



ILLINOIS ENVIROTHON RULES & REGULATIONS

The Illinois Envirothon, an activity of the AISWCD shall be conducted under the following rules and regulations:

1. The Illinois Envirothon will be held in May after all county/regional competitions have been completed.
2. Students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 in the current school year are eligible to compete.
3. Each participating Land Use Council will send one champion team or one designated team to the Illinois Envirothon, for a total of 16 teams.
 - a. 1. The teams must have competed in a county or land use council (LUC) Envirothon in order to participate in the Illinois Envirothon. Contestants may participate in only one (1) county or one (1) LUC competition.
 - a. 2. If the winning LUC team is a FFA team they **MUST** represent the LUC at the Illinois Envirothon. If the winning LUC team is not a FFA team, then the top placing FFA team will be allowed to participate in the FFA only competition. The FFA only competition is on the first day of the event and consists of the five station rotation.

Example: In LUC 3 if Prairie Central won the LUC Envirothon and they are a FFA team they would represent the LUC 3 and their scores would count in the FFA portion as well. LUC 3 would only send 1 team. However, if Morris High School wins the LUC Envirothon who is not a FFA team then the top placing FFA team would be allowed to attend also on the first day of competition. LUC 3 would be sending a total of 2 teams.
- b. 1. The winning teams will be sponsored by the local SWCD. Participating SWCD must be in good standing with AISWCD, as defined by their by-laws, to participate in the Illinois Envirothon Program.
- b. 2. The FFA only team will be required to pay their own registration fee.
- c. If male and female students are represented on a team, then male and female chaperones must accompany the team.
4. All teams **MUST** have 5 members present from the same school and/or organization/association to be eligible to win and advance to the next level of competition.
 - a. Each team **MUST** retain at least three (3) of the original five (5) team members to compete at the Illinois and North American Envirothon. Two (2) alternates, if needed, may be pre-registered one week prior to the competition, by contacting the AISWCD office to be eligible for substitution to compete in the Illinois Envirothon.
 - b. If a team member becomes ill or must leave during the Illinois Envirothon Competition due to an emergency, a review panel will determine if a penalty should be assessed to a team in the oral presentation for the absence of a complete team of five.
5. All participants of the Illinois Envirothon will be provided with overnight on-site accommodations. No members or advisors are allowed to leave the competition site without approval from the Envirothon Coordinator.

6. Each team member is responsible for his/her behavior and actions. No tobacco products, intoxicants, illegal drugs, or weapons, are allowed on site or will be used, or in his/her possession. Discriminatory behavior, sexual misconduct, or harassment will not be tolerated. Theft or destruction of public or private property will not be tolerated. Fighting is forbidden and other acts of violence that endanger the safety of the participants or threatening another person will not be tolerated. Engaging in any activity, which is illegal or disruptive, will not be tolerated. Each team needs to remember that they are representing their school and county during this competition and should conduct themselves in a proper manner. Any violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action as stated in the "Code of Conduct" form signed by the participating student, their team advisor, and legal guardian. This policy will be enforced and carried out by the Envirothon Coordinator and/or designated member of the Illinois Envirothon Committee.
7. Illinois Envirothon study materials will be handed out to winning teams no earlier than two (2) weeks prior to the state competition.
 - a. State test questions will cover any information in the resource materials that were provided by the Illinois Envirothon Committee, as well as any information provided by the resource presenters at each station.
8. Illinois Envirothon competition will consist of five (5) written tests – soils, wildlife, forestry, aquatics and a current environmental issue to be determined each year by the North American Envirothon committee.
 - a. Students will travel as a five (5) member team and be allowed a predetermined amount of time at each station for test completion.
 - b. Student notes and materials will not be allowed during the competition. Students will need to only carry a clipboard and pencil with them during the competition. Any other materials will be provided at each of the testing stations.
9. The advisors/coaches may NOT travel with the team during testing. Activities will be conducted requiring the advisors/coaches attendance. NO CONTACT with students will be allowed during testing.
10. A fifteen (15) minute oral presentation will be given on the current environmental issue.
 - a. This presentation will be given in front of a panel of judges. A maximum of 10 minutes will be given for judges questions after the team has finished their presentation.
 - b. All five (5) team members must participate orally in the presentation.
 - c. During oral presentations, all team members must wear the Illinois Envirothon T-shirt.
 - d. Oral presentation scores will be based on a criteria sheet approved by the Illinois Envirothon Committee.
11. Camcorders, tape recorders, and other audio/visual equipment are not allowed by the participants during testing. Team advisors may videotape their team's oral presentation. Students will not be allowed to carry any electronic devices such as cell phones, two-way radios, laptops etc. during testing and oral presentations.
12. Resource presenters' decisions are final on all events. Contested decisions will be reviewed by the Illinois Envirothon Committee.
13. Scoring for the Illinois Envirothon will be:
 - a. Each of the five station tests will be 1/6th of the score.
 - b. The Oral Presentation score will be 1/6th of the score.
 - c. The scores from 13 (a) and 13 (b) will be totaled together to determine the winning team, which will be the team with the highest cumulative score.
 - d. Tie breakers shall be as follows: Current Issue written test score; Aquatics score; Forestry score; Soils score; Wildlife score.

14. The winning team from Illinois Envirothon will represent Illinois at the North American Envirothon. The location and date will be announced annually. In the event that the first place team cannot represent Illinois at the North American Envirothon, the second place team will represent Illinois and so forth.
 - a. The entry fee required for the Illinois state team to attend North American Envirothon will be paid by the Illinois Envirothon. This fee covers entry fees, accommodations, and on site meals for the winning teams, including five (5) team members and two (2) chaperones (one for each gender, if needed). Transportation costs to and from the North American Envirothon will be the dual responsibilities of the winning team and the Illinois Envirothon Committee.
15. The Rules and Regulations of the Illinois Envirothon are subject to change. Any and all changes will be explained to all teams and advisors before the competition begins. Any suggestions or improvements of the Rules and Regulations will be considered by the Illinois Envirothon Committee.