

NEWS RELEASE

Pennsylvania Envirothon
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2016 Pennsylvania State Envirothon Results

The 33rd Pennsylvania Envirothon state competition was held at Susquehanna University and Camp Mount Luther on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 24 and 25, 2016. High school students from 65 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 2016 current environmental issue focused on Invasive Species. 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 county 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 Agriculture, 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 PA Sea Grant. Sponsors and partners of the 2016 Envirothon are Shell Oil Company, PPL Corporation, EQT Foundation, Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Weis, SWN, Chief Oil & Gas LLC, 2005 Canon Envirothon Champion Team Penncrest High School, National Conservation Foundation Envirothon, and Pennsylvania Department of Education. The EQT Foundation, Hershey Company, Dwight Lewis Lumber, Lewis Lumber Products, PPL, and Cargill are corporate station sponsors.

The 2016 Pennsylvania Envirothon champions will represent the Commonwealth at the 28th North American competition planned for July 24 – July 29 at Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario Canada. Pennsylvania has won the North American event in 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005, and 2009. More than 46 states, eight Canadian provinces, and one Canadian territory have initiated Envirothon contests based on the program that was originally developed by Pennsylvania's conservation districts.

The 2016 Pennsylvania Envirothon champions, scoring 548.3 points of a possible 600, are from Penncrest High School located in Delaware County. The Delaware County team earned the honor to represent Pennsylvania at the NCF-Envirothon North American competition.

Top 10 winners, with scores include:

Second Place – Palmyra Area High School, Lebanon County, with a score of 538.7;

Third Place – Carmichaels Area High School, Greene County, with a score of 522.7;

Fourth Place – Neshaminy High School, Bucks County, with a score of 516.7;

Fifth Place – YHSA Homeschoolers, York County, with a score of 512.3;

Sixth Place – North East High School, Erie County, with a score of 479.7;

Seventh Place – Oley Valley High School, Berks County, with a score of 471.3;

Eighth Place – Cumberland Valley High School, Cumberland County, with a score of 461.3;

Ninth Place – Pleasant Valley High School, Monroe County, with a score of 453.3; and

Tenth Place – Coudersport High School, Potter County, with a score of 453.

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

The high station winners, with scores include:

Soils/Land Use – Berks County, with a score of 97;

Aquatic Ecology – Lebanon County, with a score of 98;

Forestry – Delaware County, with a score of 94;

Wildlife – Lebanon County, with a score of 81;

Current Issue – Greene County, with a score of 94; and

Oral Presentation Component – Delaware County, with a score of 96.3.

For more information on the Envirothon program, contact your county conservation district or contact the Pennsylvania Envirothon by phone (814) 623-7900 ext. 111, Email

lsteach@envirothonpa.org, or visit the website at www.envirothonpa.org.