



Take Advantage Today

Both teachers and students enjoy the Envirothon's in-class learning that combines hands on, outdoor activities. Student teams are exposed to scientists and experts in the field who coach and guide their learning experience. Teams then compete in local Envirothons and winners advance to state, provincial, or territorial contests. Top teams head to the North American Envirothon, a week-long competition hosted by one of the states, provinces, or territories in North America, where scholarships and prizes are awarded.



The 2017 Colorado Envirothon Competition will be held on **April 25-26, 2017.**

For more information or to enter, please contact **Brenda Anderson** at coloradoenvirothon@gmail.com

Entry deadline is April 4, 2017.



Colorado Envirothon Sponsors

Colorado Association of Conservation Districts

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Warner Ranch/Robert L. Warner

Colorado State Conservation Board

National Conservation Foundation

Smithfield Foods

San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District

Center Conservation District

Rio Grande Conservation District



COLORADO ENVIROTHON

A NATURAL Challenge for High School Students



ENVIROTHON

Each year, thousands of teachers and professionals throughout the United States and Canada guide high school students through an environmental education program that combines classroom learning with outdoor activities.

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Start on the Local Level

Teachers from science disciplines as well as history and cultural studies participate. Some involve their entire classes, others just advise one or two teams of five members as a club or after school activity. Whatever works best. Open to high school students, a team may be sponsored by a high school, home schooled group, agricultural organization, scouts, or community service group.

Teams Are Tested in Five Areas

Early in the year, volunteer advisors begin to coach teams and are assisted by participating natural resource agencies. Ultimately, students are tested on their knowledge in five topic areas: soils and land use; aquatic ecology; forestry; wildlife; and a current environmental issue that changes each year. Through the program, students develop an understanding of effective teamwork, resource management and ecology. At the same time, they gain valuable exposure to a range of disciplines while exploring possible career paths.



1 SOIL AND LAND USE

Professional soil scientists help students learn about soil structure, interpret maps, and evaluate land forms and soil characteristics that affect agriculture and development issues.



2 AQUATIC ECOLOGY

Students work with marine and freshwater biologists to assess the quality of delicate aquatic ecosystems. They also learn to identify aquatic organisms, manage watersheds, and determine non-point source pollution.



3 FORESTRY

Students develop an understanding of the practices for maintaining healthy forest ecosystems through the help of professional foresters. They learn the basics of species identification, forest structure and dynamics as well as management approaches.



4 WILDLIFE

A favorite for many Envirothon participants, students learn firsthand from wildlife experts about animal populations, their dynamics, and the importance of habitat conservation.



5 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Challenged by field professionals, students work as a team to explore the facets of the current environmental issues and illustrate the complexity of real-life environmental decisions.



Top Teams Meet at Envirothon

Competitions from the local and state/provincial/territorial levels to the North American Envirothon test knowledge and skills in an exciting out-door environment. Teams rotate through testing stations where they complete written examinations. The oral presentation challenges teams to work together and communicate their solution to a complex environmental issue in front of a panel of judges. This presentation comprises a major portion of the team's score.

During the Envirothon, students work hard, but also enjoy themselves at fun scheduled activities. They are introduced to the local environment in training sessions guided by natural resource experts. The actual competition site typically is revealed on the testing day when teams are scored at the outdoor stations. Then they concentrate on the environmental issue, develop their solution, and prepare their own oral presentation for judging.