

## The Purpose of the Envirothon

The purpose of the Envirothon is to increase awareness about our environment, the effects our actions have on ecosystems, and to get students interested in pursuing Environmental degrees.

Through the Envirothon, students are encouraged to develop an understanding of ecology and conservation issues.

Teams of five students compete against one another in the subject areas of:

- Soils/Land Use
- Forestry
- Wildlife
- Aquatic Ecology
- Current Environmental Issues



**Interested in Representing Durham?**  
**Please contact the**  
**Durham Soil & Water**  
**Conservation District**  
**For more details on how to get**  
**involved:**

*Durham SWCD*  
*721 Foster St*  
*Durham, NC 27701*  
*919-560-0558*

[www.co.durham.nc.us/departments/swcd/index.html](http://www.co.durham.nc.us/departments/swcd/index.html)

For more information,

### Area Competition Contacts:

Area I: Leanna Staton (Clay)  
828-389-9764

Area II: Lea-Ann Branch (Burke)  
828-439-9727, x3

Area III: Millie Langley (Guilford)  
336-375-5401

Area IV: Charles Bass (Franklin)  
919-496-3137

Area V: Bryan Evans (Pitt)  
252-752-2720, x3

Area VI: Pam Hawkins (Craven)  
252-637-2547

Area VII: Kay Bullard (Cumberland)  
910-484-8479

Area VIII: Andy Miller (Davidson)  
336-242-2075

State Contact: Steve Bennett  
919-791-4307

Middle School: Sandra Weitzel  
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Soils, Wildlife  
Forestry, Aquatics  
Current Environmental Issues

## North Carolina Envirothon Program

**Department of  
Environment &  
Natural  
Resources**



# What is the Envirothon?

The Envirothon is an annual natural resource competition held for teams of high school and middle school students. Eight area competitions are held across the state throughout the fall and early spring. Separate **state competitions** are held in late spring for middle school and high school students. The state high school winner gets an expense-paid trip to participate in the North American Envirothon in late July or early August.

Designed as a way to teach young people about natural resources and resource problems, teams of five members each come together to compete in five subjects: Wildlife, Forestry, Soils/Land Use, Aquatic Ecology and Current Environmental Issues.

Competition is open to ecology clubs, home study groups, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, soil judging teams, environmental groups, clubs, Vo-Ag groups, or any group interested in competing. Team members must be from the same school with the exception of home study groups. Each team must have an advisor. However, the advisor does not have to be a teacher.



## Area Envirothon Competitions

Once a team has been registered for the Area Competition, they will receive a packet of resource materials or a listing of sources where



the materials can be found for a group to study. Local Soil and Water Conservation Districts should be contacted to obtain study materials and information.

An entire school class or group may participate in studying the resources, however only five members may be on each team taking the test. Each class or school may have as many teams as they wish, but each team must be registered separately.

The seven top-scoring middle school and high school teams in the Area Competition are eligible to participate in the State Envirothon Competitions.

## State Envirothon Competition

At the state competitions in April, there will be a testing station set up for each of the subject areas, usually in an outside setting where the teams will be given an exam on each of the subjects. The written test will have approximately 25 questions. These questions are answered as a team and not by individual students. The teams take tests by rotating from station to station. The test papers are graded and



the scores are totaled to select the winners. The five top-scoring teams for both high school and middle school competitions will receive a plaque, cash awards, and will be recognized. The first-place high school team will receive an expense-paid trip to the National Competition.

## Envirothon Testing Content

**Wildlife:** challenges teams on habitats, identification, foods, harvesting rules and regulations, diseases, and management.

**Aquatics:** challenges teams on aquatic ecology, stream improvement, water quality, aquatic plants and animals, pollution, wetlands, best management practices (BMPs), conservation, and macroinvertebrates.

**Forestry:** challenges teams on tree identification, parts of a tree, how trees are beneficial, insects, diseases, forest management, forest measurements, and forest ecology.

**Soils:** classifications, erosion, soil surveys, site suitability, current issues, soil characteristics, BMPs, and conservation practices.

**Current Environmental Issues:** any current or newsworthy environmental issue.

