**NEWS RELEASE** 

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## **2014** Pennsylvania State Envirothon Results

CONTACT:

The 31<sup>st</sup> Pennsylvania State Envirothon was held at Susquehanna University and PPL Montour Preserve on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 20 and 21, 2014. High school students from 64 Pennsylvania counties participated in this year's event.

At the Envirothon, five-member teams participate in a series of field station tests that focus on five topic areas – soils and land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife, and environmental issues. The 2014 current environmental issue focused on Sustainable Agriculture/Buying Local. The teams also prepare and deliver oral presentations to panels of judges who evaluate each team on its problem-solving capabilities, oral presentation skills and recommendations to help solve the specific environmental challenge, which relates to the current environmental issue.

Teams participating represent the best and the brightest of the thousands of high school teens who have competed in county Envirothon competitions sponsored by conservation districts from across the state. At the state level, the 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 partners: PA Department of Environmental Protection, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Game Commission, PA Fish and Boat Commission, U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Pennsylvania Farmers Union. Sponsors and partners of the 2014 Envirothon are PPL Corporation, Marcellus Shale Coalition, Shell Oil Co., Air Products Foundation, Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Access Midstream, Canon USA, Envirothon, PA Department of Agriculture, PA Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Department of Education, PA Trappers Association, Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, and State Conservation Commission. The Hershey Company, Dwight Lewis Lumber, Lewis Lumber Products, PPL, and Cargill are corporate station sponsors.

The winners of the 2014 Pennsylvania Envirothon state competition will be recognized as the State champions and will receive additional scholarship funding or an educational excursion on the Chesapeake Bay.

The 2014 Pennsylvania Envirothon state champions, scoring 522.33 points of a possible 600, are from Penncrest High School located in Delaware County.

Top 10 winners, with scores include:

Second Place – YHSA Homeschoolers, York County, with a score of 520;

Third Place – Carmichaels Area High School, Greene County, with a score of 510;

Fourth Place – Palmyra Area High School, Lebanon County, with a score of 482;

Fifth Place – Downingtown East High School, Chester County, with a score of 481.33;

Sixth Place – Redbank Valley High School, Clarion County, with a score of 473;

Seventh Place – Neshaminy High School, Bucks County, with a score of 453.67;

Eighth Place – Central Valley High School, Beaver County, with a score of 447.33;

Ninth Place – Blue Mountain High School, Schuylkill County, with a score of 446.67;

Tenth Place – Lewisburg Area High School, Union County, with a score of 445.67.

The Pennsylvania Envirothon awarded scholarships to the first, second, and third place teams. The scholarships were sponsored by Pennsylvania's County Conservation Districts and Pennsylvania Envirothon. Each of the top ten teams received a plaque and other prizes.

The high station winners, with scores include:

Soils/Land Use – Penncrest High School, Delaware County, with a score of 89;

Aquatic Ecology – Blue Mountain High School, Schuylkill County, with a score of 93;

Forestry – Palmyra Area High School, Lebanon County, with a score of 88;

Wildlife – YHSA Homeschoolers, York County, with a score of 92;

Current Issue – YHSA Homeschoolers, York County, with a score of 92; and

Oral Presentation Component – YHSA Homeschoolers, York County, with a score of 100.

For more information on the Envirothon program, contact your county conservation district or contact the Pennsylvania Envirothon by phone (814) 623-8099, Email paenvirothon@pennswoods.net, or visit the website at www.envirothonpa.org.