



UPDATES

Pennsylvania Envirothon

Winter 2013

Juniata College to host 2013 Pennsylvania Envirothon

The 2013 Pennsylvania Envirothon will be held on Tuesday, May 21st and Wednesday, May 22nd at Juniata College, Huntingdon County.

The oral component will take place on Tuesday and the station testing on Wednesday. All events will be held on the campus of Juniata College.

According to its website, Juniata is an independent, co-educational college of liberal arts and sciences. Located in the scenic mountains of central Pennsylvania, the beautiful 110-acre main campus is supplemented by the

365-acre Baker-Henry Nature Preserve and Baker Peace Chapel.



In addition, a 365-acre Environmental Studies Field Station on nearby Raystown Lake provides one of the most

distinctive opportunities in environmental science in the nation.

The College has a strong reputation for excellent academics, personal attention, and state-of-the-art technological resources. Juniata students enjoy small classes, a challenging, flexible curriculum, collaborative student-faculty relationships, countless chances to learn by doing, and a lively campus offering lots to do and great new friends.

For additional information, please visit: <http://www.juniata.edu>.

2013 Envirothon Resources Available



The Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the 2013 Envirothon resources are available. Teachers and students can review and download most of the information

needed to prepare for the 2013 Envirothon competitions.

Visit: www.envirothonpa.org and click on the sidebar category “**Station Training**.”

Or...

The 2013 Teacher Resource Packets and new study resources have been delivered to your county's Envirothon Coordinator. If you have not received them, please contact your county conservation district office or the Pennsylvania Envirothon office.

Volunteers needed for 2013 State Envirothon!

The Envirothon Board of Directors invites all conservation districts, partners, sponsors, agencies, financial contributors, organizations, and friends to volunteer to help with the thirtieth annual Pennsylvania State Envirothon event being held on May 21 and 22, 2013. The two-day event will be held at Juniata College, Huntingdon County.

Over 100 volunteers are needed to assist with the oral component and the

testing station competition. Volunteers serve as oral component presentation judges, prep room and presentation room monitors, station judges, score runners, lunch deliverers, registration escorts, photographers, and other miscellaneous duties.

To receive information on how you can volunteer for the 2013 Pennsylvania Envirothon, please contact your county conservation district or the program

coordinator, Lorelle Steach, by e-mail: paenvirothon@pennswoods.net or the volunteer coordinator, Bill Kahler, e-mail: wkahler@pa.gov or Jan Hampton, email: ccconservation@cameroncountypa.com.



We hope to see all of you at the 2013 Pennsylvania State Envirothon competition.

North American Envirothon (formerly Canon Envirothon)

North America's largest high school natural resource and environmental education competition is now known as the **North American Envirothon!** Formerly known as the National Envirothon and most recently the Canon Envirothon, the name has been once again changed. However, its name is the only change. The program's mission and web site address remain the same.

To learn more about the North American Envirothon, please visit www.envirothon.org.



Funding received through Pennsylvania's EITC program

Pennsylvania Envirothon recently received three generous contributions from FNB-Corporation (First National Bank), PPL Corporation and its affiliates, and Susquehanna Bank through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (ETIC) program.

The EITC contributions will go toward the purchase of environmental education resources and hands-on teaching tools that are distributed through Pennsylvania's county conservation districts. The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) gives tax credits to eligible businesses contributing to an Educational Improvement Organization such as Pennsylvania Envirothon.

"With the Envirothon reaching out to more than 500 school districts and almost 15,000 students, donations made through the EITC program are important in helping us teach high school students about proper management of natural resources with hands-on teaching techniques and through competitive events, in turn encouraging students to become involved in their local communities. We would like to thank FNB Corporation, PPL Corporation and its affiliates, and Susquehanna Bank for their dedication to our program," said Lorelle Steach, PA Envirothon Program Coordinator.

Pennsylvania Envirothon is an approved organization to receive contributions through the EITC program, which is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Businesses that donate to Pennsylvania Envirothon are eligible to receive tax credits amounting to 75 percent of their charitable contribution for a one-year period. The tax credit increases to 90 percent if the company commits to making the same donation for two consecutive years. A business paying taxes in Pennsylvania can receive up to \$400,000 in tax credits annually. Donations of any amount are eligible for the tax credit.

For more information about the tax credit program, contact Pennsylvania Envirothon Program Coordinator Lorelle Steach at 814-623-7900 ext. 111 or paenvirothon@pennswoods.net.

State Event's Discovery Station will promote Energy Efficiency

Each year teams competing at the State Envirothon participate in a Discovery Station, a non-testing station. The Discovery Station offers them an educational hands-on program that is not linked to one of the five testing stations. At this year's state Envirothon, the state Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Environmental Education will show the teams what they can do to reduce energy and water use and how energy impacts the environment. Representative of the Department will present ideas the students can implement in their homes.



Energy Quiz

- Most of the energy we use originally came from:
 - The sun
 - The air
 - The soil
 - The oceans
- Which uses the most energy in American homes each year?
 - Lighting
 - Water heating
 - Heating and cooling rooms
 - Refrigeration
- The U.S. consumes lots of energy. Which fuel provides the most energy?
 - Petroleum
 - Coal
 - Natural gas
 - Solar

Answers: 1 - a; 2 - c; 3 - a

EPCAMR coming to the 2013 State Envirothon

Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR), a non-profit organization, established in 1996 to encourage the reclamation and remediation of land and water impacted by past mining practices on abandoned mine lands in Eastern Pennsylvania Coalfields will be joining students at the 2013 PA Envirothon to increase their awareness of abandoned mine drainage and innovative, cutting edge 3D modeling of the underground mines throughout Pennsylvania.

The remnants of coal and non-coal mining are evident in our environment throughout the Commonwealth. In fact, the largest contributor of nonpoint source pollution in our state is Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) with over 5,000 miles of streams impacted throughout PA.

Through partnerships with conservation districts; watershed groups; schools and colleges; other non-profit and cooperative grassroots efforts; active industry and local, state, and federal government, EPCAMR efficiently uses our resources, collaborative technical treatment, and remediation technologies, and is at the forefront of developing 3D models that reflect the underground mines, geology, and mine pools beneath our abandoned mine lands to assist in restoring Pennsylvania's vital watersheds and communities impacted by abandoned mine lands.

At this year's State Envirothon's Tuesday evening program, we are going to be a small part in helping to restore our streams by carrying EPCAMR's workload on our backs, literally. EPCAMR will utilize iron oxide it has recovered, harvested, dried, and processed into a recycled powder from mine drainage that impacted streams in Northeastern PA to create AMD Tie-Dye T-shirts. EPCAMR has tie-dyed over 15,000 T-shirts in the last 10 years alone with students, the general public, conference attendees, campers, and at environmental fairs and workshops throughout NE and NC PA. This year, EPCAMR is going to make shirts with state Envirothon participants using the 2013 Pennsylvania Envirothon T-shirts. Every shirt that we make removes a small amount of iron oxide from our rivers and streams to help restore them and to showcase the potential use of iron oxide as a pigment product that has value on the clothing market.



PENNSYLVANIA ENVIROTHON

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Become a Friend of the Pennsylvania Envirothon

Pennsylvania Youth

Accept the Natural Challenge

Become a "Friend of the Envirothon"
Your support can make a difference.

You can show you care about our natural resources and conservation education by helping the Pennsylvania Envirothon educate high school students about protecting, managing, and wisely using our natural resources.

Please show your concern by pledging your support for the Pennsylvania Envirothon by becoming a "Friend of the Envirothon." By becoming a partner, you will receive our UPDATES newsletter to keep you current on the Envirothon program. Your support will be recognized in print media, on sponsor boards, and on our T-shirts.

You can also visit our website at www.envirothonpa.org. All contributions are 501 (c) 3 tax deductible and should be made payable to Pennsylvania Envirothon, Inc. N.P.

Become a "Friend of the Envirothon"

Please complete and mail this form along with payment to:
Pennsylvania Envirothon, Inc.,
702 West Pitt Street, Suite 3,
Bedford, PA 15522.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Envirothon Alumni Story

by Samantha May

My name is Samantha May and I am currently a Sophomore Environmental Science major at Waynesburg University. My involvement with the Envirothon and environmental based studies started my sophomore school year (2008-2009) at Carmichaels Area High School (CAHS) in Greene County, Pennsylvania. The Envirothon competition helped me find a solid career path that had such a variety of individual fields within its broadened category, that I would have no trouble finding a job just right for me. However, I did not always feel so optimistic about the Envirothon or the class that helped me achieve all the success within it.

Simply trying to find a filler class with college credit options, I took Conservation Biology with Mr. Kevin Willis. The first day of class was disappointing with the news that it would not be a credit course after all. I decided that, although I wanted additional credits, this class would have to work for the year. Although it was not my first choice in classes, I did very well with a ranking of seventh in the class, making it to the second team for CAHS and moving on to the Greene County Envirothon. Since I had shown interest in Wildlife and Soils, I focused on both subjects and, honestly, blew off the competition thinking it was not going to be that big a deal. Once competition day arrived I still felt the same about it but strived to do the best that I could on each test. Our team, sadly, got third while the other two CAHS teams took first and second place; first place went to our first team members.

Months passed and the first team was busy trying to study, learn new material, and get mentally prepared for the state competition all the while. A few weeks before the competition date, one of the team members had a baseball game conflict. The game was WPIAL play-offs, he was a very important component of the team, and it was the same day as the State Envirothon so he had to pick the game over the competition. This left an opening for the sixth ranked person who also had a sports conflict and was not interested in going. The opportunity then passed on to me. Not wanting to let Mr. Willis down, I reluctantly took the fifth spot on the first team to compete for Greene County. Thankfully, the teammate I replaced had been Wildlife, and I had already had the knowledge from county and only needed to review and cram for the trip.

Once we were at the competition, my perspective completely changed. It was a great feeling to be involved with the Greene County team and go up against over sixty other teams. I felt confident in my team, and myself, going into the award ceremony. That year (2009), Greene County took seventh place with the highest score in Wildlife. That high score made me realize this was something I wanted to continue through high school and further. In 2010 CAHS returned to the State Envirothon for Greene County and took second place with the high score in Wildlife as well as in 2011 placing fourth overall and third in regard to the Oral Component section.

Today I am currently working on my B.S in Environmental Studies with hopes of attending graduate school to specialize in either a water or soil based field. I also have had the pleasure of interning at a local water quality lab where I am gaining hands on experience with testing: both drinking water and wastewater.

I owe special thanks to Mr. Willis for introducing the Envirothon and this field of study to me. He is one of the most influential people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing, and his teaching methods were what made the competition stay exciting and fun throughout the years. Without his guidance, I would have never found a career path I feel so comfortable and relaxed in. Thank you, Mr. Willis!

2013 Seedlings for School Program—PA Game Commission

On February 25, 2012 the Pennsylvania Game Commission will start taking orders for the **2013 Seedlings for Schools** program. There is no fee for schools to participate.

Two ways to participate:

- 1) Order enough seedlings for your class or grade level, one seedling per student . Choose from silky dogwood or white spruce.
- 2) Order a variety of seedlings to plant on school or community grounds - this is primarily for middle and high school students.

To help conserve funding so that this can continue to be a free program, please consolidate orders so that there is only one (1) shipment per school building.

Please contact Theresa Alberici, WES and Project Wild Coordinator, if you have any questions. I can be reached by email at: talberici@pa.gov or phone 717-787-1434.

Rivers Conservation and Youth Fly Fishing Camp

by Mike Klimkos

Applications are being accepted until March 31, 2013 for the 19th annual Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp being held June 16 –21, 2013 at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, Cumberland County,

The highly structured curriculum is based on college level classes. The students are instructed in ecology, aquatic biology, geology, hydrogeology, erosion and sedimentation control, ichthyology, riparian corridor protection, watershed management, and entomology. Students also participate in a hands-on stream habitat improvement project.

But it's not all work. Fly fishing and fly tying are included. Nationally known instructors teach the students fly casting, fly tying, stream etiquette, how to "read" the water, and of course there is fishing. The camp begins Sunday and ends the following Friday.

The camp will be limited to thirty-two selected qualified students, ages 14 to 17. *The applicants must have been born between June 21, 1995 and June 16, 1999.* The thirty-two students will be selected through an application process answering why they want to attend camp, and they must provide a reference from a science teacher or guidance counselor. The competition for admission is fierce. The camp began accepting applications for the 2013 camp on November 1, 2012, and all applications must be postmarked not later than March 31, 2013.

The camp costs each student \$350 for the entire week. All meals and accommodations are included for the residence camp. A student need not be an accomplished fly fisher or a budding aquatic biologist to attend. All the student needs to be is highly motivated and willing to learn.

The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp was founded in 1995 through the efforts of the late Dr. John R. "Jack" Beck and the late Enoch S. "Inky" Moore, Jr., Pennsylvania Fish Commissioner. Their goal was to select thirty-two teenagers each year who are the leaders in their class. The thought is that today's leaders in high school become the leaders of tomorrow's communities. In a few short years they will be the bankers, lawyers, realtors, and municipal officials in their communities. If the camp can implant a kernel of knowledge in today's students about the importance of clean water, when those students become the decision makers in their communities, it may have a positive impact on how water resources are used.

The highly successful camp has been emulated in Michigan, North Carolina, Maine, Montana, Washington, Arkansas, New Hampshire, Colorado, New Jersey, New York, Idaho, Illinois, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, and Virginia/D.C./Maryland/West Virginia with other states looking to start their own programs.

For more information or an application brochure, contact the camp at: Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp, PO Box 71, Boiling Springs, PA 17007 or visit the camp's website at www.riverscamp.com. Friend the camp group Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp on Facebook.



Use of the name "Envirothon"

Many County Conservation Districts use the name "Envirothon" with their middle school and elementary school level competitions/ events. In order for the Pennsylvania Envirothon to comply with the "Envirothon" trademark documentation, we are providing the following information.

Conservation Districts are encouraged to be the administering sponsor of county Envirothon programs. If a Conservation District cannot be the sponsor, the Conservation District should provide written acknowledgement that is working cooperatively with another organization to administer its Envirothon program, and the organization wishing to coordinate the Envirothon program should request written approval from the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors.

As stated in documentation obtained by the National "Envirothon," Envirothon is trademarked for printed instructional and teaching materials about environmental awareness, conservation and natural resources, and the preservation of the environment, and for organizing and conducting lectures, courses, workshops, and training about environmental awareness, conservation of natural resources, and the preservation of the environment.

If you have questions and/or are using the name "Envirothon" for any purposes other than those listed above, please contact (in writing) the Pennsylvania Envirothon.

Oral Component Mandatory at 2013 State Competition

The oral component presentation is mandatory for all teams, and the score will be combined with the testing part of the event to decide the overall winning team. The oral component will be one-sixth of the overall score. In the case of a tie, the Current Issue test score will determine the placement for the final scores in the Envirothon.

The 2013 oral component scenario will be posted on the Pennsylvania Envirothon's website on Wednesday, May 15th, the week prior to the event. This will provide those winning teams an opportunity to prepare for the oral presentation. Teams will be able to utilize existing resources, research new information, and obtain input and guidance from advisors to enhance their presentation. In addition, posting it on the web will also allow those nonparticipating teams a chance to see how the scenario is written, what is expected, and it will provide an opportunity to "participate" on their own. In addition, they will have the opportunity to prepare for future State Envirothon events and for their own personal growth.

A complete listing of *Oral Component Rules and Guidelines* can be found on the Pennsylvania Envirothon's website at www.envirothonpa.org. This information will also be included in the registration packet provided to all teams early April. Please be sure to mark May 15th on your calendar to remind yourself to check the Pennsylvania website to obtain a copy of the scenario.

**Follow Pennsylvania Envirothon on Facebook—** www.facebook.com/paenvirothon

Support the Envirothon when you search the Web or shop online with GoodSearch—www.goodsearch.com
Choose a cause — Pennsylvania Envirothon


Upcoming Events at a Glance

Mark your Calendars!

April / May, 2013

County Envirothon events are held in all 67 counties.

May 15, 2013

2013 Oral Component Scenario posted to PA Envirothon website.

May 21 & 22, 2013

Thirtieth annual Pennsylvania State Envirothon will be held at Juniata College.

June 20, 2013

Soils and Forestry Envirothon Teacher Workshop will be held at Bald Eagle State Park. More information will follow.

August 4—10, 2013

Twenty-sixth annual North American Envirothon will be held at The Montana State University, Bozeman, MT.

2014

Twenty-seventh annual North American Envirothon will be held at the University of Georgia located in Athens, Georgia.

Current Issue — Sustainable Local Agriculture

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:

Pennsylvania Envirothon
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Program Coordinator: Lorelle Steach