

IOWA ENVIROTHON

What is the Iowa Envirothon?

The Iowa Envirothon is an environmental and natural resource conservation problem-solving, team-building, and leadership experience and competition for 9th–12th-grade students.

Through a regional and state event, the Iowa Envirothon incorporates STEM principles, hands-on learning, and outdoor field experiences, giving students a unique opportunity to engage with their peers, community, and local environment. Students will learn about natural resource management and ecology and how to apply that knowledge as they explore local environmental issues facing Iowans today.

The Iowa Envirothon is a program of the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Envirothon.

How Does it Work?

Regional Testing

The regional event is an online general knowledge exam on these four key topics:

Forestry and Prairie
Aquatic Ecology
Wildlife
Soils and Land Use

The top 15 scoring teams from the regional event will qualify for the in-person state competition. Schools can register as many teams for the regional event, but only two can participate in the state competition.

State Competiton

The in-person state competition includes hands-on activities using environmental science and conservation equipment. Teams will be tested on the four key topics, prepare an oral presentation, and take an additional exam on the year's current environmental topic. The NCF Envirothon develops the current environmental topic each year. The state winner represents Iowa at the International NCF Envirothon competition.

Who can participate?

Teams must have five members, and students must be enrolled in grades 9-12 during the school year before the International NCF Envirothon competition. Each team is strongly encouraged to have alternate team members. Alternate team members are not required for registration, but to place at the in-person state competition, your team must have five members.

CDI CONSERVATION DISTRICTS OF IOWA

With support from ICEC IOWA CONSERVATION EDUCATION COALITION



Visit the Conservation Districts of Iowa webpage for registration, study resources, and more details on the Iowa Envirothon!

2027 IOWA ENVIROTHON

How to get involved with the 2027 Iowa Envirothon!

1. Build your Iowa Envirothon Team.
2. Register for the 2027 competition.
3. Provide students with opportunities to learn and grow in all four test areas.
4. Participate in the regional testing event.
5. Continue preparation for the in-person state competition.

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The Iowa Envirothon is run and managed by the Conservation Districts of Iowa, with support from the Iowa Conservation Education Coalition.

1. Anyone can join a team! Common school clubs and organizations involved with the Iowa Envirothon:
   - School agriculture or science clubs
   - Future Farmers of America (FFA)
   - Talented and Gifted programs (TAG)
   - 4-H
   - Homeschool groups
2. Registration closes on **Friday, February 26, 2027**
   - To register and participate in the regional event, teams must have an assigned proctor who is a faculty member at the school but *cannot* be the team advisor.
   - Teams must pay an **$80 registration fee** payable to the Conservation Districts of Iowa.
3. The 2027 study guide with materials on natural resource management and ecology is available on the Conservation Districts of Iowa's website.
4. The regional tests will be available from **Monday, March 8, 2027, to Friday, March 26, 2027.**
5. The in-person state competition will be held on **Monday, April 26, 2027,** at the Jester Park Nature Center in Granger, Iowa.
   - We will release additional study resources and the oral presentation scenario once we announce the state qualifying teams after regionals.

2027 Current Environmental Topic:
"Soil Health Management: Agricultural Principles and Stewardship."

Contact

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