

Missouri Envirothon

Competition Rules and Regulations

Revised 2-1-23

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

1. **Non-discrimination policy**
 - a. No person is excluded from services, there is no segregation of persons served, and there is no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability including assignment of duties or other conditions of the organization governing body or in membership of the organizations governing body.
2. **The competition will be conducted by** the Missouri Envirothon Committee and cooperating agencies.
3. **The date to hold** the Missouri Envirothon Competition shall be selected by the Missouri State Committee and shall be held between April 20th and May 10th.
4. **The Missouri Envirothon Competition shall last one day.**
5. **The State is divided into regions** and they each hold regional competitions to determine and advance teams to the State Competition. Each region shall determine the dates of their competition which could be held in the fall or spring of the upcoming spring State Competition.
6. **Only students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or equivalent** home school ranking in the previous school year are eligible to compete in the Regionals and Missouri Envirothon. 9th 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.

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7. **Each Region will send up to three teams to the State Competition** unless special circumstances are noted with other regions not having the full number of teams advancing. In these instances, the State Committee may choose to allow more than 3 teams from a region to advance, to help fill the full roster for 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 regional teams is not able to attend the Missouri Envirothon, then the region should offer the opportunity to the 4th place team as long as they meet the 55% score minimum.
8. **Each team should consist of five students** from the same school and/or organization/association.
- a. A registration form listing the names of team members, one alternate and advisors, must be submitted by the date set by the Missouri State Envirothon Committee.
 - b. Alternates:
 1. At the State Envirothon, only team members are allowed to compete and attend. Do not bring more than 5 students.
 2. 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 team B as an alternate on your team A) The alternate must be listed as an alternate on the form.
 3. 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 hosted an “alternate” team at their competition and the alternated participated in the regional, but did not actually “compete, then they would be eligible to be an alternate, if needed, at the state competition.
 4. If two or more alternates are needed, they must be approved by the State Envirothon committee prior to the day of the event and comply with the above rules.
 - c. It is highly recommended that each team consist of 5 students, however a team with less than 5 students may compete, but will

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- receive a **25 point reduction** from the total score, if the team competes any time during the day with less than 5 team members.
- d. If a 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 due to this circumstance and causing the absence of a complete team of five.
9. **Each team must be accompanied by a team advisor (s)** and/or public agency or conservation district representative. The Missouri Envirothon committee will not be responsible for improperly chaperoned teams.
- An Agency employee may be an advisor as long as they don't serve on a regional committee or have access to regional test materials.
 - 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 advisor is absent.** These rules are written and expected to be followed in order to have a quality event.
 - Advisors will be provided, in advance, guidance on their required activity for the day.
 - During the station testing, advisors may not rotate with their respective teams. Advisors will be offered a chance to experience a guided view of the testing stations at a designated time during the competition.
 - Advisors will have no contact with their students/teams between the time of registration and the awards ceremony.
10. **Appropriate student dress** is required for 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.
- During the entire event, all team members **must wear a Missouri Envirothon T-shirt** which is provided.
 - During the entire event, **no clothing, or written or verbal reference should be given to the high school or town** which you are representing.

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- c. **Long pants/jeans or long (shin length) skirts are required**, must be worn at the waist or upper hip and must not reveal underclothing. No sagging pants.
 - d. **Wear shoes that are safe and appropriate** for walking outdoors. Closed toed shoes or boots.
 - e. **If a student violates any part of the dress code**, they will be given one chance to correct the problem. If they cannot or will not make the change needed, **their team will receive a 25 point reduction** of the overall score.
11. **Use or possession of snuff, tobacco, vapes, drugs or alcohol** is prohibited by students. 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**.
12. **Use of inappropriate language** is prohibited during the event. If heard during the event, this will result in a 1 time warning. After that, if continued use, this will result in a **5 point reduction on each resource test for a total of 30 points**.
13. The Missouri Envirothon Committee will provide all resources needed at the 5 regular testing stations along with the set up for Power Point during the Oral Presentation time.
 - a. **The use of any additional materials, not provided by the Missouri Envirothon Committee or test writers, during the station testing, is prohibited.** Any team found using other materials will be disqualified. Teams are allowed to bring their own clipboards, however, clipboards are available at each testing station.
 - b. **NO electronic, battery operated or solar powered equipment** (i.e. cell phones, smart watches, pagers, calculators, computers, camcorders, cameras, taping devices, iPod, pda's etc.) unless provided approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee, may be used by the team members from registration until the awards ceremony, and not at any other time during the day. **Any team found using these will be disqualified.**
 - c. **Any cell phones, smart watches etc., will be given to the advisor prior to the competition.**

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14. **There shall be five (5) resource testing stations:** Soils, Aquatics, Forestry, Wildlife and a Current Environmental Issue.
- a. The Current Environmental Issue shall parallel the subject provided by the National Conservation Foundation host state for the year as closely as possible in order to prepare the winning Missouri team for the NCF competition.
 - b. The five station tests will be written by cooperating agencies and/or independent environmental professionals and will be comprehensive in nature.
 - c. No copies of the test shall be distributed to any individual or team prior to the official testing time. Strict privacy shall be maintained on the test questions at all times.
 - d. The Soils station will provide pages printed from the Web Soil Survey or the Soil Survey CD.
 - e. **The five station tests will be 40 minutes in length.** A 20 minute, 5 minute and 1 minute warning will be given at all testing sites.
 - f. **When time is up,** team members must immediately stop writing and lay down pencils at that time. Failure to do so will result in a **10 point reduction on that resource test.**
15. **Oral Presentation problem solving station. Power Point Presentation**
- a. **The Power Point presentation must be Microsoft Office Power Point compatible.**
 - b. **The State Oral Presentation scenario will be released, posted on the State Envirothon web page 2 weeks prior to the state competition.**
 - c. The scenario may or may not reflect the topic of the Current Environmental Issue.
 - d. **The presentation will be given to a panel of 3 judges** of professionals from various state organizations or agencies.
 - e. No changing of clothes is allowed for this presentation. All teams must present in their State t-shirt as dressed for the entire testing day.
 - f. **The presentation will be 10 minutes maximum in length followed by five minutes of questions to team members by the judges.**

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- g. Points are given for each team member who participates orally in the presentation. **Points will be reduced if some members do not speak during the presentation.**
 - h. **This presentation must be an original, non-duplicated material or will be subject to point reductions.**
 - i. **Teams will be asked to bring their presentation on a flash drive along with 3X5 note cards which are permissible for use during the presentation. These will all be turned in at registration. ALL NOTE CARDS MUST BE TURNED IN AT REGISTRATION along with the flash drive.**
 - 1. Power Point rules include: *7-10 slides, *animation, lead ins or fades ins are acceptable. *No Sound or Video. A clicker will be provided for advancing slides.
 - j. **Only notes cards and the power point presentation on the flash drive is allowed.** No music, costumes, stop watches etc. will be allowed.
 - k. Scoring will be based on a criteria sheet approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee and will be posted on the web page as well for review in advance of the competition.
 - l. The judges Oral Presentation score sheets will be returned to the winning team as soon as possible after the competition in order to prepare for the next level of competition. Other teams may request these after the event as well.
- 16. Judges' decisions are final.**
- 17. Scoring of the Missouri Envirothon will be:**
- a. Each of the 5 station tests AND the Oral Presentation will have equal worth as 1/6th of the total score.
 - b. Tiebreakers will be as follows: highest Soils score, Aquatics score, Wildlife score, Forestry score then Current Issue score.
 - c. Oral presentation score will be the average of the three judge's scores.
 - d. Final team placement, 1st, 2nd and 3rd, will be the cumulative total of the five station scores plus the Oral Presentation score.
- 18. Awards will be presented at the end of the State competition.** Minimum awards will include:
- a. Plaques appropriate for display at school for the top 3 teams.

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- b. Certificates for the teams with the highest score in each of the resource topics
 - c. Financial stipend for the team who will be representing Missouri at the NCF Envirothon
19. **Appeals** must be submitted in writing to the State Committee Chair by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the event.
20. No team members or advisors are allowed to leave the host site prior to the conclusion of the competition without notifying a member of the State Committee.
21. Any team, team member, team advisor/chaperone or resource people associated with a team found to be on or near the test site or stations within 2 weeks of the competition may be subject to immediate disqualification.
22. 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.
23. Any infraction to the Rules and Regulations of the Missouri Envirothon could result in point reduction or disqualification and dismissal from the event and host site.
24. Completing an evaluation following the event will be appreciated.
- 25. Regional Information:**
- a. The regional Oral Presentation will be seven (7) to ten (10) minutes in length, followed by three (3) to five (5) minutes of questions to team members by the judges. These time frames will be set by each Regional Committee.
 - b. The regional Oral scenario will be release to each region one (1) month in advance of their regional competition.
- 26. International Information:**
- a. The team competing at the international competition, must be the Team members that participated in the Missouri Envirothon competition, with the exception of a legal substitution of the alternate as listed on the registration form and approved by the Missouri Envirothon Committee.

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- b. If all original State winning team members are unable to participate at the NCF International event, the current NCF substitution rules will be followed.
- c. The Missouri Envirothon will provide a form of financial assistance to the team who will represent Missouri at the NCF Envirothon.