



# 2023 Wisconsin Envirothon

## Current Issue Team Presentation Scenario

### Adapting to a Changing Climate

#### The Team Presentation Competition

The team presentation segment contains twice as many points as the individual testing stations. All teams must use a power point presentation, with no limit on slides but no animation or linking to videos allowed. No other props, costumes, or digital displays are allowed. All members of the team must verbally participate in the oral presentation. Your team will have ten minutes to present accompanied by three to five minutes of judges' questions. You may cite outside reference materials and sources. The score sheet and rubric to be used by the judges are attached.

#### The Scenario

##### Background

Wisconsin's cultural identity and economy relies on thriving landscapes that support productive agriculture, industrious cities, and valued natural areas. As the earth warms, ice caps melt, and seas rise, extreme weather intensifies across the globe. Since 1950, Wisconsin has gotten warmer and wetter. Statewide temperatures have warmed by about 3 degrees across the state, making the last two decades the warmest on record. Statewide precipitation has gone up 17% (about 5 inches) since 1950. These changes are already impacting the economy, health and safety of communities, and projections show that these trends will continue throughout Wisconsin.

There are two main strategies to respond to climate impacts: mitigation and adaptation.

- **Mitigation: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow the rate of climate change.**  
To reduce impacts and **mitigate** climate change, nations across the globe have set greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction goals. Under the Paris Agreement, communities and businesses big and small are committing to reduce GHG emissions by 45% by 2030 and net-zero by 2050 to limit global warming to under 2 degrees Celsius.
- **Adaptation: Prepare landscapes, infrastructure, and homes to withstand a changing climate.**  
To help communities **adapt** to climate change, scientists and community leaders are evaluating all aspects of various industries and landscapes to shift practices and install resilient infrastructure.

Since 2007, the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources have led a collaboration of scientists and stakeholders to evaluate climate impacts and foster solutions for both mitigation and adaptation strategies. The Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) provides communities with climate prediction maps to understand how weather across the state may

change over seasons; opportunities to help mitigate impacts by reducing contributions to emissions; and by adapting landscapes to withstand a changing climate and extreme weather events.

## **Your Task**

### *Overview*

A Wisconsin community has been experiencing intense rain events flooding fields, homes, and businesses. This community's economy relies on agriculture, urban centers, and world class fishing that drives tourism.

To ensure the health and safety of their community members, and maintain their economic viability, the County has organized a citizen group to understand climate predictions and develop strategies for mitigating and adapting to climate change across the county.

### *The Ask*

Your team has been invited by the County and citizen group to help develop a climate action plan. They would like you to present ideas they should consider to help landowners and businesses **adapt** to withstand these events, and to **mitigate** climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Some questions to consider:

- How can the stakeholder group ensure all community members are included in their plan?
- How will different landscapes be impacted by climate change? How can they adapt? How can they support mitigation efforts?
- What tools and resources are available to help prioritize projects?
- How can the taskforce gain public support to ensure everyone in the community understands the threats of climate change and knows where to find support?

## **Your Objective**

You will present your climate action plan, including goals and strategies for both adaptation and mitigation to ensure a successful plan.

## **Additional resources located at:**

[The Paris Agreement](#)

[The Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts](#)

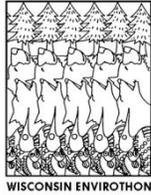
[EPA Greenhouse Gas Homepage](#)

[EPA Greenhouse Gas Calculator](#)

[WI Land+Water County Climate Hub](#)

### **Envirothon Current Issue Resources**

<https://envirothon.org/the-competition/current-competition/>



# 2023 Wisconsin Envirothon

## Team Presentation Evaluation Rubric

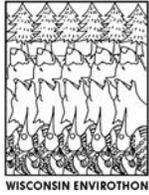
		<b>5=excellent</b>	<b>4=very good</b>	<b>3=good</b>	<b>2=adequate</b>	<b>1=inadequate</b>
<b>Application of Data</b>	<b>Understanding of environmental and resource management challenge</b>	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed a solid understanding of all of the learning objectives outlined in the advisor handbook relevant to the environmental and resource management aspects of this scenario.	The team clearly and concisely conveyed a thorough understanding of all relevant learning objectives.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed a thorough understanding of most of the relevant learning objectives.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed only some of the relevant learning objectives.	The team's presentation was missing many relevant learning objectives.
	<b>Understanding of technical issues related to topic</b>	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed a solid understanding of the technical issues related to the problem. Natural resource benefits of solution presented were covered and well understood.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed an understanding of the issues related to the problem and an appropriate solution was provided.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed an understanding of the issues related to the problem and attempted to provide a solution.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed only some understanding of the issues related to the problem.	The team's presentation lacked an understanding of the issues related to the problem.
	<b>Understanding of the planning process affecting stakeholders and relevant parties</b>	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed an understanding of the planning process, stakeholders and relevant political issues related to the problem. The team identified parties affected in the scenario and considered the concerns of all these parties.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed an understanding of the planning process, stakeholders and relevant political issues related to the problem. The team attempted to identify and consider the concerns of all relevant parties.	The team clearly, concisely and thoroughly conveyed an understanding of the planning process, stakeholders and relevant political issues related to the problem. The team identified and considered some of the concerns of relevant parties.	The team conveyed only a basic understanding of planning, stakeholders and relevant political issues related to the problem.	The team's presentation did not convey an understanding of planning, stakeholders and relevant political issues related to the problem.
	<b>Conclusion &amp; recommendation support, definition and conviction</b>	Ideas, statements, predictions, conclusions and recommendations were clear and logical, supported by data, were convincing to the audience, and expected results were comprehensible.	Conclusions and recommendations were supported by data, clearly defined and were convincing to the audience.	Conclusions and recommendations were supported by data and clearly defined.	Conclusions and recommendations were supported by data.	No data was used or data was presented in an unclear fashion.
	<b>Ability to respond to questions</b>	Audience questions after the presentation were answered logically and fully. The team demonstrated a collaborative effort to answer questions when possible.	Audience questions after the presentation were answered sufficiently, but not always fully, and the team attempted to use a collaborative effort to answer.	Audience questions after the presentation were answered sufficiently, but not always fully, OR some team members tended to dominate the response.	Audience questions after presentation were answered, but not always correctly, logically or fully, OR some team members clearly dominated the response.	Audience questions after presentation were answered inadequately, OR some team members clearly dominated the response.

		<b>5=excellent</b>	<b>4=very good</b>	<b>3=good</b>	<b>2=adequate</b>	<b>1=inadequate</b>
<b>Quality of Presentation</b>	<b>Organization</b>	The team demonstrated an understanding of the level of complexity of the scenario and successfully reduced the complexity for the audience by structuring the presentation in a way that facilitated the audience's understanding of concepts. Questions from panel resulted from a thought-provoking presentation and did not result from a need to clarify components of the presentation.	The presentation was logically organized so that only a few minor clarifications were necessary after the presentation OR the audience comprehension could have been aided by slight reorganization.	Most of the presentation was logically organized, but some key clarifications were necessary after the presentation.	Only some of the presentation was logically organized, and so many key clarifications were necessary after the presentation.	The presentation was not logically organized and did not facilitate the audience's comprehension.
	<b>Participant enhancement of presentation</b>	The presentation mechanics allowed the team's points to be very effectively conveyed because they satisfied these key criteria: the rate, flow and clarity of delivery by each speaker was appropriate; each speaker's voice was loud enough to be heard by all judges; each speaker spoke to the audience in a narrative style, avoiding distracting mannerisms; transitions between speakers were smooth and helped audience follow the presentation.	The presentation mechanics satisfied all but one or two of the key criteria.	The presentation mechanics satisfied most of the key criteria.	The presentation mechanics satisfied only some of the key criteria.	The presentation mechanics satisfied very few of the key criteria.
	<b>Visuals</b>	The PowerPoint slides accompanying the oral narrative were necessary and very effectively conveyed the research because they satisfied these criteria: 1. Content was relevant; 2. Overall appearance was pleasing to the eye but did not distract from the content; 3. Font and figure sizes were adequate; 4. Visuals were filled with just enough information to be informative without looking overcrowded; 5. Figures were clearly labeled, had titles.	The slides used satisfied all but one of the key criteria.	The slides used satisfied most of the key criteria.	The slides used satisfied only some of the key criteria.	The slides used were unnecessary or satisfied very few of the key criteria.
<b>Timing and Participation</b>	<b>Team participation</b>	Effective teamwork contributed to the success of the presentation because it met these criteria: 1. Each team member's contribution to the presentation was equivalent; 2. Each team member contributed answers to questions asked after the presentation to the best of their ability; 3. Teammates were respectful of each speaker and did not interrupt them.	Teamwork was largely effective; 2 of the 3 criteria were fully met.	Teamwork was somewhat effective; 1 of the 3 criteria was fully met.	Teamwork was not effective because none of the three criteria was fully met.	No teamwork was evident.
	<b>Use of time</b>	Team made effective use of time throughout the presentation.	The team mostly made effective use of time during the presentation.	The team made adequate use of time during the presentation.	The team made fairly effective use of time during the presentation.	The team did not make effective use of time during the presentation or overall.

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Start time \_\_\_\_\_

End time \_\_\_\_\_



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## Team Presentation Evaluation Form

*Judges – Please provide brief written evaluation to supplement your scoring.*  
**(Scale for scoring: high score = outstanding; low score = poor)**

### PART 1 – APPLICATION OF DATA

- |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Team demonstrated a solid understanding of the environmental and resource management challenge.                           | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2. Team demonstrated a solid understanding of the technical issues related to the topic.                                     | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3. Team demonstrated a solid understanding of the planning process, affected stakeholders and relevant parties to the topic. | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 4. Conclusions drawn and recommendations given were supported by data and clearly defined and convincing to the audience.    | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 5. Team responded to questions about the content of its presentation in an accurate, concise, and logical manner.            | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

### PART 2 – QUALITY OF PRESENTATION

- |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Presentation was well organized. Main points were clearly stated and supported. Presentation included a clear introduction and strong conclusion.  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2. Participants used appropriate volume, eye contact, gestures, voice inflection, and pace. Participants also avoided distracting mannerisms and exhibited originality and professionalism during the presentation and question period. | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3. Team made a good use of PowerPoint slides to present information in support of the presentation. PowerPoint slides met standards and were appealing, concise, and appropriate to support the presentation.                           | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

### PART 3 – TIMING AND PARTICIPATION

- |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. All team members participated orally in the presentation with smooth transitions. (Each team member gets 1 point for equal participation). | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2. Team made effective use of the allotted time.  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

**JUDGE'S COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_ out of 50 points.

**JUDGE'S NUMBER (1-4):** \_\_\_\_\_