

## Why Should I Get Involved?



1. **College Scholarships**- Members of the top three teams will receive college scholarships towards a school of their choice. Scholarships have previously been donated by Weyerhaeuser Foundation and Dominion Foundation.
2. **New Experiences**- The WV Envirothon also gives students a chance to meet and work with professionals from Federal, State and local natural resource agencies. These professionals help the students understand natural resource issues and social, economic, and environmental impacts of their actions.
3. **Travel and Camaraderie**- Students have a chance to travel and meet students from other parts of the state.
4. **State and Canon Competition** - Students have the opportunity to compete at the state level and possibly go on to compete with peers from all over the United States and Canada at the Canon Envirothon. Previous trips to the Canon Envirothon have been to the Redwood Forests of California and Nova Scotia, Canada.

## How Can I Learn More?

If you would like to know more about the WV Envirothon, please contact your local conservation district office or the West Virginia Envirothon Committee.

West Virginia Envirothon  
USDA Service Center  
P.O. Box 355  
Gassaway, WV 26624  
(304) 364-5105

Internet Address:  
[www.wvca.us/envirothon](http://www.wvca.us/envirothon).



## WV Envirothon



The State's Premiere  
Conservation  
Education Program for  
West Virginia's  
High School Students



# What is the West Virginia Envirothon?



The **WV Envirothon** is a conservation education program and competition for students in grades 9 through 12. The Envirothon program encourages students to work as a team to acquire natural resource knowledge and critical thinking skills. By participating in the Envirothon program, students learn about West Virginia's diverse ecosystem and how they can help conserve and protect it for future generations.

To participate in the **WV Envirothon**, an adult advisor and a team of five students first register and receive learning objectives and study materials. Then, the team prepares for the **WV Envirothon** competition by learning all it can about natural resources and environmental issues. Each Spring, teams from all over the Mountain State come together for a fun, hands-on event that tests their natural resource knowledge, skills, and problem-solving abilities.

# What is the Envirothon Competition Like?

The **WV Envirothon** focuses on five subject areas: forestry, soils, aquatics, wildlife, and a current environmental topic. Each test occurs outdoors, allowing the students a chance to work and learn in a real-world setting, guided by environmental professionals.



**Forestry** - Students will need to develop basic dendrology skills, understand forest ecology and forest management, have simple skills with various forestry tools, and be able to apply their knowledge to real world forestry issues.

**Soils** - This test requires that students be able to identify various soils, understand the processes involved in the formation of soil, and identify terrain and soil characteristics and the impacts that they have on water quality, plants, and animals.

**Aquatics** - Conducting basic water sampling, identifying aquatic insects and microorganisms, understanding watersheds and factors that affect water quality, and developing solutions to common water quality issues are what students must do in this test.



**Wildlife** - In this test, students will need to be able to identify common wildlife species and their role in the ecosystem, understand habitat requirements, and devise plans for managing various wildlife species.



**Current Environmental Topic** - The different environmental topic each year focuses on issues that have profound environmental, social, and economic impacts. Students are notified of the topic in advance. Students will need to have an understanding of the topic and how it relates to the other subject areas. The students will also need to be able to apply their knowledge to a "what if" scenario and possibly present their solution during an oral presentation.