LOUISIANA ENVIROTHON

LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
Baton Rouge, LA•• April 16, 2016

For more information, please call 225-219-0877, email laenvirothon@gmail.com or visit our website at www.deq.louisiana.gov/envirothon.

Come test your Environmental Knowledge at the 2016 Louisiana Envirothon!

What is the Louisiana Envirothon?

The Louisiana Envirothon is an environmental problem-solving competition for students in grades 6 -12. Teams train and compete by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management. The competition focuses on five natural resource areas: soils and land use, aquatic resources, forestry, wildlife, and a current environmental issue. The 2016 current environmental issue is Invasive Species: A Challenge to the Environment, Economy and Society. Teams also present a solution to an environmental problem related to the current issue in an oral presentation.

Training

In preparation for the competition, Louisiana Envirothon will hold training sessions where team members and advisors will meet with station masters. Teams will listen to presentations and watch demonstrations on the five topic areas, receive guidance on team oral presentations, and advisors can pick up recommended reading, study guides, and borrow books and tools to prepare. Station masters and other subject experts are available on an ongoing basis to assist teams in preparing for the competition.

The Competition

On competition day, teams rotate through a series of stations managed by natural resource specialists in the five topic areas. At each station, team members will be given a written test to complete. Each test is taken as a team with each team member participating in answering the questions. The team with the highest overall score wins.

Why Get Involved With Envirothon?

- Winners receive special recognition and monetary prizes.
- It's fun! Students gain a desire to learn more about the natural environment and stewardship of natural resources. Students also learn critical thinking, cooperative problem-solving and decision making skills.
- Students learn how to apply resource management and ecology to complex environmental issues with hands on environmental experiences.
- The winning high school team meeting minimum score requirements may represent Louisiana in the North American Envirothon competition, where students can win scholarships, cash and prizes! (Travel costs will be covered if sponsorship funding is available.)

How Can You Get Involved?

You can get involved with Louisiana Envirothon by organizing a team of five students who are from the same school or are associated with an organized group (i.e. FFA, 4-H, science club, etc…). **The last date to register for Envirothon is December 1, 2015.**

You can also get involved by partnering with Envirothon or becoming a financial sponsor. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Ashley LeBlanc at 337-316-6387 or laenvirothon@gmail.com.

Acadiana Resource Conservation & Development Council is a 501(c)3 organization. Donations in support of Louisiana Envirothon are tax-deductible and can be sent to:

Acadiana Resource Conservation & Development Council
ATTN: Envirothon
703 Thoroughbred Drive, Lafayette, LA 70507

GRADES 6-12

Environmental Problem-Solving Competition

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Louisiana Envirothon Rules And Regulations

Eligibility Requirements

1. Team members must be enrolled in grade levels six (6) through twelve (12) or possess an equivalent non-traditional school program ranking. Only teams with members in grade levels nine (9) through twelve (12) are eligible to represent Louisiana in the North American competition.
2. All members on a team must represent the same educational unit (public, private, parochial, non-traditional school, group).

Team Requirements

3. Schools/groups must register a team of exactly five (5) members and one (1) or two (2) advisors/chaperones in order to compete in the event. Schools/groups may enter more than one (1) team.
4. Each team must start the competition with five (5) team members. The team can finish with no fewer than four (4) members.
5. Substitution requirements:
   a. In the event that a team cannot send five (5) team members, the advisor, with approval of the Louisiana Envirothon Coordinator, is permitted to make substitutions for one (1) or two (2) of the originally registered team members. Each team must be made up of at least three (3) members of the original team and consist of five (5) total members. All members and substitutions must be from the same school/group.
   b. In the event that no substitutes can be found, a team may start and participate with four (4) members as exhibition only. Teams competing as exhibition only will not be eligible for ranking or prizes.

Competition Regulations

6. Only registered team members are permitted on the Louisiana Envirothon competition/event site.
7. Each team will rotate AS A TEAM through the testing stations (Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife, Current Issue and Orals).
8. Advisors/chaperones are not permitted on or near the testing circuit during the event.
9. Any team, team member, team advisor, or team chaperone discovered on, near, or around the testing circuit before the competition begins shall be subject to disqualification.
10. All Oral component and test scores are final. Tests and scoring materials will remain the property of the Louisiana Envirothon.
11. Envirothon members shall only use reference and resource materials provided by agency or Envirothon representatives at the stations. No personal reference or resource materials are allowed on the testing circuit.
12. Identification tags provided must be worn by all team members and advisors/chaperones at all times during the event.
13. No electronic or battery operated devices (i.e., iPods, cell phones, pagers, calculators, computers, camcorders, cameras, taping devices, etc.) are allowed during the Oral component presentations or on the testing circuit. Media personnel (press, camera crew, and agency personnel) will be provided, in advance, with an identification badge.
14. No backpacks or similar cases shall be taken into the Oral component presentation or testing circuit. A small device for carrying personal items, (i.e. lip balm, medications, sunscreen, etc.) may be allowed upon request.

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15. The winning team at the Louisiana Envirothon is the team with the highest cumulative score out of a total of 700 points. This includes scores from the five testing stations and the Oral component. Each test will be worth 100 points, with the exception of Orals which will be worth 200 points.
    a. Station tiebreakers – In the event of a tie at any given station, predetermined tie breaking question(s) will determine the winner of that station.
    b. Overall Score tiebreakers – In the case of an overall tie, the Orals score will determine the placement for the final scores in the Envirothon. If there is still a tie, teams will be ranked according to highest score on tests in the following order: Current Issue, Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, and Wildlife.
16. English is the official language of the Louisiana Envirothon. All materials including written tests and Oral presentation scenarios will be in English.
17. No pets of any kind may be brought on the site of the Louisiana Envirothon.

Louisiana's Representative To The North American Envirothon Regulations

Louisiana Envirothon always makes an effort to provide funding to send a team to the North American Envirothon competition. However, if funding is not available, another prize will be provided to the winning team in lieu of the trip. If a winning team meeting the minimum score requirement chooses to fund their own travel to the competition, Louisiana will allow this and available prize money will be given to the team for their use.

18. To participate in the North American Envirothon competition, the winning Louisiana team must have a minimum average overall score of 77.5 to qualify, no exceptions. If the team does not meet this minimum score, another prize will be offered in lieu of competing in the national competition. Only teams composed of high school students (9th-12th grade) are eligible to compete in the national competition.
19. It is expected that the winning team (meeting minimum score requirements) will represent Louisiana in the North American Envirothon. However, in the event Louisiana's winning team cannot attend, the next highest scoring team (meeting the minimum score requirement) may be sent in its place. No other award will be given to the winning team in lieu of not participating. The Louisiana team must also commit to participate in summer training sessions prior to the North American Envirothon competition.
20. The Louisiana Envirothon must register a team of five (5) members and one (1) or two (2) advisors/chaperones to compete in the North American Envirothon. A Louisiana committee member may take one of these advisor/chaperone slots if necessary.

The North American Envirothon rules require a mixed gender team to have a male and a female advisor/chaperone, no exception.

Concluding Rules And Regulations

21. Any team involved with any infraction of the rules or inconsistencies shall be subject to disqualification. If any rule is suspected of being violated, the infraction shall be reported to the Louisiana Envirothon Committee for action.
22. The Louisiana Envirothon rules are subject to change by the Louisiana Envirothon Committee. Any and all changes will be announced before the competition begins.
23. Any exception must be considered by the Louisiana Envirothon Committee, and all decisions made by the Louisiana Envirothon Committee are final.

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Student Registration Form

Student Name: _____

School/Group Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

Age: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Gender:** _____ **Vegetarian (Y/N):** _____ **Shirt Size:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Email Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

Envirothon Rules & Regulations

As the student and parent or legal guardian of (student name) _____, I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the Louisiana Envirothon.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Minor Photo/Video Release Form

I hereby grant my consent for use of my/my child's name, voice, photograph, image and/or likeness, by the Louisiana Envirothon or an agency it designates for unlimited broadcast, re-broadcast, print and other reproduction for any media use related to the promotion of the Envirothon program.

I further release the Louisiana Envirothon or any media agency it designates from any responsibility for compensation or consideration.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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Emergency Medical Release

(Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment and Release of Liability)

I understand that in the case of illness or injury of the below-mentioned student, the team advisor or Envirothon representative will try to notify me or the person I have listed below as an emergency contact.

In the case of medical emergency concerning my child, when I cannot be notified, I grant full power to the school supervising employee (advisor) and Louisiana Envirothon staff to arrange for the transportation of my child, whether by ambulance or otherwise, to a proper facility where emergency medical treatment would normally be administered, including but not limited to, an emergency room of a hospital, a doctor's office, or a medical clinic. I also give permission to physicians and attendant staff to perform emergency first aid for him/her as they deem necessary, and refer him/her to an off-site physician when deemed appropriate. This care may be given under whatever conditions are necessary to preserve the life, limb, or well-being of my dependent.

I understand that neither the Louisiana Envirothon, the advisor, nor any person associated therewith assumes any responsibility for any accidental injury that may happen to my child while attending the Louisiana Envirothon. It is understood that the Louisiana Envirothon will exercise reasonable caution in conducting the event and I agree not to make any attempt to hold the Louisiana Envirothon, its sponsors or organizers or any person associated therewith liable for any such injury.

Student Name: _____

Name of Student's Physician: _____ **Physician's Phone:** _____

Insurance Provider: _____ **Policy Number:** _____

Emergency contact if parent/guardian cannot be reached:

Name: _____ **Relationship:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Known Allergies (Foods, Drugs, Insects, Etc.): _____

Special medical concerns, needs or conditions we should know about (epilepsy, asthma, diabetes, bones/joints injuries, etc.):

_____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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Team Registration Form

(Completed By Advisor)

Team Name: _____

Address: _____

Advisor/Teacher Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ **Evening Phone:** _____ **Fax:** _____

Team Member Names	Email Address	Shirt Size	Vegetarian (Y/N)
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
Alternate Name	**Email Address**	**Shirt Size**	**Vegetarian (Y/N)**
6.			

Envirothon Rules & Regulations

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the Louisiana Envirothon.

Advisor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

This form and $50 registration fee must be submitted by December 1, 2015. Make checks payable to Acadiana RC&D for Louisiana Envirothon.

Send form and check to:
Acadiana RC&D Council Office
ATTN: Envirothon
703 Thoroughbred Drive, Lafayette, LA 70507

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