

Vermont Envirothon

Hands-on natural resource education for Vermont high school-aged students

Do you want to excite your students about the outdoors? Do they love nature and the natural world? Do you want to help connect them to the natural resources in their community? If you answered "YES!" to any of the questions above, we would like to invite you to help them participate in the Vermont Envirothon.

The Vermont Envirothon helps students focus on Vermont's environmental issues related to aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife resources through real-world learning in a teamwork environment. It is co-sponsored by a variety of agencies and organizations working in natural resource conservation.

The program provides an opportunity for hands-on field experiences and activities with professionals in the field. It's a way for high school-aged students to actively learn more about the natural world around them while they work together. Students learn to incorporate science-based investigations in helping to explore environmental issues.



OK, you say. My students might be interested...What's the deal?

An Envirothon Team consists of five students plus one alternate who are mentored by a coach. A coach can be a teacher, school administrator, youth group leader, or even a parent who has an interest in working with young people and natural resources. *(Your entire class or group can participate in learning about Vermont's natural resources by participating in the program. However, only 2 teams per school/group can compete at the event in May. Additional students can participate as alternates.)*

Once a team is formed, teams register by filling out the form on the back of this brochure and sending it in with a check for the appropriate amount. You will then receive resource materials that cover the four main areas of the Envirothon: aquatics, forestry, soils and wildlife. There will also be information on a fifth area called the "Current Issue." This is a real-world issue or problem that the environmental community is attempting to solve that relates to all of the four main interest areas of the Envirothon. The job of an Envirothon coach is to help the team learn the concepts and lessons provided in the materials as well as aid them in preparing a community-based project/speaking presentation on the current issue. Registration is suggested as soon as possible to provide maximum time for preparing for the culminating event.

To help you coach, we can connect you with resource professionals who can offer to take you out in the forests and fields to look closer at the concepts you are learning. A training day for all Envirothon teams takes place on April 4, 2018 at Marsh Billings Rockefeller NHP & Billings Farm in Woodstock, providing you with the opportunity to meet other coaches and high school level students who are also interested in the natural world. At the event on May 23, 2018 (this year at Mt. Norris Scout Reservation in Eden), the team that demonstrates the greatest overall knowledge is selected to represent Vermont at the North American Envirothon, held this year at Idaho State University July 22-26, 2018.



2017 Winning Team from Bellows Falls High School

Over 1900 Vermont students have participated in the Vermont Envirothon since it began in 1996. Students have come from public schools, private schools, home-schools, 4-H Clubs, FFA, church youth groups, and Vo-Tech Centers.

Vermont Envirothon Partners

The Vermont Envirothon is supported by federal, state, local agencies and groups working in natural resource conservation. In Vermont these currently include:

- ♦ Vermont's 14 Nat. Res. Conservation Districts
- ♦ Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
- ♦ Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forest
- ♦ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- ♦ VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation—Watershed Mgmt. Division & Wetlands Program
- ♦ Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department
- ♦ VACD
- ♦ Northwest RPC
- ♦ Chittenden RPC
- ♦ Society of Soil Scientists of Northern New England
- ♦ NH/VT Soil & Water Conservation Society
- ♦ VAPDA
- ♦ Society of American Foresters- Green Mt. Division

2017-2018 Timeline

September - March: Teams form, register, and receive resource information.

April 4, 2018: Training Day

May 23, 2018: Vermont Envirothon

July 22-26, 2018: North American Envirothon

Vermont Envirothon Registration Form

Educating today's youth to be tomorrow's environmental decision-makers.

Date _____

School/Club _____

School/Club Address _____

School/Club Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Conservation District _____

Team Coach _____

Coach Home Address _____

Coach Home Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Number of anticipated teams (5 students per team + Alternate) _____

Registration Fee: \$75.00 for first team; \$50.00 each additional team.

*(Please ask us about specific fees for alternate teams.)

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To:

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)

Send to:
Stacey Waterman
 c/o LCCD
 109 Professional Drive,
 Suite 2
 Morrisville, VT 05661

Need more information?

Stacey Waterman
 802-888-9218, Ext. 3007
 stacey.waterman@vt.nacdnet.net

For more information about Vermont Envirothon, go to www.vacd.org. Information about the North American Envirothon can be found at www.envirothon.org.