

How to become involved with the Envirothon

The Pennsylvania Envirothon program and its many partners welcome new sponsors and partners to become involved with the state Envirothon competition. We welcome volunteers who wish to assist at the state event; we may even request assistance with county events. We welcome sponsors who wish to fund a specific component, for example one of the three meals that we provide to feed over 300 hungry teenagers and more than 200 volunteers, awards for the oral component, the teacher's training session or a specific testing station.

If you would like additional information, please contact the Pennsylvania Envirothon office.

The Pennsylvania Envirothon is recognized as a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service.



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Pennsylvania Envirothon

2007
Annual Report

ACCEPT THE NATURAL CHALLENGE!

"Pennsylvania is the Founder of North America's largest high school environmental education competition, the Envirothon."

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Our Mission

The Pennsylvania Envirothon educates high school students in natural resources and environmental sciences. The program emphasizes the importance of environmental sensitivity while stressing a need to achieve a social, ecologic, and economic balance. The learning objectives emphasize awareness, knowledge, attitudes, and application. The Pennsylvania Envirothon provides future generations with the ability to be better equipped to address the complex natural resource concerns facing today's world as well as the challenges of tomorrow.

2007 Pennsylvania Envirothon

Board of Directors

Chair Andy Patterson – District Manager, Huntingdon Conservation District

Vice-Chair Leigh Beamesderfer – Forester/Naturalist,
Lebanon Conservation District

Secretary Robert Sweitzer – District Manager, Centre Conservation District

Treasurer Mary Ann Bower – District Manager, Clinton Conservation District

Donna Hays – Education Coordinator, Franklin Conservation District

Vince McCollum – Watershed Specialist, Cumberland Conservation District

Jan Hampton – District Manager, Cameron Conservation District

Corey Richmond – Watershed Specialist, Sullivan Conservation District

Rich Gulyas – Education Coordinator, Bradford Conservation District

Don Baker – Volunteer Director/PACD Representative,
Mifflin Conservation District

Richard Stumpf – Volunteer Associate Director/PACD Representative,
Indiana Conservation District

William Kahler – Conservation Program Specialist/SCC Representative,
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Sidney Freyermuth – Watershed Program Specialist/SCC Representative,
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Associate Directors

Angie Foltz – Natural Resources Program Coordinator,
Lebanon Conservation District

Mike Klimkos – Program Coordinator, Dirt & Gravel Road Maintenance
Program, State Conservation Commission

Craig Bingman – District Manager, Snyder Conservation District

Erica Clark – Ag Conservation Technician, Mifflin Conservation District

Staff

Lorelle Steach – Program Coordinator

2007 Sponsors

Financial Sponsors

Pennsylvania Growing Greener Program
Air Products and Chemicals
Nestle Water North America
PPL Corporation
Pennsylvania Conservation Districts
Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
Canon Envirothon
U.S.D.A Natural Resources Conservation Service
Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association
PennAg Industries Association
Haines and Kibblehouse, Inc.

Tent/Station Sponsors

Cargill and The Conservation Fund
Dwight Lewis Lumber
The Hershey Company
Lewis Lumber Products

Program Sponsors

Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts
State Conservation Commission
Pennsylvania's 66 Conservation Districts

2007 Partners

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Forestry
Bureau of State Parks
Pennsylvania Department of Education
Office of Environment and Ecology
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
Pennsylvania Game Commission
Pennsylvania State University
U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Envirothon Experience

For over 20 years, high school teachers have been recognizing the value of the Envirothon experience. The Envirothon is the only competition in the nation that challenges students to think critically about the natural world and their role in it.



It's also the only competition that helps students develop the critical thinking skills they will need for a lifetime of finding balanced solutions to complex issues, such as how to encourage economic development and still preserve open space.

With such pressing long-term issues as water quality and quantity, sustainable energy, watershed management, and agriculture, to name a few, the Envirothon shows tomorrow's leaders the positive and negative effects that individual actions have on the environment. Understanding the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources, realizing environmental interactions and interdependencies, and becoming conscious of how each of us contributes to the overall quality of life is all part of the Envirothon experience.

The Envirothon is comprised of five testing areas on which students focus their study. As a team, written questions are answered in the subject areas of: soil/land use, forestry, aquatic ecology, wildlife, and current environmental issues (2007 – alternative/renewable energy). A discovery station (non-testing) provides an opportunity for students to learn about other disciplines.

Team answers are evaluated by practicing environmental professionals – foresters, aquatic and wildlife biologists, soil scientists, and conservationists – who themselves deal with similar complex issues every day.

The team that scores the greatest number of points wins their respective county competition and moves onto the state Envirothon. The winning team of the state competition moves onto the Canon Envirothon, North America's largest high school environmental competition.

Pennsylvania Envirothon

In 2007, more than 300 high-school students representing 65 counties participated in the twenty-fourth Pennsylvania State Envirothon. The event was held at the Pennsylvania State University on May 21 and 22.

The Pennsylvania Envirothon is the outcome of 67 county competitions that take place during the months of April and May and involves more than 15,000 teenagers throughout the Commonwealth.

Awards were presented to the top 10 teams in the station testing. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the State Conservation Commission awarded over \$9,000 in college scholarships to each team member of the three teams scoring highest in the station testing.

Those top three teams included:



First Place

York County, Northern York High School

Team Photo: Kim Holmes (coach), Chris Jacobs, Hannah Richwine, Ben Mummert, Morgan DeLuca, Benjamin Spalding, and Barbara Lathrop (coach)



Second Place

Delaware County, Penncrest High School

Team Photo: Robby Graham, Teresa Slifer, Vic Janmey, Emily Moberg, and Natalie Scherer



Third Place

Warren County, Warren Area High School

Team Photo: Alyssa D'Alessandro, John Stewart, Tina Toole (coach), Joseph Thomas, Dustin Nuhfer, Marshall Johnson

2007 Financial Report

EXPENSES

Program Administration

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Coordinator Salary/Travel/Benefits* | 50,318.00 |
| Director Travel | 2,500.00 |
| Rent and Utilities | 3,920.00 |
| Supplies | 750.00 |
| Computer Upgrade/Maintenance | 500.00 |

Event

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Awards | 2,000.00 |
| Educational Materials* | 7,000.00 |
| Lodging and Meals | 22,500.00 |
| Station/Program Administration | 11,500.00 |
| Oral Component | 3,500.00 |

Canon Envirothon

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Team Registration and Travel** | 4,650.00 |
| State Dues | 200.00 |
| PA CEC Registration and Travel | 2,200.00 |

Professional Services

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Audit / Organizational Fees | 750.00 |
| Insurance | 1,000.00 |
| Administrative Fees | 700.00 |

Outreach

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Newsletter*, Postage*, Coordinator Trainings | <u>5,000.00</u> |
|--|-----------------|

Total Program Expenses

\$118,988.00

INCOME

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Air Products & Chemicals | 5,000.00 |
| Nestle Water North America | 5,000.00 |
| PPL Corporation | 5,000.00 |
| Pennsylvania Conservation Districts | 3,500.00 |
| Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry | 2,000.00 |
| Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission** | 2,000.00 |
| U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service | 1,000.00 |
| Friends of the Envirothon | 500.00 |
| Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association | 450.00 |
| Registration Income | 21,050.00 |
| Tee shirt sales | 4,320.00 |
| Grant Income* | 51,250.00 |
| Envirothon Operations | <u>17,918.00</u> |

Total Program Income

\$118,988.00

In-Kind Volunteer Contributions

\$75,000.00

Special Project Funding – Scholarships

\$10,000.00

PA Department of Agriculture/State Conservation Commission

Accomplishments

Act 48 Credit Hours to Educators – We continue to provide educational sessions for teachers on specific topics such as aquatic ecology issues during the advisor forum at the state competition.

Total State Participation – Each of Pennsylvania’s counties holds a high-school competition. The Envirothon program in Pennsylvania, alone, reaches over 15,000 high school students in over 700 public/private schools and organizations with its resources and information. Many counties organize programs similar to the Envirothon for younger students.

Helping students make wise choices – High school students make dozens of choices that – for better or worse – affect the natural resources on which we depend. Today, the impact of those choices might seem fairly minor. But before too long, the choices these students make will become more complex; the ramifications more far-reaching as they begin to choose their career paths. Envirothon students are becoming doctors, conservationists, communication specialists, wildlife biologists, and leaders in our communities. Many former Envirothon students proclaim the Envirothon as the tool that helped them to make wise choices and balanced decisions as they enter life as young adults.

Officially named Host for the 2012 Canon Envirothon – The Canon Envirothon Committee officially awarded Pennsylvania the right to serve as host for the 2012 Canon Envirothon, also the 25th anniversary of the North American competition which first began in Pennsylvania. If you would like to be a part of this historical event, contact the Pennsylvania Envirothon office.

Financial Report

The Pennsylvania Envirothon is administered with funding provided through a public/private partnership. Program administration and one staff position is funded through grants received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (indicated with an *), referred to as public support. Private/corporate contributions are used to cover event costs. Special project funds are restricted to the college scholarship project. Funding received from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is designated towards sending a team to represent Pennsylvania at the Canon Envirothon event (indicated with two **).

The Oral Component consists of a 5-10 minute oral presentation and a 10 minute question/answer period to a panel of five judges. One week prior to the competition, the teams were given a written scenario, based on the current issue, for which they prepared a convincing proposal. The presentation consisted of how the team’s proposed idea would positively and/or negatively impact the land, water, air, wildlife, forests, and people of the area.

This year’s oral component focused on the current issue theme, *Alternative/Renewable Energy*. The teams were asked to develop an alternative and renewable energy proposal that would help push Pennsylvania into the top tier of states taking steps to cut consumer energy costs and significantly expand the alternative fuel, clean energy and conservation sectors. The team’s role was to report their findings to the state legislature (i.e. the panel of judges) to encourage policy changes, making Pennsylvania – and the nation – more sustainable in their energy uses.

Awards were present to the top 10 teams in the oral component. The top three teams included:



First Place

Delaware County, Penncrest High School

Team Photo: Mark Samilenko and Chrissa Kuntz (coaches), Robby Graham, Teresa Slifer, Vic Janmey, Emily Moberg, Natalie Scherer, and PA Department of Agriculture Secretary, Dennis Wolff



Second Place

Warren County, Warren Area High School

Team Photo: Tina Toole (coach), Alyssa D’Alessandro, John Stewart, Joseph Thomas, Dustin Nuhfer, Marshall Johnson, and PA Department of Agriculture Secretary, Dennis Wolff



Third Place

Snyder County, Future Hope Homelearners

Team Photo: Barbara Angstadt and Jennifer Caplinger (coaches), Miriam Wise, Michael Hoffman, Kelcie Angstadt, Nathaniel Wise, Daniel Wise, and PA Department of Agriculture Secretary, Dennis Wolff

All in a Day's Work



Canon Envirothon

A five-member team from Northern York High School honored Pennsylvania with a second place finish at the 2007 Canon Envirothon. Winners were announced during closing ceremonies of the weeklong North American environmental education competition held at Hobart & William Smith Colleges in Geneva, N.Y., and sponsored by Canon U.S.A.



Northern York High School team members: Benjamin Spalding, Morgan DeLuca, Ben Mummert (team captain), Hannah Richwine, and Chris Jacobs. The team was coached by Kim Holmes and Barbara Lathrop.

More than 250 teenagers from 43 U.S. states and nine Canadian provinces studied environmental issues and resource conservation, while competing for a share of more than \$100,000 in Canon scholarships and prizes.



The first place team from Connecticut received a total of \$25,000 in Canon scholarships. Pennsylvania received \$20,000 in scholarships and Delaware received \$15,000 in scholarships, finishing second and third respectively. Fourth place Missouri received \$10,000 in scholarships. The fifth place team, New Jersey, received \$7,500 in scholarships. All of the teams received Canon equipment.

In addition to their second-place honor, the Pennsylvania team was recognized for achieving the highest score on the Forestry test, a perfect score of 100 points, and on the Wildlife test, with a score of 90 points.

Visit the Canon Envirothon website at www.envirothon.org.

