

AREA 5 ENVIROTHON RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Students currently in grades 9 through 12 or equivalent home school ranking are eligible to participate in the Area Envirothon. Graduating seniors on winning teams may participate in the Ohio Envirothon and the NCF Envirothon during the summer following Area competitions.
2. Each team competing in the Area 5 Envirothon will consist of five registered members. All team members must be students from the same school, or the same association. All teams advancing to the Ohio Envirothon *must have 5 registered members to compete* and will be certified by their affiliated Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).
3. Up to 3 teams per school or association may compete at the Area contest.
4. Up to 5 alternate team members may substitute for regular team members in the Ohio Envirothon if alternates were registered with the team at the Area Envirothon. (Official registration forms provided by the Ohio Envirothon Committee (OEC) for Area and Ohio Envirothons must be used). Each Area Envirothon committee will be required to submit to the OEC copies of the original Area Envirothon registration forms for the 4 teams advancing to the Ohio Envirothon by the date specified by the OEC.
5. The 4 top scoring teams from each of the 5 Area Envirothons will be eligible to compete in the Ohio Envirothon. In the event that any of the top 4 teams cannot advance to the Ohio Envirothon, the teams with the next highest score(s) will be eligible to compete. Teams unable to compete at the Ohio Envirothon must notify their affiliate SWCD within 5 calendar days following their Area competition. That district must in turn contact the Area chair within hours of notification. Area chairpersons are responsible for identifying the next eligible team and coordinating with their affiliated SWCD to ensure registration forms are submitted.
6. Advisors are required to submit medical release forms for each student and each advisor attending the competition with the team registration form.
7. It is advised that an SWCD representative accompany winning team(s) from their county to the Ohio Envirothon.
8. Each team must be accompanied by an adult team advisor(s) and/or conservation district representative 21 years of age or older. Team members and chaperones/advisors are required to stay on site.
9. The field test will consist of four 20 minute ecosystem stations. Each of the field tests will constitute 1/4th of the total score.
10. All materials/equipment needed for the field testing portion of the Envirothon will be provided by the SWCDs. Students are not to be in possession of any material/equipment other than those provided on site. No electronic devices are allowed, including cell phones, PDAs, digital cameras, etc. Teams violating this rule at a testing station will forfeit all points from that station. If a violation occurs between stations the team will forfeit all points from the previous test station completed. The advisor shall not assist the team during competition.
11. Teams competing at the Area 5 Envirothon will be provided a copy of the test and answer key following the competition.
12. The following violations will not be tolerated during the Envirothon:
 - a. Stealing of, or vandalism to, personal, private or public property
 - b. Cheating in any form.
 - c. Possession and/or use of tobacco, alcohol, or controlled substances.
13. A Grievance Committee of 3 persons will be appointed and identified prior to the Envirothon to decide on actions to be taken should any of the above stated violations occur. Because students compete in the Envirothon as a team, the actions of 1 or more members of a team may be considered to be the actions of the team as a whole.
14. Grievances must be submitted to the Grievance Committee within 24 hours after the conclusion of the Area 5 Envirothon.
15. Any infraction of the rules and regulations of the Envirothon may result in disqualification and dismissal from the event and the host site.
16. Students are to bring any needed medical supplies with them to the testing stations (Epi-pen, inhaler, etc.).
17. The winning team will be the team with the highest cumulative point total at the end of the four testing stations. Tiebreaker procedures are as follows:
 - a. Soils Eco-station
 - b. Aquatics Eco-station
 - c. Forestry Eco-station
 - d. Wildlife Eco-station