



UPDATES

Pennsylvania Envirothon

Summer 2009



Pennsylvania Team wins 2009 Canon Envirothon

The Envirothon team from Penncrest High School in Media, Delaware County captured the 2009 Canon Envirothon championship in Asheville, North Carolina. 52 teams from 45 states and seven Canadian provinces competed at the twenty-second annual event held at the University of North Carolina—Asheville.

The Penncrest team roared to an impressive victory by scoring 621.75 points out of a possible 700. Second place North Carolina and third place Maryland scored 602 and 585.25, respectively. Pennsylvania has won eleven of the twenty-two Envirothon championships that have been held.

As Envirothon winners, Penncrest High School team members each received a \$5,000 Canon Envirothon scholarship. The team advisors received a Canon digital video camera. The team also was recognized for its high station testing scores in Aquatic Ecology, 88.25 and Wildlife, 98.0.

The Pennsylvania Envirothon and the Penncrest High School team extend sincere appreciation to Canon U.S.A. for the opportunity to participate in such a rewarding event. Thank you!

For more information and photos, visit the Canon Envirothon website, www.envirothon.org.



Congratulations Team Pennsylvania!

Members of the 2009 Canon Envirothon Champion Team pictured above during their final presentation are: Jennifer Walker, Katie Ferguson, Elizabeth Freeburg, Katie Davis, and Alex Senko. The team advisors are teachers Mark Samilenko and Amanda Meltz.

2010 State Envirothon Date Set

Plans are underway for the 2010 Pennsylvania State Envirothon. It will be held at the PPL Montour Preserve on Wednesday, May 26th, with teams arriving on Tuesday, May 25th.

The Current Environmental Issue for 2010 will be "Protection of Groundwater through Urban, Agricultural, and Environmental Planning." The lucky Pennsylvania winning team will travel to Merced, California for the 2010 Canon Envirothon.

This is the sixth time that the PPL Montour Preserve has hosted the

State Envirothon event. The Preserve is operated by the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company as an outdoor recreation and nature preserve. The Preserve is located north of Danville in northcentral Pennsylvania, approximately four miles northeast of Washingtonville and is accessible from Route 54 in Montour County.

The Preserve encompasses a total of 966 acres surrounding a 165 acre lake and includes an educational Visitors' Center. PPL operates the Montour Steam Electric Station nearby. The Montour Preserve is

operated under a multiple use land management program which provides for soil and water conservation, wildlife habitat improvement, and protection of open space and natural areas. In addition to fishing, recreation, and nature study opportunities at the Preserve, other company land is used for farming, timber production, and reforestation.

We are grateful for the partnership between PPL and the Envirothon Program.

2009 State Envirothon Re-cap

Sixty-five teams competed in the twenty-sixth Pennsylvania State Envirothon held at Bald Eagle State Park, Howard, Centre County on Tuesday, May 19th.

The students were challenged in the areas of soil / land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife, and a current environmental issue. The 2009 current environmental issue was biodiversity in a changing world. EXCO North Coast Energy provided valuable information about Marcellus Shale and natural gas drilling to the teams at the Discovery Station, the non-testing station.

The participating teams represented the best and the brightest of the thousands of high school teens who have competed in county Envirothon competitions. The Pennsylvania Envirothon is sponsored by Pennsylvania's sixty-six conservation districts, the State Conservation Commission, and the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts. The program is managed by a board of directors representing those sponsors. Technical expertise is provided by the following agency partners: Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture, of Conservation and Natural Resources, of Education, of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Pennsylvania Game Commission, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



First Place
Penncrest High School
Delaware County



Second Place
Future Hope Home Learners
Snyder County



Third Place
Warren Area High School
Warren County

The top 10 winners, with scores, include:

First Place - Penncrest High School, Delaware County, with a score of 460;

Second Place - Future Hope Home Learners, Snyder County, with a score of 427;

Third Place - Warren Area High School, Warren County, with a score of 423;

Fourth Place - North East High School, Erie County, with a score of 419;

Fifth Place - Cedar Cliff High School, Cumberland County, with a score of 412;

Sixth Place - Homeschool, York County, with a score of 409;

Seventh Place - Carmichaels Area High School, Greene County, with a score of 403;

Eighth Place - Blue Mountain High School, Schuylkill County, with a score of 397;

Ninth Place - Northern Bedford High School, Bedford County, with a score of 390; and

Tenth Place - Canton High School, Bradford County, with a score of 389.

The Envirothon awarded scholarships to the first, second, and third place teams. The scholarships were sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the State Conservation Commission. Each of the top ten teams received a plaque and other prizes.

For more information on the Envirothon program, contact your local conservation district or contact the Pennsylvania Envirothon by phone (814) 623-7900 ext. 111, Email paenvirothon@pennswoods.net, or visit the website at www.envirothonpa.org.

“Note from the Chairman”

Thank You to our Corporate Sponsors



The Envirothon Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our sponsors for their continued support of the Pennsylvania Envirothon. Several corporations have generously donated to the Envirothon program. This funding has enabled the Envirothon to improve station testing materials, strengthen its teacher resource packets, and create measurable goals and objectives. At the same time, it provides high

school students with the opportunity to participate in a unique, hands-on natural resource/environmental education program.

Many of these companies and the Envirothon share a similar goal. That is, they both want to encourage youth participation and awareness in conservation events. By involving themselves in the Envirothon, they sustain an environmental philosophy of striving to protect and preserve the environment for its employees, their children, the general public, and future generations.

By forming ties with these companies, the Envirothon has increased its public exposure, which, in turn, has helped to increase attendance and

participation. With their continued interest and support, the Envirothon hopes to further expand involvement in this high-profile natural resource/environmental education program.

Thank You!

Diamond Sponsor—\$5000+

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2009 State Envirothon T-shirts still available

The Pennsylvania Envirothon still has T-shirts available from its 2009 event. This year's shirts are yellow haze with a navy print logo.

T-shirt prices:

S, M, L, and XL—\$12.00

For ordering information, contact the

Pennsylvania Envirothon office:

Phone (814) 623-7900 x 111 or email:
paenvirothon@pennswoods.net.

Update — 2012 Canon Envirothon – Pennsylvania

Plans for Canon Envirothon 2012 in Pennsylvania have begun. We are looking forward to planning a wonderful experience for the winning teams from each state and Canadian Province, highlighting

Pennsylvania and its natural resources. Committees have been developed and volunteers have stepped forward and have begun planning for the event; but there's always room for more. If you would

like to volunteer to serve on a committee, it's not too late. E-mail Canon2012@lccd.org and let Leigh and Lorelle know your interest. We look forward to working with you!

2010 Current Issue

Protection of Groundwater through Urban, Agricultural, and Environmental Planning

Access to clean, safe, drinking water is an essential ingredient to a healthy and viable community. Severe human health, ecological, and economic consequences would follow from losses of current and/or future drinking water sources—losses that can be prevented. The potential for contamination of drinking water, coupled with the high cost of treating water, and locating and developing alternate water sources, makes it imperative that government entities adopt and implement effective strategies for long-term protection of drinking water sources. This is especially true for areas dependent upon groundwater.

Many factors—including increasing populations and over-development—put stresses on groundwater supplies. While governmental planning agencies focus on land development, community economics, and encouraging a good jobs-per-housing ratio, planning for the protection of groundwater often receives scant attention regarding drought, contamination, planning for future economic growth, and encouraging water conservation by all users. Due to its nature, most communities have no clear understanding of how much groundwater is available.

Questions for Envirothon participants: What are the consequences of a lack of proper planning for protecting groundwater resources? Should urban users have priority over agriculture? Should agriculture have priority while restricting urban growth? Should environmental considerations—such as maintaining stream flow—have priority over both urban and agricultural uses? These are some of the issues that Envirothon participants will research and study when preparing for the 2010 current issue station.

Upcoming Events

Early November 2009

County Envirothon Coordinator informational meeting. Details available soon.

April / May, 2010

County Envirothon events, sponsored by county conservation districts, will be held in all 67 counties.

May 26, 2010

Twenty-seventh annual Pennsylvania State Envirothon will be held at PPL Montour Preserve, Montour County.

July 31—August 7, 2010

Twenty-third Annual Canon Envirothon will be held at the University of California, Merced, CA.

July 24—30, 2011

Twenty-fourth Annual Canon Envirothon will be held at Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada.

July 22—28, 2012

Twenty-fifth Annual Canon Envirothon will be held at Susquehanna University, Selingsgrove, PA.



Mark your Calendars!

Pennsylvania Envirothon Mission

The Envirothon is an environmental education program made available to Pennsylvania Conservation Districts in partnership with related state and federal agencies and other organizations. The Envirothon program is designed to test high school students' knowledge of Pennsylvania's natural resources and environmental sciences. The program emphasizes the importance of environmental sensitivity while stressing a need to achieve a social, ecological, and economic balance. 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.



For more information:

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