

COASTAL ENVIROTHON

WEYERHAEUSER'S COOL SPRINGS ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION CENTER
NEW BERN, NC
MARCH 17, 2009



2008-2009 MANUAL

SPONSORED BY AREAS 5 & 6 SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

2008-09 Coastal Envirothon Manual

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2009 COASTAL PLAIN ENVIROTHON

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Debbie Cahoon, Chairperson
Hyde County Soil & Water Conservation District
P O Box 264
Swan Quarter, North Carolina 27885-0264
debbie.cahoon@nc.nacdnet.net
Phone: 252-926-4195
Fax: 252-926-3705

You may contact Debbie Cahoon or your local Soil and Water Conservation District. (District contacts are listed on Page 13.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Envirothon program is a competitive event for five member high school and middle school teams to compete in a natural resources knowledge and ecology field day against other high school and middle school teams. It stimulates, reinforces and enhances students' interest in the environment and our state's natural resources. Resource subject areas are: Soils/land use, Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatic Ecology, and Current Environmental Issues.

The Coastal Envirothon will be a one-day competition. The middle school competition will run simultaneously with the high school competition. The competition will be limited to 35 middle school teams and 35 high school teams (a total of 70 teams).

An entire school class or group may participate in studying the resources, however only five members may be on a team taking the test. Each team must have an advisor and can have alternates. However, each team will have to be registered. One advisor can manage teams from the same school system.

There will be a resource station set up for each of the subject areas, usually in an outside setting, where the teams will be given an exam on each of the resource subjects.

Only the top seven high school and middle school teams from each Area (5&6) that compete in the Coastal Envirothon will be eligible to attend the State Envirothon. First place event winners from each Area will receive financial assistance to compete in the state competition held in April. The final decision on teams that will compete in the State Envirothon will be the responsibility of the Coastal Envirothon Committee. Each top scoring high school FFA team from Area 5 and Area 6 will automatically advance to the State Envirothon Competition. The Coastal Envirothon will pay the registration fee to the State Envirothon for the qualifying high school FFA team.

The written test will last for 25-30 minutes and will have approximately 25 questions. These questions are answered as a team and not by individual students. After finishing one station and at a set time, the teams will rotate to the next station. The test papers are graded and the scores totaled to select the winners.

TEST STATIONS

The five test stations will likely cover the following topics, but are not limited to these:

Wildlife	covers habitat, identification, foods, rules & regulations, bird calls, diseases, and management.
Aquatic Ecology	covers ecology of water, stream improvement, water chemistry, plants and animals living in or around water, pollution, and conservation.
Forestry	covers tree identification, improvement of timber stands, forest ecology, insects, diseases, use of Biltmore Stick, best management practices, forest management, and forest measurements.
Soils/Land use	covers classification, erosion, soil surveys, site suitability, current issues, profiles, soil, texture, characteristics, and conservation practices.
Current Environmental Issues:	covers any current or newsworthy environmental issue.

Professionals from cooperating agencies and/or independent environmental organizations will conduct the station competitions.

WHO

Competition is open to ecology clubs, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, FFA Chapters, 4-H clubs, home study groups, environmental groups, Vo-Ag groups, or others interested in competing. Team members must be high school or middle school students and from the same school or group. An advisor is required.

WHEN

The Coastal Envirothon will be held on **Tuesday, March 17, 2009.**

WHERE

The Coastal Envirothon will be held at Cool Springs Educational Center near New Bern, NC. (Visit www.coolsprings.org for directions to the site and more information on Cool Springs.)

REGISTRATION PERIOD (JANUARY 5, 2009 THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2009)

There is no registration fee to participate in the Coastal Envirothon. Up to two teams from the same school will be allowed to compete. Additional team slots will be opened up after the deadline date allowing up to two additional teams from the same school to register. Each team must complete a registration form. The deadline for registration is (**February 20, 2009 (postmarked date)**). Registration forms are located on pages 10 and 11.

RESOURCE INFORMATION

Resource material is available at your local Soil & Water Conservation Office. Please refer to page 13 for a list of those offices. Please contact the district office in your area for assistance on obtaining any resource materials.

CHECK-IN

Check-In will be held from 8:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. on the day of the competition.

SPONSOR

We are asking that you secure your local Soil & Water Conservation District to sponsor your team. If for some reason the local District does not wish to sponsor your team, the Coastal Envirothon Committee will sponsor your team. A list of Soil & Water Conservation Districts in the coastal area is included in this packet.

AWARDS

After the competition, there will be a brief awards program to announce the winners, present certificates, and recognize the financial contributors and important guests.

Awards are as follows: Cash awards and trophies will be awarded to the 1st through 3rd place high school teams and middle school teams. The Coastal Envirothon will assist with expenses for the 1st place team from each Area to attend the NC Envirothon. Also the FFA top high school scoring team from each Area (5 & 6) will receive assistance to attend the State Envirothon.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

A Grievance Committee has been established to hear complaints about teams not following the rules, cheating, etc. Please inform your team members that if they wish to make a grievance or complaint, this must be done as soon as possible and before the winners are announced. The guides at the stations are available to take grievances. They should be written down by the guide to present to the Grievance Committee.

TEAM SIZE

Maximum team size to compete is five (5) members. If a team has less than five (5) members, they will still be allowed to participate. Schools may send up to two teams, however each team must register separately (see registration).

ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Each team can have up to two alternates and can bring them to the Envirothon. Alternates cannot participate or confer with their team during the testing. If an alternate or any other individual is observed assisting a team during testing or while walking between stations during testing, that team will be disqualified.

Alternates from different teams are allowed to form their own team and participate in the testing. This gives them experience and allows them to share in the fun of participating. Teams made up of alternates are not allowed to place.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have a student(s) with special needs, please contact Debbie Cahoon at 252-926-4195 prior to the competition so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome to come and observe; however, no children (other than those competing) will be allowed at the stations at any time. All visitors are required to register. A registration fee of \$3.00 is required to cover cost of lunch. Please contact Debbie Cahoon at 252-926-4195 to register for the event.

MEAL

Lunch will be provided to the teams and or groups registered on the day of the competition. If anyone has special dietary needs, they should bring their own food and a cooler to store it.

PARKING

There will be an area set aside for parking. We will have someone directing traffic. Please park in the designated areas.

CERTIFICATES

Certificates will be prepared for each participating team. Please send the names of all team members that are legible (preferably printed or typed).

PARENTAL CONSENT/ MEDICAL INFORMATION

Have parents/guardians complete the parental consent/medical information forms in order to have the forms included in the registration packets to be mailed by the deadline. The deadline for completed registration packets is **February 20, 2009**.

Mail your completed registration packets for high school participants to Carolyn Garris, Pitt SWCD, 403 Government Circle, Suite 4, Greenville, North Carolina 27834 and your middle school packets to Becky McRoy, Beaufort SWCD, 155C Airport Road, Washington, North Carolina 27889.

WEATHER

The competition will be held outside regardless of the weather. Wear (bring) appropriate clothing (close-toed shoes, jackets, rain coats, etc.). If it is warm and sunny, please consider sunscreen, hats, and insect repellent.

DRESS

Do not wear any item of clothing or anything else that may identify your team by city, county, or school.

SEATING

Seating will not be provided for students or visitors/guests. You are urged to bring chairs, cushions, etc. to sit on.

FIRST AID

A first aid provider will be on site to handle medical emergencies.

COMPETITION RULES

1. Middle school students are eligible to compete as a team.
2. High school students are eligible to compete as a team.
3. All team members must be from the same school or group.
4. Each team will consist of no more than five members.
5. Teams must be accompanied to the event by a team advisor and/or a Soil & Water Conservation District representative.
6. During the testing, the advisors may not travel with the teams.
7. The advisors shall not assist their team in any way during the testing.
8. Advisors will be responsible to assure that teams display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facility.
9. Drugs and alcohol are NOT permitted during any part of the competition. (Rules applicable to the local area will be adhered to.)
10. No clothing or other identification of local schools, town, cities, or counties will be permitted.
11. All identification keys to be used will be furnished by the Envirothon Committee.
12. Biltmore sticks used in the competition will be provided to the teams at the Forestry Station.
13. The winning team will be the team with the highest cumulative point total. Certain questions will be pre-selected as tie-breakers. The tied teams will have their pre-selected questions compared until the tie is broken.
14. Rules and regulations of the Envirothon are subject to change. Any and all changes will be explained in advance to all teams and advisors.
15. No advisors, alternates, and spectators are allowed in testing areas.
16. Once the teams have checked in on the day of the event, alternates may not be substituted for team members unless it is an emergency.
17. The judges' decisions are final on all events.
18. All grievances must be reported before final judging.
19. Advisors must send team members' health forms in when submitting their registration packets.
20. No book bags, pocketbooks, etc. can be carried to station during testing.
21. Substitutions may be made on a team selected to go to the state competition but there must be at least three original members able to compete at the next level.
22. No electronic devices, digital cameras, cell phones, or taping devices are allowed during station training.

Violations of these rules may result in the disqualification of a team.

~ COASTAL ENVIROTHON~

March 17, 2009

Weyerhaeuser's Cool Springs
Environmental Educational Center
New Bern, NC

8:30- 9:30	Check-In
9:30- 9:45	Welcome and Instructions
10:00-12:30	Station Training
12:30- 1:30	Lunch
1:30- 4:00	Competition (testing)
4:00- 4:45	Awards Program
5:00	Depart for home!

**“MIDDLE SCHOOL” PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
COASTAL ENVIROTHON COMPETITION**
Registration Period January 5, 2009-February 20, 2009

Sponsor: _____
(Soil and Water Conservation District)

County: _____

School Name: _____

Team Name: _____

(No school identifying information allowed in team name.)

Team Members*: (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE) T-shirt size:
(S, M, L, XL, XXL)

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

Alternate: _____ Grade: _____

Alternate: _____ Grade: _____

(Up to two alternates per team.)

Team Advisor: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____ (Important for timely updates and notices.)

Would your team be willing to attend and compete in the State Envirothon on April 24-25, 2009 if you place in top seven?

_____yes _____no

Are there any special arrangements that we need to make for your team or a team member?

Submit this form to:
Becky McRoy
Beaufort SWCD
155C Airport Road
Washington, North Carolina 27889
252-946-4989 Ext 3 252-946-2501 (Fax)
Email: becky.mcroy@nc.nacdnet.net

**NOTE: Event ends at 5:00 PM
Plan accordingly!!!**

**“HIGH SCHOOL” PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
COASTAL ENVIROTHON COMPETITION**

Registration Period January 5, 2009-February 20, 2009

Sponsor: _____
(Soil and Water Conservation District)

County: _____

School Name: _____

Team Name: _____

(No school identifying information in team name.)

Team Members*: (Please Print or Type) T-shirt size:
(S, M, L, XL, XXL)

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

_____ Grade: _____

Alternate: _____ Grade: _____

Alternate: _____ Grade: _____

(Up to two
alternates
per team.)

Team Advisor: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____ (Important for timely updates and notices.)

Would your team be willing to attend and compete in the State Envirothon on April 24-25, 2009 if you place in top seven?
_____yes _____no

Are there any special arrangements that we need to make for your team or a team member?

Submit this form to:
Carolyn Garris
Pitt SWCD
403 Government Circle, Suite 4
Greenville, North Carolina 27834
252-752-2720 Ext 3 252-752-5595 (Fax)
Email: cygarris@pittcountync.gov

**NOTE: Event ends at 5:00 PM
Plan accordingly!!!**

Parental Consent/Medical Information Form
Envirothon Competition
(ORIGINALS, not faxed copies, must be included in the registration packet.)

Name of Student _____ School _____

Home Address _____

Parent's Name: _____

In case of emergency, we must be able to contact you. Please list a home and work phone number where you could be reached.

Father's Home# _____

Mother's Home# _____

Work# _____

Work# _____

All of the information below must be completed in full.

Allergies (food, drugs, insects, etc.): _____

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

Medication currently taking (dose and frequency): _____

Family physician:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____

Date of last tetanus booster: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The law requires that parental permission be obtained for medical procedures performed on minors (under age 18). The following consent form should be signed by the parents/legal guardians so that such procedures can be promptly carried out. We will make a genuine attempt to notify you in case of a serious emergency.

I, the undersigned parent/legal guardian of _____, hereby give permission to the attendant staff to perform such diagnostic, therapeutic, and operative procedures for him/her as they deem necessary, and refer him/her to a physician when deemed appropriate. I further give my permission to have my son/daughter treated by a physician and perform any diagnostic, therapeutic, and operative procedures they deem necessary.

X _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

_____ Date

(Video/Picture Release (Must be Signed))

I give permission for my child to be photographed/video taped for the Envirothon.

X _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

_____ Date

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
IN THE COASTAL REGION**

AREA 5 DISTRICTS	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE NUMBER
Beaufort SWCD	Becky McRoy	252-946-4989
Bertie SWCD	Dianne Cowand	252-794-5305
Chowan SWCD	LeAnne Nixon	252-482-4127
Currituck SWCD	Kim Ferrell	252-232-3360
Dare SWCD	Vonnie Wescott	252-475-5853
Gates SWCD	Gladys Owens	252-357-0290
Hertford SWCD	Dottie Robeson	252-358-7846
Hyde SWCD	Debbie Cahoon	252-926-4195
Martin SWCD	Cathy Winstead	252-792-4350
Northampton SWCD	Brenda Parks	252-534-2591
Pasquotank/Camden SWCD	Dianne Watts	252-338-6353
Perquimans SWCD	Janet Stallings	252-426-5545
Pitt SWCD	Carolyn Y Garris	252-752-2720
Tyrell SWCD	Gwen Edwards	252-796-3891
Washington SWCD	Wayne Howell	252-793-4561
AREA 6 DISTRICTS	CONTACT PERSON	PHONE NUMBER
Brunswick SWCD	Mamie Caison	910-253-2830
Carteret SWCD	Todd Kelly	252-728-4078
Craven SWCD	Pam Hawkins	252-637-2547
Duplin SWCD	Donna Rouse	910-296-2120
Greene SWCD	Dawn Keel	252-747-3705
Jones SWCD	Pamela Howard	252-448-2731
Lenoir SWCD	Mary Parker	252-523-7010
New Hanover SWCD	Dru Harrison	910-798-6032
Onslow SWCD	Lynn Mandeville	910-455-4472
Pamlico SWCD	Julia Lee	252-745-4303
Pender SWCD	Priscilla Pierce	910-259-9123
Wayne SWCD	Charlotte Jenkins	919-734-5281

Websites

National Envirothon Website:

www.envirothon.org

NRCS Website:

www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov/NaturalResEd/envirothon/envirothon.htm

Division of Soil & Water Conservation Website:

www.enr.state.nc.us/dswc/

North Carolina Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts Website:

www.ncaswcd.org

Cool Springs Environmental Education Center Website:

www.coolsprings.org

DIRECTIONS AND MAP

Cool Springs is located near the community of Askin, between Vanceboro and New Bern on US 17 in Craven County.

From Jacksonville/Wilmington:

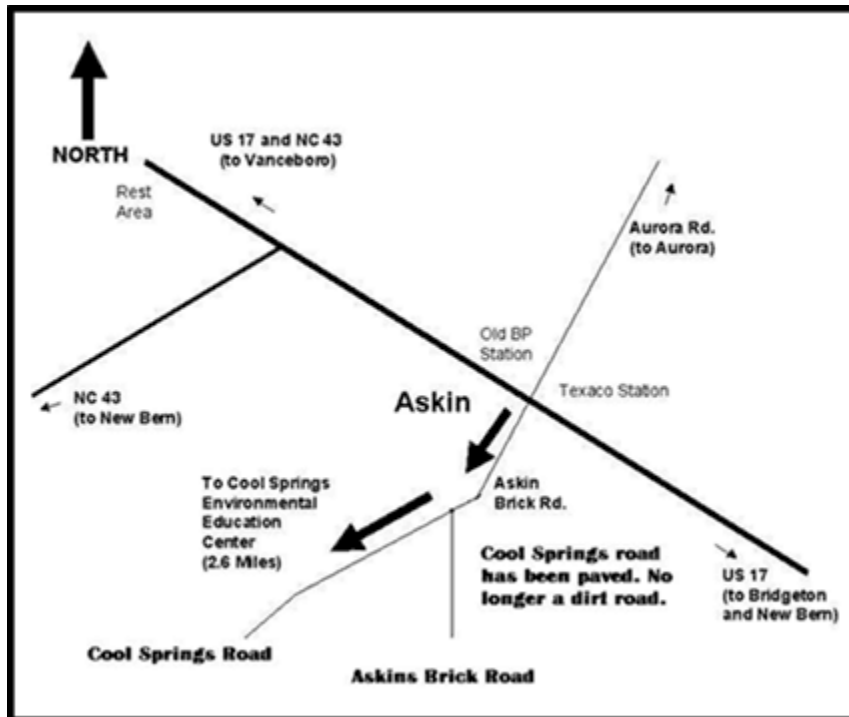
- Take U.S. Hwy. 17 North. Exit onto US Hwy 70.
- Continue on U.S. 70 East. Immediately after crossing the Trent River, keep to the right lane and exit to cross the Neuse River Bridge and into Bridgeton on US Hwy 17 North.
- Continue on U.S. 17 North for approximately 8 miles to Askin.
- Make a left onto Askin Brick Road.
- Cool Springs road is paved. Stay on this road for 2.6 miles to the Cool Springs entrance.

From Goldsboro/Kinston:

- Take U.S. Hwy. 70 East to the U.S. Hwy 17 North exit over the Neuse River Bridge into Bridgeton.
- Continue on U.S. 17 North for approximately 8 miles to Askin.
- Make a left onto Askin Brick Road.
- Cool Springs road is paved. Stay on this road for 2.6 miles to the Cool Springs entrance.

From Vanceboro/Washington:

- Take U.S. Hwy. 17 South.
- Once you pass the rest area on the right and go through a stop light, continue for approximately 3 miles to Askin.
- Make right on Askin Brick Road.
- Cool Springs road is paved. Stay on this road for 2.6 miles to the Cool Springs entrance.



If you get lost on the day of the competition, call Carolyn Garris at 252-944-3307 (Cell) or 252-244-4019 (red house) or Pam Hawkins at 252-675-3310 (Cell).