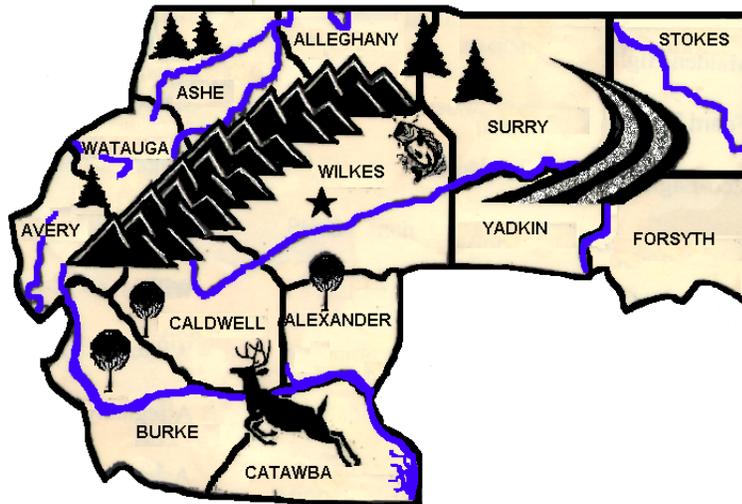


NORTHWEST ENVIROTHON

EDWIN H. MCGEE NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION CENTER
NORTH WILKESBORO, NC
APRIL 7, 2016



2015-2016 MANUAL

SPONSORED BY AREA 2 SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

2015-2016 Northwest Envirothon Manual

Table of Contents

	Page
Contact Person	3
General Information	3-7
Rules	8
Envirothon Agenda	9
Middle School Pre-Registration Form	10
High School Pre-Registration Form	11
Parental Consent/Medical Information Form	12
Adult Code of Conduct	13
Soil & Water Conservation District Directory	14
Websites	15
DIRECTIONS AND MAP TO McGee Center	16

2016 NORTHWEST ENVIROTHON

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pam Steuer
120 Hospital Avenue Suite 2
Lenoir, NC 28645
psteuer@caldwellcountync.org
Phone: 828-758-1111

Lea-Ann Branch
130 Ammons Drive Suite 3
Morganton, NC 28655
leaann.branch@burkenc.org
Phone: 828-439-9727 ext 3

You may also contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District. (District contacts are listed on Page 14.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Envirothon program is a competitive event for **five member high school team** or a 3-5 member middle school team to compete in a natural resources knowledge and ecology field day against other high school and middle school teams. It stimulates, reinforces and enhances students' interest in the environment and our state's natural resources. Resource subject areas are: Soils/land use, Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatic Ecology, and Current Environmental Issues.

The Northwest Envirothon will be a one-day competition. The middle school competition will run simultaneously with the high school competition.

An entire school class or group may participate in studying the resources, however only five members may be on a team taking the test. Each team must have an advisor and will have to be registered. One advisor can manage multiple teams from the same school system.

There will be a resource station set up for each of the subject areas, usually in an outside setting, where the teams will be given an exam on each of the resource subjects.

Only the top seven High School and Middle School teams that compete in the Northwest Envirothon will be eligible to attend the State Envirothon (**High School teams must consist of 5 members**). First place high school and middle school winners will receive financial assistance to compete in the State Competition held in April. The first place high school and middle school winners that compete at the State Envirothon must request reimbursement from Area 2. No receipts will be required; however, the Area 2 Treasurer will confirm attendance at the State Envirothon. Requests for reimbursement should be sent to:

Area 2 Treasurer
130 Ammons Drive Suite 3
Morganton, NC 28655
Leaann.branch@burkenc.org

The final decision on teams that will compete in the State Envirothon will be the responsibility of the Northwest Envirothon Committee. The top scoring high school FFA team from Area 2 will automatically advance to the State Envirothon Competition.

Each written test will last for 25-30 minutes and will have approximately 25 questions. These questions are answered as a team and not by individual students. After finishing one station and at a set time, the teams will rotate to the next station. The test papers are graded and the scores totaled to select the winners.

TEST STATIONS

The five test stations will likely cover the following topics, but are not limited to these:

Wildlife	covers habitat, identification, foods, rules & regulations, bird calls, diseases, and management.
Aquatic Ecology	covers ecology of water, stream improvement, water chemistry, plants and animals living in or around water, pollution, and conservation.
Forestry	covers tree identification, improvement of timber stands, forest ecology, insects, diseases, use of Biltmore Stick, best management practices, forest management, and forest measurements.
Soils/Land use	covers classification, erosion, soil surveys, site suitability, current issues, profiles, soil, texture, characteristics, and conservation practices.
Current Environmental Issues	covers any current or newsworthy environmental issue.

Professionals from cooperating agencies and/or independent environmental organizations will conduct the station competitions.

WHO

Competition is open to Ecology Clubs, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, FFA Chapters, 4H clubs, home study groups, environmental groups, Vo-Ag groups, or any group interested in competing. Team members must be high school or middle school students and from the same school. An advisor is required.

WHEN

The Northwest Envirothon will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2016 with an inclement weather date of Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

WHERE

The Northwest Envirothon will be held at the Edwin H. McGee Natural Resource Center in Wilkes County.

PRE-REGISTRATION PERIOD (ANYTIME BEFORE FEBRUARY 13, 2015)

There is no registration fee to participate in the Northwest Envirothon. Each team must complete a registration form. The deadline for pre-registration is **February 12, 2016 (No Exceptions)**. Registration forms are located on pages 10 and 11.

If you do not know the names of your team members now, go ahead and register your team and fill in the names of your students later. Deadline for changing names of team members is **March 18, 2016 (NO Exceptions)**. Materials to study can be found at www.ncenvirothon.org

RESOURCE INFORMATION

Once a team has pre-registered, information will be sent to each advisor listing where resource materials may be found that the team will need to study. In some cases, materials or photocopies of materials may be sent. Questions will be developed from materials sent out or materials which can be obtained locally. All resource materials and notes must be left behind during testing. If anyone is caught with materials while taking the test, their entire team will be disqualified.

CHECK-IN ON DAY OF EVENT

Check-in will be held from 8:15 A.M. to 9:15 A.M. on the day of the competition.

SPONSOR

We are asking that you secure your local Soil & Water Conservation District to sponsor your team. If for some reason the local District does not wish to sponsor your team, the Northwest Envirothon Committee may sponsor your team. A list of Soil & Water Conservation Districts in the northwest area is included in this packet.

AWARDS

After the competition, there will be a brief awards program to announce the winners, present plaques, and recognize the financial contributors and important guests.

Awards are as follows: Plaques will be awarded to the 1st through 7th place high school teams and middle school teams. First place high school and middle school winners will receive \$150 from the NW Envirothon Committee to assist with travel expenses with a reimbursement request. The NW Envirothon Committee will also pay and mail the \$110 State Envirothon registration fee for the first, second, and third place high school and first, second and third place middle school team.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

The Grievance Committee has been established to hear complaints about teams not following the rules, cheating, etc. Please inform your team members that if they wish to make a grievance or complaint, this must be done as soon as possible and before the winners are announced. The guides at the stations are available to take grievances. They should be written down by the guide to present to the Grievance Committee.

TEAM SIZE

HIGH SCHOOL teams must consist of five members.

MIDDLE SCHOOL teams must consist of 3-5 members.

Any high school team with less than 5 members will be allowed to participate but will not be eligible to win or advance to the state competition.

Any middle school team with less than 3 members will be allowed to participate but will not be eligible to advance to the state competition.

ALTERNATE MEMBERS

HIGH SCHOOL – a limit of two alternate team members may be registered with a team. Alternates that attend will be able to participate in the morning but will not be able to test in the afternoon. Alternates will be the responsibility of the Advisor during the afternoon testing session.

MIDDLE SCHOOL - No alternate members will be allowed to participate in the Northwest Envirothon.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have a student(s) with special needs, please contact Lorraine Spears at 336-838-3622 Ext 3 prior to the competition so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome to come and observe; however, no children (other than those competing) will be allowed at the stations at any time. All visitors are required to register. Please contact Lorraine Spears at 336-838-3622 Ext 3 to register as a guest. **Guest meals will be \$5 per person.**

MEAL

Lunch will be provided on the day of the competition. If anyone has special dietary need, it will be their responsibility to bring their own food and a cooler to store it.

PARKING

There will be an area set aside for parking. We will have someone directing traffic. Please park in the designated areas.

CERTIFICATES

Certificates will be prepared for each participating team. Please send legible names of all team members (preferably typed).

PARENTAL CONSENT/ MEDICAL INFORMATION

Advisors are required to have a completed parental consent/medical information form for each team member on the day of the event. **A student cannot compete without a completed parental consent/ medical information form. Form is located on Page 12.**

WEATHER

The competition will be held regardless of rainy weather. Wear (bring) appropriate clothing (close-toed shoes, jackets, rain coats, etc.). If it is warm and sunny, please consider sunscreen, hats, and insect repellent. In the event of inclement weather we will be making a decision within 24 hrs of the competition and will get the information out to you via email. In the event of inclement weather we will be following the **Wilkes** county school closing schedule.

DRESS

Do not wear any item of clothing or anything else that may identify your team by city, county, or school.

SEATING

Seating will not be provided for students or visitors/guests. You are urged to bring chairs, cushions, etc. to sit on.

FIRST AID

A first aid provider will be on site to handle medical emergencies.

COMPETITION RULES

1. Middle School students are eligible to compete as a team. Middle school members should be in the 5th thru 8th grades.
2. High School students are eligible to compete as a team. **High School team members should be in the 9th thru 12th grade and ages 14-19. No 5th year Seniors, Super Seniors, or 13th year students are allowed to compete.**
3. All team members must be from the same school or home study group and be from the same county.
4. Teams must be accompanied to the event by a team advisor and/or a Soil & Water Conservation District representative.
5. During the testing, no parents or advisors may travel with the teams.
6. The advisors shall not assist their team in any way during the testing.
7. Advisors will be responsible to assure that teams display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facility.
8. Drugs and alcohol are NOT permitted during any part of the competition. (Rules applicable to the local area will be adhered to.)
9. No clothing or other identification of local schools, town, cities, or counties will be permitted.
10. All identification keys to be used will be furnished by the Envirothon Committee.
11. Biltmore sticks used in the competition will be provided to the teams at the Forestry Station.
12. **The winning high school team will be the five (5) member team with the highest cumulative point total. The winning middle school team will be a three to five (3-5) member team with the highest cumulative point total.**
Pre-selected questions will be used as tie-breakers. The tied teams will have the pre-selected questions compared until the tie is broken.
13. Rules and regulations of the Envirothon are subject to change. Any and all changes will be explained in advance to all teams and advisors.
14. No advisors, alternates, and spectators are allowed in testing areas.
15. The judges' decisions are final on all events.
16. All grievances must be reported before final judging.
17. **Advisors are responsible for Medical Release/Parental Consent forms. At check-in confirmation of the forms will be done.**
18. No book bags, pocketbooks, etc. can be carried to station during testing.
19. Substitutions may be made on a team selected to go to the state competition but there must be at least three original members able to compete at the next level.
20. No electronic devices, recording, no digital cameras, no cell phones, no taping and no pictures taken during testing.

Violations of these rules may result in the disqualification of a team.

~ NORTHWEST ENVIROTHON~

April 7, 2016

Edwin H. McGee

Natural Resource Conservation Center

North Wilkesboro, NC

8:15-9:15	Registration
9:15-9:25	Welcome and Instructions
9:30-9:50	1st Station Presentation
9:55-10:15	2nd Station Presentation
10:20-10:40	3rd Station Presentation
10:45-11:05	4th Station Presentation
11:10-11:30	5th Station Presentation
11:30-12:15	Bathroom Break & Lunch (provided)

During the afternoon session, advisors will stay at the shelter.

12:20-12:45	1st Station Testing
12:50-1:15	2nd Station Testing
1:20-1:45	3rd Station Testing
1:50-2:15	4th Station Testing
2:20-2:45	5th Station Testing
2:45-3:00	Break
3:00-3:15	Awards and Depart

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
NORTHWEST ENVIROTHON COMPETITION
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 12, 2016**

Sponsor: _____
(Soil and Water Conservation District)

County: _____

School Name: _____

Team Name: _____

(No school identifying information allowed in team name.)

Check here if you are an FFA Team

Team Members*: (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

T-SHIRT SIZE
(S,M,L,XL,XXL)

_____	Grade: _____	_____

* If you do not know your team members now, go ahead and register and send their names later.

Team Advisor: _____ T-SHIRT SIZE _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____ (Important for timely updates and notices.)

Pizza Order *: ___ Cheese ___ Pepperoni

*(2 pizza's per team) **Note:** In case of food allergy, student/advisor is responsible for needed notifications and substitutions.

Would your team be willing to attend and compete in the State Envirothon on April 29-30, 2016 if you place in top seven? ___ yes ___ no

Are there any special arrangements that we need to make for your team or a team member?

Submit this form by mail or electronically to:
Janice Pack
Stokes SWCD
P.O. Box 98
Danbury, North Carolina 27016
(336) 593-2846 Ext.3
Email: jpack@stokesswcd.net

**NOTE: Event ends at 3:30 PM
Plan accordingly!!!**

HIGH SCHOOL (MUST CONSIST OF 5 MEMBERS)
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
NORTHWEST ENVIROTHON COMPETITION
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 12, 2016

Sponsor: _____
 (Soil and Water Conservation District)

County: _____

School Name: _____

Team Name: _____

(No school identifying information allowed in team name.) Check here if you are an FFA Team

Team Members*: (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)	T-SHIRT SIZE (S,M,L,XL,XXL)
_____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____
_____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____
_____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____
_____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____
_____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____
(A) _____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____
(A) _____ Grade: _____ DOB: _____	_____

* If you do not know your team members now, go ahead and register and send their names later.

Team Advisor: _____ T-SHIRT SIZE _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____ (Important for timely updates and notices.)

Pizza Order *: ___ Cheese ___ Pepperoni

*(2 pizza's per team) **Note:** In case of food allergy, student/advisor is responsible for needed notifications and substitutions.

Would your team be willing to attend and compete in the State Envirothon on **April 29-30, 2016** if you place in top seven? _____yes _____no

Are there any special arrangements that we need to make for your team or a team member?

Submit this form by mail or electronically to:
 Janice Pack
 Stokes SWCD
 P.O. Box 98
 Danbury, North Carolina 27016
 (336) 593-2846 Ext.3
 Email: jpack@stokesswcd.net

**NOTE: Event ends at 3:30 PM
 Plan accordingly!!!**

County: _____ School: _____ Team Name: _____

Parental Consent/Medical Information Form
Envirothon Competition
(Form must be with the Advisor during the competition)

Name of Student _____ School _____

Home Address _____

Parent's Name: _____

In case of emergency, we must be able to contact you. Please list a home and work phone number where you could be reached and INCLUDE AREA CODE.

Father's Home# _____

Mother's Home# _____

Work# _____

Work# _____

Cell# _____

Cell# _____

All of the information below must be completed in full.

Allergies (food, drugs, insects, etc.): _____

Special medical concerns or conditions we should know about (epilepsy, asthma, diabetes, old injuries to bones/joints, etc.): _____

Medication currently taking (dose and frequency): _____

Family physician:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone :() _____

Date of last tetanus booster: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The law requires that parental permission be obtained for medical procedures performed on minors (under age 18). The following consent form should be signed by the parents/legal guardians so that such procedures can be promptly carried out. We will make a genuine attempt to notify you in case of a serious emergency.

I, the undersigned parent/legal guardian of _____, hereby give permission to the attendant staff to perform such diagnostic, therapeutic, and operative procedures for him/her as they deem necessary, and refer him/her to a physician when deemed appropriate. I further give my permission to have my son/daughter treated by a physician and perform any diagnostic, therapeutic, and operative procedures they deem necessary.

X _____
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Video/Picture Release (Must be Signed)

I give permission for my child to be photographed/video taped for the Envirothon.

X _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Adult Code of Conduct
For North Carolina Envirothon Participants
(To be completed by all Adult Advisors, Volunteers, and Guests)

Envirothon participants have an excellent reputation for honesty, sportsmanship and integrity. Your conduct at any Envirothon function should make a positive contribution to the reputation that has been established by those who have participated before you.

1. The NC Envirothon and its participants operate on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status or physical/mental challenges.
2. Adult Participant conduct is the responsibility of each individual at the event.
3. Your behavior at all times should be such that it reflects credit to yourself, your county/district, and the Envirothon.
4. Advisors, Volunteers and Guests are expected to attend all orientation sessions and other scheduled activities concerning their duties. Please be prompt and show respect.
5. Adult Participants and guests are to report any accident, injury or illnesses to the NC Envirothon Committee for assistance.
6. Adults are requested to observe any designated curfews.
7. Any adult participant or guest determined to be responsible for stealing, vandalism, or other activities that are in conflict with NC Envirothon rules will be asked to leave the competition at their own expense and expected to pay for any and all damages.
8. **NO Possession or Use of the Following:**
 - Illegal/illicit drugs
 - Weapons, including firearms; unless they are carried in the official line of duty (law enforcement, park rangers, wildlife officers, etc.).
9. The NC Envirothon requires all Adult Volunteers, Advisors and Guests to adhere to a strict anti-fraternization policy. For this reason, all Adult Volunteers, Advisors and Guests shall refrain from having any personal contact that may be perceived as inappropriate with any participant of the NC Envirothon during the event.
10. If an Adult Participant or Guest is determined to be disregarding the NC Envirothon Rules, this Code of Conduct, and/or the NC Envirothon Policies he/she will be asked to leave the event at their own expense immediately and may be prohibited from participating in future events associated with the NC Envirothon.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE ABOVE NC ENVIROTHON ADULT CODE OF CONDUCT.

Print Name

Signature

Date

County

School/team name if applicable

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

AREA 2 DISTRICTS	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE NUMBER
Alexander SWCD	Leslie Meadows/Pamela Bowman	828-632-0638
Alleghany SWCD	Linda Hash/Janie Woodle	336-372-4645
Avery SWCD	Beth Hughes	828-733-2291
Burke SWCD	Lea-Ann Branch	828-439-9727
Caldwell SWCD	Pam Steuer	828-758-1111
Catawba SWCD	Leia Hamlyn	828-465-8950
Forsyth SWCD	Jerry Dorsett	336-703-2843
New River SWCD	Brenda Garland	336-846-5258
Stokes SWCD	Janice Pack	336-593-2846
Surry SWCD	Debbie Cave	336-386-8751
Watauga SWCD	Janie Poe	828-264-0842
Wilkes SWCD	Lorraine Spears	336-838-3622
Yadkin SWCD	Leigh Calloway	336-679-8378

Websites

North Carolina Envirothon Website:

www.ncenvirothon.org

National Envirothon Website:

<http://www.envirothon.org/>

NRCS Website:

<http://1.usa.gov/SpwdPW>

Soils videos:

<http://1.usa.gov/WjKhsH>

Division of Soil & Water Conservation Website:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/envirothon.html>

North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts Website:

<http://www.ncaswcd.org/>

DIRECTIONS AND MAP

For map and directions Google the address below:

MAPQUEST.

Map of 928 Fairplains Rd
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659-8338

Notes

Edwin McGee Center
928 Fairplains Rd
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659-8338

