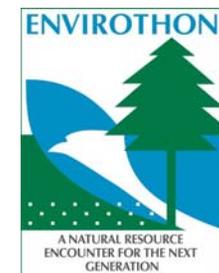


*North America's largest high school
environmental education competition*



Local natural resource professionals facilitate 5 hands-on learning stations:

Aquatic/Wetlands



Aquatic habitat, hydrologic cycle, water quality, wetlands, and more.

Forestry



Forest management and silviculture, tree identification, and more.

Soils



Soil classes, properties and profiles, erosion potential, and more.

Wildlife



Adaptation, species identification, survival needs, and more.

Current Issue*



*New topic each year—2017 Topic: *Agricultural Soil & Water Conservation Stewardship*

Competitions

Teams of 5 students compete by taking **exams** and giving an **oral presentation**.

Local

Late April - early May:

High school students compete each year at 8 regional Envirothon's.

For more info, contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District:

www.maswcd.org

Click 'SWCDs On the Web'

State

Third Monday in May:

Top 3 teams in each regional competition advance to the State Envirothon, May 15, 2017, at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch, in south east Minnesota.

<http://www.maswcd.org/envirothon.htm>

National

Typically July or August

The national Envirothon will be held July 23-29, 2017, at St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

For more information about the national Envirothon, please refer to their website.

www.envirothon.org



Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, representing the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Minnesota. Donations to MASWCD are tax-deductible.

Bottom Line

Participating students learn about Minnesota's natural resources, collaborate with fellow team members, and discover career options in natural resource management.



Combining in-class curriculum with hands-on field experiences

The Envirothon is an environmental education program for high school students. It combines classroom learning with outdoor activities. Through the Envirothon, students develop an understanding of effective teamwork, as well as learning about Minnesota's natural resources. They also gain valuable exposure to a range of disciplines while exploring possible career paths.

This exposure to nature from a critical perspective, and its inter-relationship with human impacts on the natural world, provide invaluable lessons, and develops an understanding of ecosystems and our environment. The Envirothon also teaches students about Minnesota's public policy, and the roles of government and landowners in managing Minnesota's resources.

Regional area competitions are hosted and managed by local **Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)** staff members. The SWCDs partner with conservation organizations, educators, and other natural resource agencies to assist with the regional events.

These natural resource professionals develop the exams, and administer them the day of the competition. Students are exposed to various approaches to environmental concerns, while also receiving the opportunity to learn more about environmental career opportunities and responsibilities.

Students are tested on their knowledge in five topic areas:



Each team is also required to give a 10-minute oral presentation. The oral presentation challenges teams to work together and communicate their solution to a complex environmental issue in front of a panel of judges.

Before competing at the State Envirothon, teams must first compete in a regional Area Envirothon. The top 3 teams from each Area advance to the Minnesota State Envirothon.

Past sponsors of the Minnesota Envirothon have included: MASWCD; the Pentair Foundation; CHS; MACDE; Minnesota Corn Growers Association; Great River Energy; MN Trappers Association; Land O'Lakes; Soil & Water Conservation Society; Otter Tail Power Company; MN Erosion Control Association; Armour-Eckrich Meats, LLC; and various SWCD's throughout the state.

For more information about the Envirothon, or for sponsorship opportunities contact:

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Nevis High School, North Central Area
They competed at the North American Envirothon in Ontario, Canada in the summer of 2016