

Get Your Envirothon Team!

A team consists of five high school-aged students and is coached by one or two adult advisors. A one-time fee of \$100 will register your team for a training workshop and the spring competition.

____ I am a student or teacher (please circle one) interested in receiving information and registration materials for the competition

____ I am interested in teaming up with a natural resource professional to coach a team

____ I am interested in volunteering my time with Envirothon

____ I am interested in sponsoring the Envirothon program

Name:

School:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Contact:

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Arizona's premier
environmental science
competition for high
school students

Learn how to think, not what to think...

Envirothon is a unique natural resource competition for high school students. It encourages students to literally 'dig in' and learn about the environment in a fun, interactive way.

Program

Envirothon takes a balanced approach to learning and testing in 7 subjects:

- ◆soils and land use ◆aquatic ecology ◆wildlife
- ◆forestry ◆energy ◆waste management
- ◆and the 2009 focus topic—Biodiversity in a Changing World

The Envirothon competition is unique in that it challenges students to apply their knowledge, critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities to natural resource management scenarios. The competition is held in the spring in an outdoor location. Students are first tested on their knowledge, then they apply that knowledge to present a real-world solution to natural resource professionals from across Arizona. The competition gives students the awareness, understanding and skills they need to become intelligent environmental stewards.

Awards

The winning Arizona Envirothon team, one coach and one additional chaperone are awarded an expense-paid trip to represent Arizona at the Canon Envirothon to be held in Asheville, North Carolina Aug. 2-8 2009. The top teams in the Canon competition win scholarships from \$1000-\$5000 as well as Canon products, such as cameras and printers. Coaches receive prizes, too.



Biodiversity in a Changing World 2009 Focus Topic

Biodiversity is the variety and abundance of species, genetic composition, and the natural communities, ecosystems and landscapes in which they occur.

Biodiversity gives us food, fuel, medicines and countless products! There is also what scientists call 'nature services.' Consider trees that clean our air; wetlands that act as nature's clean water filters; the sun that drives the food web, and more.

A loss of biodiversity lessens the capacity of natural cycles to generate ecosystem services. The ecosystem as a whole becomes less effective and is more vulnerable to extreme conditions (e.g. droughts and floods).

The Challenges - Factors that Lessen Biodiversity

- ◆Explosive population growth
- ◆Insatiable resource consumption
- ◆Notable climate change
- ◆Dramatic habitat loss
- ◆Expanding invasive species
- ◆Ongoing environmental degradation

Arizona Envirothon

Dates to remember

Competition Dates: April 3-4, 2009
Deadline to Register: Dec. 12, 2008
Competition Location: TBD

What past students said about Envirothon...

"I learned more about team work in two hours here than I have in four years of high school."
... *Tri-City Prep High School senior*

"I'm into agriculture and this was a natural fit. It's interesting to learn in different ways - classrooms and text books, but especially out in nature. I don't have this sort of opportunity at home."
... *Buckeye High School exchange student*

"There's value in getting out of our urban school—actually touching the soil and experiencing the wildlife, not just seeing it through our classroom window."
... *Cienega High School sophomore*



2008 Arizona Envirothon Champions
Sinagua High School