninth grade students attending a junior high/middle school may be on the team if the junior high/middle school is a feeder to the named high school team.
  - c. **Alternates are not allowed to attend the regional competition unless they are competing as a replacement for an original team member.**
  - d. **It is highly recommended each team consist of 5 students, however a team with less than 5 students can compete but will receive a 25 point reduction from the total score if the team competes any time during the day with less than 5 team members.**
  - e. If a team member becomes injured or ill during the Central Region Competition, a review panel will determine if a penalty should be assessed to a team for the absence of a complete team of five.
  - f. **Any team arriving late, that is, after the time designated for registration, will have 10 points deducted from their overall score.**
6. Team members participating in the Central Region Envirothon Competition must be listed on the registration form turned in prior to the event with an alternate listed. Any changes to the team members should be made **no later than 1 week prior** to the event.
7. **A Central Region Envirothon Parental-Student Consent AND Photo Release form must be presented at registration or that Student WILL NOT be allowed to participate.**
8. Each team must be accompanied by team advisor(s) and/or public agency or conservation district representative(s). The Central Region Envirothon Committee will not be responsible for improperly chaperoned teams.
9. **All advisors are required to participate in the Advisor Tour activity sponsored by the Central Region Envirothon during the competition. It is important to know where the advisors are in case of emergency. Failure to participate will result in a 25 point deduction to the team score for each team that the advisor sponsors. The regional advisor's coordinator will keep a list of all advisors attending the activity.**
10. Any agency employees can be an advisor as long as they don't serve on a regional committee or have access to regional test materials.
11. **Use or possession of all snuff, tobacco, drugs, and alcohol is prohibited by students and may not be brought to the competition. Being caught with or using any of these items will result in a 5 point reduction on each resource test for a total of 30 points.**
12. **Use of inappropriate language is prohibited during the event. If inappropriate language is heard during the event this will result in a warning for the first offense. Subsequent offenses**

after a warning has been given will result in a 5 point reduction on each resource test for a total of 30 points.

13. The competition will be conducted by the Central Region Envirothon Committee and cooperating agencies.
14. The date to hold the Central Region Envirothon Competition shall be selected by the Regional Envirothon Committee and approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee.
15. The Central Region Envirothon Competition shall last one day.
16. The Central Region and Missouri Envirothon Committee will provide all resources needed at the testing stations
  - a. The use of any additional materials during the station testing will be prohibited, and any team found using other materials will be disqualified
  - b. **No electronic, battery-operated or solar powered equipment, (i.e cell phones, pagers, calculators, computers, camcorders, cameras, taping devices, IPODs, PDAs, etc.) unless provided/approved by the Central Region Envirothon Committee, may be used by the team members during the station testing or oral presentation rounds of the competition. Any team found using these items will be disqualified.**
17. There shall be five (5) resource stations: Soils/Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and a Current Environmental Issue.
  - a. The Current Environmental Issue shall parallel the issue from the North American Envirothon Committee as closely as possible in order to further encourage familiarity of the issue for the winning Missouri team in competition at the North American Envirothon.
  - b. The five station tests will be conducted by cooperating agencies and/or independent environmental professionals.
  - c. The five stations will be comprehensive in nature.
  - d. The Soils Station will provide pages printed from the Web Soil Survey, Soil Survey Manuscript or the Soil Survey CD. The Soils test writer may choose to print copies of the entire Soil Survey Manuscript or portions of the Soil Survey Manuscript.
  - e. The five station tests will be 30 minutes in length. A 10 minute, 5 minute and 1 minute left warning will be given at all testing sites.
  - f. **When time is up, station monitors will say STOP TESTING, and all team members will immediately stop writing at that time. Failure to do so will result in a 10 point reduction on that resource test.**
  - g. No copies of the test shall be distributed to any individual or team prior to the official testing time. Strict secrecy shall be maintained on the test questions at all times.

18. During the testing stations, advisors may not rotate with their respective teams. Whenever possible, advisors will be offered a chance to experience the testing stations at an alternate time on the day of the competition.
19. The problem solving exercises for the oral presentation will be judged by professionals from various state organizations and agencies.
- The Oral Presentation Problem may or may not reflect the topic of the Current Environmental Issue station.
  - The **REGIONAL** oral presentation will be seven (7) minutes maximum in length followed by three (3) minutes of questions to team members by the judges.
  - If all five (5) team members do not participate orally in the presentation, then the score will be reduced as indicated on the judges score sheet. 1 point is given for each member that participates.
  - Changing clothes for the oral presentation is not allowed. Teams must present in the clothing they will be wearing the entire testing day.
  - The use of 3 x 5 inch note cards is permissible during the Oral Presentation.
  - Each team may have a minimum of one or a maximum of two pieces of standard 22 x 28 inch poster board (**no foam board**) for the Oral Presentation visual aid. Both sides of the poster board can be used; however, the poster board cannot be connected into one big poster. If the visual aid exceeds the sizes indicated, it cannot be used in the presentation. If NO visual aids are used, points will be deducted as indicated on the judges score sheet.
  - ONLY note cards and posters will be allowed during the Oral Presentation. Props (such as music, costumes, and stop watches) will NOT be allowed.
  - Oral presentation scores will be based on a criteria sheet approved by the Missouri Envirothon Executive Committee.
  - The **REGIONAL** Oral Presentation problem will be released to each region one (1) month in advance of their regional competition.
  - Oral Presentation judging score sheets will be returned to the teams as soon as possible after a competition in order to help them prepare for the next level of competition.
20. Judges' decisions are final on all events.
21. Scoring for the Central Region Envirothon will be:
- Each of the five station tests and the oral presentation will have equal worth as 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the total score.
  - Tiebreakers shall be as follows: Soils/Land Use scores, Aquatic Ecology scores, Wildlife scores, Forestry scores, and Current Issue scores. The highest score in the above category (ies) will determine the tiebreaker. They will be looked at in the order listed. In most cases, the soils category will determine the winner. In case of a tie there, we will proceed to look at the next category (Aquatics) and so forth.

- c. Final team placements for first, second, and third places will be the cumulative total of the five station test scores plus the oral presentation score (which is the average of the three (3) oral judges' scores).

22. Awards for the Central Region Envirothon will be announced at the end of the regional competition. Minimum awards will include:

- a. Plaques appropriate for display at school for the top three (3) teams.
- b. Certificates for the team with the highest score in each of the resource topics.

**23. If a team determines a need to make a serious request or feels a decision should be reviewed, this request must be made in writing and presented to the Central Region Chairman by a team member or the team's advisor for further consideration by the committee. This request must be made by 2:30 PM the day of the event. Otherwise, all judges' decisions are final.**

**24. No team members or advisors are allowed to leave the host site prior to the conclusion of the competition without notifying the Central Region Envirothon Chairman. If the team knows in advance, they will be leaving before the conclusion of the event; they must let this be known upon check in. If an occasion arises that requires early departure, the chairman of the committee must be notified.**

25. Any team, team member, team advisor/chaperone or resource people associated with a team discovered on, near, or around the test site or testing stations one week prior to the competition may be subject to immediate disqualification

26. Rules and regulations of the Central Region Envirothon are subject to change. Any and all changes will be explained in advance to all teams and advisors.

**27. Any infraction of the Policies or Rules and Regulations of the Central Region Envirothon could result in disqualification and dismissal from the event and host site.**

**28. Advisors, and participants involved in the competition will be requested to complete an evaluation of the program following the competition.**

**29. Teams advancing to the State Competition should review the State Envirothon rules, regarding the participation of alternates, the State Oral Presentation scenario and time of presentation etc....**