



## PENNSYLVANIA ENVIROTHON

### RULES and REGULATIONS

1. Competitors must be enrolled in grade levels nine (9) through (twelve) 12 or equivalent home education program ranking. *Students can only participate in four high school state Envirothon events.*
2. Each team or team member shall participate in only one county event per school year.
3. Teams must consist of five (5) members in order to participate. All members must represent the same educational unit.
4. In the event that one to two members from a team cannot attend the Pennsylvania Envirothon, the advisor is permitted to make substitutions. All members and substitutes must represent the same educational unit and have competed in the same county event.
5. The team representing Pennsylvania at the Canon Envirothon must consist of five (5) team members and two (2) adult advisors/chaperones.
6. Home Education students may form their own team specifically for participation in the Pennsylvania Envirothon, and they must petition their county conservation district for recognition to participate in an Envirothon event. All team members must participate in the same county event in order to participate at the state level (no all-star teams). How Home Education teams are organized to participate in a county Envirothon event is at the discretion of the County Conservation District or a PA Envirothon Board approved sponsoring organization.
7. Each county may send only one team to the Pennsylvania Envirothon. Each participating county may send a maximum of five (5) team members and two (2) adult advisors/chaperones to the state event. Each team is encouraged to arrange for an adult male to chaperone male team participants and an adult female to chaperone female team participants. For the purpose of housing, male and female team members will be assigned to different floors and/or buildings. **In regards to the Canon Envirothon, in the case of mixed gender teams, the Canon Envirothon rules require the team to have a male and a female advisor/chaperone, no exceptions.**
8. Any team that brings more than five (5) students and two (2) adult advisors/chaperones shall be subject to disqualification.
9. In the event a county's winning team cannot attend the state event, the next highest scoring county team may be sent in its place as long as the Pennsylvania Rules are met and at the discretion of the county conservation district. The County Conservation District's or a PA Envirothon Board approved sponsoring organization's decision is final.
10. Each county team will rotate AS A TEAM through the testing stations (aquatic ecology, forestry, soil/land use, wildlife, and current issue).
11. Advisors/chaperones are not permitted at any rotation with their own team, but will be given the opportunity to tour the testing stations during the official advisor tour.

12. Any team, team member, team advisor, or team chaperone discovered on, near, or around the testing stations before the competition begins shall be subject to disqualification.
13. All test scores are final. Tests and scoring materials will remain the property of the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors.
14. Envirothon participants shall only use reference and resource materials provided by agency or Envirothon representatives at the stations. No personal reference or resource materials are allowed on the testing circuit.
15. Identification tags provided must be worn by all team members and advisors/chaperones at all times during the event.
16. No electronic or battery operated devices (i.e. ipods, cell phones, pagers, calculators, computers, camcorders, cameras, or taping devices, etc.) are allowed on the testing circuit or at the testing stations. Press pass allowances are made in advance for the media, camera crew, and agency personnel.
17. No backpacks or similar cases shall be taken on the testing circuit. A small device for carrying personal items, (i.e. lip balm, medications, sunscreen, etc.) may be allowed.
18. The winning team at the Pennsylvania Envirothon is the team with the highest cumulative score, which includes scores from the testing stations and the oral component. In the event an oral component is held, it will be one-sixth of the total score.
  - a. Station tiebreakers – In the event of a tie at any given station, predetermined tie breaking question(s) will determine the winner of that station.
  - b. Overall Score tiebreakers – In the case of an overall tie, the Forestry test score will determine the placement for the final scores in the Envirothon. (The Current Issue station test score was used in 2010 and the Aquatic Ecology station test score was used in 2003.)
19. In the event the winning team cannot attend the Canon Envirothon, the next highest scoring team may be sent in its place.
20. English shall be designated the official language of the Pennsylvania Envirothon. All written (field) tests and oral presentation scenarios shall be in English.
21. Any team involved with any infraction of the rules or inconsistencies shall be subject to disqualification. If any rule is suspected of being violated, the infraction/inconsistency shall be reported to the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors.
22. No pets of any kind may be brought on the site of the Pennsylvania Envirothon.
23. The Pennsylvania Envirothon Rules are subject to change by the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors. Any and all changes will be announced before the competition begins.
24. Any exception must be considered by the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors and all decisions made by the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors are final.

***Adopted December 15, 2009***