

# Missouri Envirothon

## Competition Rules and Regulations

(Revised May 30, 2018)

The Missouri Envirothon shall be conducted under the following rules and regulations.

1. Non-discrimination policy
  - a. No person is excluded from services because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability.
  - b. There is no segregation of persons served on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability.
  - c. There is no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability with regard to assignment of duties or other conditions of the organization's governing body.
  - d. There is no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability in membership on the organization's governing body.
  
2. Advisors will be responsible to assure that their teams have read and understand the rules and that the teams will display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facility even when the advisors are absent. These rules are written and expected to be followed in order to have a better quality event.
  
3. Appropriate student dress promotes the safety and discipline of the Missouri Envirothon competition. Each student's appearance should reflect a positive image of the school they attend and contribute to a distraction-free learning environment.
  - a. During the entire event, all team members must wear a Missouri Envirothon T-shirt.
  - b. During the entire state event, no clothing, or any written or verbal reference to the high school or town from which you are a representative is permitted.
  - c. Pants and shorts must be worn at the waist or upper hip and must not reveal underclothing. No sagging pants or shorts.
  - d. Shorts must be to the fingertips, mid-thigh in length or longer.
  - e. Tops, Shirts and Blouses must not reveal underclothing, midsection, torso, chest, breasts or cleavage.

- f. We strongly encourage wearing shoes that are safe and appropriate for walking outdoors. Tennis shoes or closed-toe shoes are preferred.
    - g. If a student violates any part of the dress code, they will be given one chance to correct the problem and if they cannot or will not make the change, then their team will receive a 25 point reduction of the overall score.
4. Only students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or equivalent home school ranking in the previous school year are eligible to compete in the Missouri Envirothon.
5. Each Region will send up to three teams to the state competition. Teams advancing to the state competition must have scored at least 55% in their regional competition.
  - a. If one of the top three teams from a Regional Competition is not able to attend the Missouri Envirothon, then the Regional Committee should offer the opportunity to their 4<sup>th</sup> place team.
  - b. There will be no refunds on registration costs for the State Competition as Regions should have 3 teams competing at the Missouri Envirothon.
6. Each team should consist of five students and they must be from the same school and/or organization/association.
  - a. A registration form listing the names of team members, one alternate and advisors, including advisor's cell phone number and email address, must be submitted by the date set by the Missouri Envirothon Committee.
  - b. Ninth grade students attending a junior high/middle school may be on the team if the junior high/middle school is a feeder to the named high school team.
  - c. Alternates:
    - o At the State Envirothon, only team members are allowed to compete. Do not bring more than 5 students.
    - o Your registration form must list an alternate for each team, who is not listed as a team member on any other team. *(example, if your school has more than one team, you may not use members from your B team as an alternate for your A team)* The alternate must be listed as an alternate on the form.

- Alternates needed to complete a team competing at the State Envirothon, cannot have competed at the regional level during the current Envirothon year. If your region hosts an “alternate” team at their competition, the alternate participated in the regional but didn’t compete, and they are eligible to be an alternate if needed at the state competition.
  - If two or more alternates are needed, the alternates must be approved by the state Envirothon committee prior to the day of the event and comply with the above rules.
- d. Regional Chairs can approve the first substitution to an original competing team with the alternate listed on their registration form. Any team having to make two or more substitutions to the original competing team must obtain approval from the Missouri Envirothon Committee prior to the start of the State Competition.
  - e. It is highly recommended each team consist of 5 students, however a team with less than 5 students can compete but will receive a 25 point reduction from the total score if the team competes any time during the day with less than 5 team members.
  - f. If a team member becomes injured or ill during the Missouri Envirothon Competition, a review panel will determine if a penalty should be assessed to a team for the absence of a complete team of five.
7. Team members participating in the Missouri Envirothon Competition must be the team members who compete in the NCF Envirothon with the exception of a legal substitution of the Alternate listed on the registration form and approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee.
  8. Each team must be accompanied by team advisor(s) and/or public agency or conservation district representative(s). The Missouri Envirothon Committee will not be responsible for improperly chaperoned teams.
    - a. Any agency employee can be an advisor as long as they don’t serve on a regional committee or have access to regional test materials.
  9. Use or possession of all snuff, tobacco, drugs, and alcohol is prohibited by students and may not be brought to the competition. Being caught with or using any of these items will result in a 5 point reduction on each resource test for a total of 30 points
  10. Use of inappropriate language is prohibited during the event. If inappropriate language is heard during the event this will result in a warning for the first offense. Subsequent offenses after a warning has

been given will result in a 5 point reduction on each resource test for a total of 30 points.

11. The competition will be conducted by the Missouri Envirothon Committee and cooperating agencies.
12. The dates to hold the Missouri Regional Envirothon competitions shall be selected by the Regional Committee and approved by the State Envirothon Committee.
13. The date to hold the Missouri Envirothon Competition shall be selected by the Missouri State Committee and shall be held between April 20 and May 10.
14. The Missouri Envirothon Competition shall last one day.
15. The Missouri Envirothon Committee will provide all resources needed at the testing stations.
  - a. The use of any additional materials not provided by the Missouri Envirothon Committee or the testing committee during the station testing will be prohibited, and any team found using other materials will be disqualified. Teams are allowed to bring their own clipboards to use for testing.
  - b. No electronic, battery-operated or solar powered equipment, (i.e. cell phones, pagers, calculators, computers, camcorders, cameras, taping devices, IPODs, PDAs, etc.) unless provided/approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee, may be used by the team members during the station testing or oral presentation rounds of the competition. Any team found using these items will be disqualified.
16. There shall be five (5) resource stations: Soils/Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and a Current Environmental Issue.
  - a. The Current Environmental Issue shall parallel the issue from the NCF Envirothon Committee as closely as possible in order to further encourage familiarity of the issue for the winning Missouri team in competition at the NCF Envirothon.
  - b. The five station tests will be conducted by cooperating agencies and/or independent environmental professionals.
  - c. The five stations will be comprehensive in nature
  - d. The Soils Station will provide pages printed from the Web Soil Survey or the Soil Survey CD. The Soils test writer may choose to print copies of the entire Soil Survey or portions of the Soil Survey.

- e. The five station tests will be 40 minutes in length. A 20 minute, 5 minute and 1 minute left warning will be given at all testing sites.
  - f. When time is up, station monitors will say STOP testing, and all team members will immediately stop writing at that time. Failure to do so will result in a 10 point reduction on that resource test.
  - g. No copies of the test shall be distributed to any individual or team prior to the official testing time. Strict secrecy shall be maintained on the test questions at all times.
17. During the testing stations, advisors may not rotate with their respective teams. Whenever possible advisors will be offered a chance to experience the testing stations at an alternate time on the day of the competition.
18. The problem solving exercises for the oral presentation will be judged by professionals from various state organizations and agencies.
- a. The Oral Presentation Problem may or may not reflect the topic of the Current Environmental Issue station.
  - b. The state oral team presentation will be ten (10) minutes maximum in length followed by five (5) minutes of questions to team members by the judges.
  - c. The regional oral team presentation will be seven (7) minutes to ten (10) minutes in length followed by three (3) minutes to five (5) minutes of questions to team members by the judges. This will be set by each Region Committee.
  - d. If all five (5) team members do not participate orally in the presentation, then the score will be reduced.
  - e. Changing clothes for the oral presentation is not allowed. Teams must present in the clothing they will be wearing the entire testing day. Teams that do not present original oral presentation material may be subject to point reduction. Duplicate presentations are not allowed. Students are expected to present their own work.
  - f. The use of 3 x 5 inch note cards is permissible in regional and state competitions.
  - g. Each team will be required to have a minimum of one or a maximum of two pieces of standard 22 x 28 inch poster board (no foam board or display board) for the visual aid. Photos, charts, text with graphics, pull-outs and/or layer-ups may be used as long as they are attached to the poster in some way, not an extra hand-out. Both sides of the poster board can be used; however, the poster

board cannot be connected into one big poster. If the visual aid is too large, it may not be used in the presentation.

- h. Anything in addition to the note cards and posters (such as music, costumes, and stop watches) will not be allowed.
  - i. Oral presentation scores will be based on a criteria sheet approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee.
  - j. The Regional Oral problem will be released to each region one (1) month in advance of their regional competition.
  - k. The State Oral problem will be posted on the Internet site two (2) weeks in advance of the state competition.
  - l. Oral judging score sheets will be returned to the teams as soon as possible after a competition in order to help them prepare for the next level of competition.
19. Judges' decisions are final on all events.
20. Scoring for the Missouri Envirothon will be:
- a. Each of the five station tests and the oral presentation will have equal worth as 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the total score.
  - b. Tiebreakers shall be as follows: Soils/Land Use scores, Aquatic Ecology scores, Wildlife scores, Forestry scores, and Current Issue scores.
  - c. Final team placements for first, second, and third places will be the cumulative total of the five station test scores plus the oral presentation score (which is the average of the three (3) oral judges' scores).
21. Awards for the Missouri Envirothon will be announced prior to the state competition. Minimum awards will include:
- a. Financial stipend for the team who will represent Missouri at the NCF Envirothon.
  - b. Plaques appropriate for display at school for the top three (3) teams.
  - c. Certificates for the team with the highest score in each of the resource topics.
22. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Appeal Committee by 3:00 p.m. the day of the event.
23. No team members or advisors are allowed to leave the host site prior to the conclusion of the competition without notifying the Missouri Envirothon Committee.

24. Any team, team member, team advisor/chaperone or resource people associated with a team discovered on, near, or around the test site or testing stations within two weeks of the competition may be subject to immediate disqualification
25. Rules and regulations of the Missouri Envirothon are subject to change. Any and all changes will be explained in advance to all teams and advisors.
26. Any infraction of the Policies or Rules and Regulations of the Missouri Envirothon could result in point reduction or disqualification and dismissal from the event and host site.
27. Cooperating agencies, sponsors, advisors, and participants involved in the competition will be requested to complete an evaluation of the program following the competition.