

middle school  
grades 7-8 and  
high school  
grades 9-12.



**WISCONSIN ENVIROTHON**

# **Advisor Handbook**

**2025 Wisconsin Envirothon**

**Roots and Resiliency: Fostering Forest Stewardship**

**in a Canopy of Change**

**Friday, April 11, 2025**

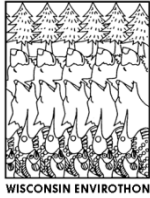
**Wisconsin Lions Camp**

**Rosholt, WI**



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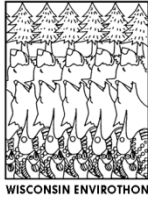
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## What is Wisconsin Envirothon?

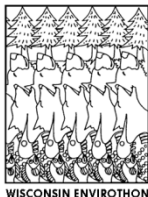
Wisconsin Envirothon is Wisconsin's ultimate middle school and high school environmental science challenge. Teachers, parents and educators use Envirothon learning objectives throughout the school year to enhance environmental science and/or FFA curriculums as well as afterschool ecology or outdoor clubs. Student teams then attend the Wisconsin Envirothon for a day of field challenges **AND** team presentations. The winning high school team will advance to the National Conservation Foundation, (NCF)-Envirothon, the continent's largest high school environmental education competition.

At Wisconsin Envirothon, teams of four or five high school (grades 9-12) or middle school (grades 7-8) students participate in four hands-on, mostly outdoor field challenges designed by natural resources professionals and educators. Learning objectives cover aquatic ecology, forestry, soils and land use, and wildlife. In addition to field challenges, students create a team presentation regarding an annual current issue.

Wisconsin Envirothon is a member of the NCF- Envirothon. Top high school teams from over 50 states, provinces and territories meet at an annually rotating location for a week-long competition where students workshop with local natural resource experts and compete for scholarships and prizes.

The mission of the NCF-Envirothon is to develop knowledgeable, skilled and dedicated citizens who understand natural resources and are willing and prepared to work towards achieving and maintaining a balance between the quality of life and the quality of the environment. For more information about the goals and objectives used as a guide to develop Envirothon curricula, visit the Environmental Education in Wisconsin website at <http://eeinwisconsin.org/net/org/info.aspx?s=96527.0.0.2209>

**The 2025 NCF-Envirothon will be held at Mount Royal University Calgary, Alberta, Canada July 20-July 26, 2025. WI Land+Water partially sponsors the winning HS team of the Wisconsin Envirothon and provides limited assistance in registration arrangements.**



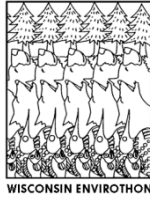
## Competition Scoring

1. There will be a first-place winner for both middle school and high school categories in each of the five testing stations: Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soils and Land Use, Wildlife and the Current Issue Team Presentation. Tiebreaker points are built into the exams and will be awarded if needed to determine first place.
2. The winner of each testing station – Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soils and Land Use, and Wildlife, will be the team with the highest exam score in each subject area (100 points possible). The Current Issue Team Presentation is judged by a panel of experts, whose points accumulate, totaling up to 200 points. The highest scoring team presentation wins the category and the high school team that wins the Current Issue will present at the awards ceremony.
3. The overall winners from both categories are determined by the cumulative total of the four testing stations scores plus the final Current Issue Team Presentation score. The high school winning team will be eligible to represent Wisconsin at the NCF-Envirothon.



# 2025 Wisconsin Envirothon Rules & Regulations

1. Each team shall consist of no less than four and no more than five students from the same school district. High school teams must enter with grade equivalence of 9-12 in the current school year. Middle school teams must enter with grade equivalence of 7-8 in the current school year. **Teams are required to wear their Wisconsin Envirothon t-shirt the day of the competition. School names or association such as FFA or 4-H shirts and hats must not be visible the day of the competition to maintain anonymity. Students will be asked to change or cover up their shirts/logos.**
2. The high school team representing Wisconsin at the NCF-Envirothon is required to have **five** team members participating. For details, visit <https://envirothon.org/the-competition/current-competition>
3. High school teams and middle school teams will take on the same challenges, compete on the same presentation topic, but will be scored separately. To address time constraints middle school teams will present in a separate room with separate judges. High school teams may present in 2 rooms to address time constraints. All dependent on the number of teams registered. Teams in the rotation including advisors and volunteers will be allowed in the room during team presentations but must not talk or distract the team presenting and cannot leave the room until all presentations are completed.
4. Teams of four or five middle school/high school and/or FFA teams will compete independently. Limit **one** team per middle school and **two** teams per high school. Teams will be registered on a first register basis, capping middle school registration to **eight** teams total and high school registration to **twenty-five** teams total. Depending on capacity, additional teams may be accepted on a first register basis provided we didn't meet our max capacity. There are no guarantees.
5. Teams must be accompanied by an adult advisor. Advisors are required to stay on-site and will be responsible for assuring that the team members display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facility. If lodging overnight, teams should arrange for an adult male to chaperone male team members and an adult female to chaperone female team members. One chaperone may be responsible for students of the same gender from multiple teams.
6. There will be no access given to the testing stations for team advisors or students before the competition or at lunch. Noncompliance with this rule will be grounds for point reduction and/or disqualification. Advisor tours will be available day of event.
7. Advisors, chaperones, guests and teams from the same school are not allowed to have any contact with their respective teams from the time competition begins until it is completed. This includes during challenges, rotation, breaks and lunch. Advisors, chaperones and guests may be present at their team's Current Issue Team Presentation. Advisors and teams may correspond via their team's group leader or another volunteer if needed, and exceptions will be made by Wisconsin Envirothon in the event of a medical emergency. Noncompliance with this rule will be grounds for point reduction and/or disqualification.
8. **Team members may be substituted by submitting written or Email notification to Kim Warkentin WI Land+Water by 11:59 p.m. Friday, March 28, 2025 please email [kim@wisconsinlandwater.org](mailto:kim@wisconsinlandwater.org)** Registered alternates may substitute at any time. Substitutions must be approved by WI Land+Water and pre-registration of alternates is required in case an emergency arises. If enough alternates are attending they have the option to group and rotate as a team.
9. Snuff, tobacco, illegal drugs, and alcohol are not permitted during any part of the competition. Noncompliance with this rule will be grounds for disqualification.
10. WI Land+Water and cooperating environmental agencies and other Envirothon volunteers will conduct the competition and may be asked by WI Land+Water to serve on an appeals committee for the competition.
11. Authorized staff may use photos or video from the competition to promote the event.
12. Judges' decisions are final on all events. An appeals committee will review contested decisions. Tiebreaker questions are included on the written exams. The tiebreaker process for the Current Issue Team Presentation involves the judges examining the points awarded in each part of the evaluation sheet.
13. Only reference materials and equipment provided by Wisconsin Envirothon will be allowed for use at the event. **Backpacks or any electronic, battery-operated or solar-powered equipment are not allowed on the testing circuit or during any portion of the competition including the team presentations (this includes cell phones and cameras).** Noncompliance with this rule will be grounds for point reduction and/or disqualification.
14. **This is an outdoor event, make sure students dress for the weather. Pants, socks and closed shoes are required. Advisors may keep these items available and pass them to team members via group leaders or volunteer staff as needed. Wisconsin Envirothon is not responsible for and will not provide any gear or clothing to participants.**
15. **Teams must be paid in full by Wednesday, March 12, 2025 to compete. If a team cancels after Wednesday, March 12, 2025 they will forfeit their registration fee and all other fees associated with their team.** Weather related cancellations will be determined by WI Land+Water.
16. The rules and regulations of the Wisconsin Envirothon are subject to change. All changes to the rules will go into effect on September 1 and will be in effect until August 31 of the following year.



# 2025 Current Issue Team Presentation

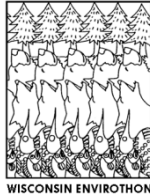
## Roots and Resiliency: Fostering Forest Stewardship in a Canopy of Change

Field professionals and educators challenge students to work as a team exploring facets of current environmental topics. The Current Issue Team Scenario provides an opportunity to join fundamental knowledge and reasoning ability to understand and articulate today's critical environmental concerns. Participation in the Current Issue Team Presentation offers an opportunity to develop the skills to communicate the conservation ethic in whatever scholastic, career or civic choices lie ahead.

Here's how it works:

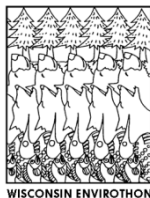
- A hypothetical scenario, based on the Current Issue, will be sent to advisors electronically and posted on <https://eeinwisconsin.org/net/org/info.aspx?s=96527.0.0.2209> and <https://wisconsinlandwater.org/envirothon>
- on **Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.** Students have over three weeks to prepare their presentations.
- Each team has 10 minutes to present a management plan or provide solutions for the hypothetical scenario. All team members must verbally participate in the presentation.
- **A PowerPoint presentation or google slides are recommended and preferred (no videos or sound effects) allowed. No other props, costumes, or digital displays are allowed.**

Information about the topic "Roots and Resiliency: Fostering Forest Stewardship in a Canopy of Change" including recommended learning resources can be found here <https://envirothon.org/2025-alberta/> State recommended learning resources for this issue can be found at: <https://envirothon.org/2025-alberta/study-resources/> Areas of study can be found at: <https://envirothon.org/the-competition/areas-of-study/> Articles, workshops or additional resources that may be of interest to students throughout the year will be posted on the Wisconsin Envirothon Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/wienvirothon> and Wisconsin Land+Water website at <http://www.wisconsinlandwater.org/envirothon>.



## Challenge Station Curriculum Guidelines

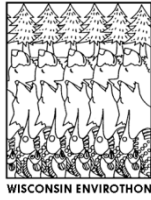
The four challenge stations: Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soils and Land Use, and Wildlife are designed in accordance with the learning objectives outlined by the NCF- Envirothon and can be sourced by visiting <https://envirothon.org/educational-resources/> Learning objectives for each station are available there both electronically and in PDF format for download.



## Resource Organizations

Resources and archived challenges are linked for all the stations at the right side of the homepage, <https://eeinwisconsin.org/net/org/info.aspx?s=96527.0.0.2209> find "Wisconsin Envirothon Stations and Curriculum Resources." Publications and reference materials for all disciplines can be obtained from local, state and federal agencies. Many will also be willing to conduct workshops or presentations for your teams. Visit the NCF-Envirothon website at [www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org). Or reach out to [kim@wisconsinlandwater.org](mailto:kim@wisconsinlandwater.org) for help contacting natural resource professionals.

Facebook users are encouraged to find public sites for both Wisconsin Envirothon <http://www.facebook.com/wienvirothon> and NCF-Envirothon including events and articles related to the competition. Both Wisconsin Envirothon and NCF-Envirothon Web resources may be updated from time to time.



# 2025 Wisconsin Envirothon Tentative Schedule & Registration Information

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### Thursday, April 10, 2025

- 6:00-10:00 p.m. Arrivals and registration for teams lodging on-site (**dinner on your own- no food on-site Thursday evening**)
- 6:00-10:20 p.m. Teams may study, work on their presentations or relax
- 10:30-11:00 p.m. Participants must be in their assigned lodging unit-**Lights out**

### Friday, April 11, 2025

- 7:00-7:30 a.m. **Breakfast will be served for overnight guests only**
- 7:45-8:15 a.m. Registration
- 8:15-8:30 a.m. Orientation (**mandatory**)
- 8:35-11:15 a.m. Testing (rotating stations/Team Presentations)
- 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Lunch
- 12:15-2:05 p.m. Testing (rotating stations/Team Presentations)
- 2:05-2:20 p.m. Break
- 2:20-3:00 p.m. Station Review
- 3:00-4:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony

## LOCATION

**Wisconsin Lions Camp**  
3834 County Road A  
Rosholt, WI 54473

Web site: [www.wisconsinlionscamp.com](http://www.wisconsinlionscamp.com)

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

**Registration will open mid-January 2025 visit our website to register:**

<http://www.wisconsinlandwater.org/envirothon>

**Registration Fee:** The Registration fee is **\$140** per team and includes lunch, and day use fees for four or five team members and two advisors. It also includes t-shirts for the **four or five** team members and two advisors. Limit **one** team per middle school and **two** teams per high school. Teams will be registered on a first register basis, capping middle school registration to **eight** teams total and high school registration to **twenty-five** teams total. (the cap is subject to change based on the number of teams registered and capacity.)

**Lodging:** Lodging is available at Wisconsin Lions Camp on Thursday, April 10, 2025. Lodging is rustic and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, based on size of group. Wisconsin Envirothon makes no guarantees that teams will be able to stay together overnight-no moving cabins without permission from Envirothon staff. We will do our best to keep teams together. All co-ed teams that opt for lodging are required to have both a male and female chaperone. **Each overnight guest will need to bring towels, blankets, sheets, pillow, and/or sleeping bag and toiletries.** The cost for lodging is **\$25 per person which includes breakfast in the morning.**

**Meals:** Lunch on Friday is included in the registration fees. We do not discount any registration for opting out of lunch.

**No additional guests or chaperones will be allowed to attend unless approved by [kim@wisconsinlandwater.org](mailto:kim@wisconsinlandwater.org)**  
Please register alternates that will be attending the competition. If there are enough alternates attending, they have the option to group and rotate as a team.

**All teams must be paid in full by Wednesday, March 12, 2025 to compete. If a team cancels after Wednesday, March 12, 2025 they will forfeit their registration fee and all other fees associated with their team. Weather related cancellations will be determined by WI Land+Water.**

Questions contact Kim Warkentin, Youth Education Director at WI Land+Water [Kim@wisconsinlandwater.org](mailto:Kim@wisconsinlandwater.org) or 608-441-2677 ext. 403