



## **Middle Grades Envirothon (Environmental & Natural Resources) CDE**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Middle Grades Environmental/Natural Resources Career Development Event is to stimulate interest in environmental/natural resources issues as taught by the agricultural education curriculum.

### **This event consists of five components:**

1. Demonstrating an understanding of environmental/natural resource issues;
2. Recommending practices for conservation of environmental/natural resources;
3. Identifying the basis for environmental practices;
4. Analyzing and evaluating national and global issues; and
5. Identifying and developing plans to address national and global issues.

### **State Event Superintendent**

The superintendent for this event is Mrs. Carmen Bracey, State FFA Coordinator, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, NC State University, Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654 Phone: 919.513.0216  
Email: cehoneyc@ncsu.edu

For additional information, contact Bryan Evans, State Envirothon Coordinator, NCDA&CS Division of Soil and Water Conservation  
Email: ncaswcd@gmail.com

### **Eligibility and General Guidelines**

This event is open to all middle grades FFA chapters (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and middle grades members in good standing.

Teams shall consist of 5 members. Teams of less than 5 will not be considered for the state Middle Grades Envirothon Competition but will be allowed to compete in the FFA division. Members winning a previous state event in this area or that have participated in a previous national event in the area are ineligible.

The use or possession of cellular phones or any other mobile electronic communication device is prohibited during any state-level career development event. Any violation of this rule by any team member will result in total team disqualification.

Any member found cheating in any state-level career development event will result in total team disqualification for that event.



The North Carolina FFA Association, in keeping with the FFA mission and purposes, does not permit the use of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vapes, or Juuls at any FFA facility or at any FFA activity.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, NC FFA will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests to: Carmen Bracey at carmen\_bracey@ncsu.edu. Requests can be served more effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.

### **Dress Code**

Refer to the state Envirothon rules, as they differ from NC FFA.

### **Procedures for Administering the Event**

Middle grades FFA chapters (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>) may participate in the North Carolina Middle Grades Envirothon.

The North Carolina Envirothon will be conducting area events to qualify teams to advance to state-level competition. Middle grades FFA chapters must compete in the area events. The overall top seven middle grades teams in the area event will then qualify to compete in the state-level Middle Grades Envirothon. The highest-scoring FFA team in each area will advance to the state event. The top scoring middle grades FFA team may or may not be in the top seven teams that advance to the state event.

Soil and Water Conservation Areas are different from the North Carolina FFA Association Regions. There are eight (8) Soil and Water Conservation Areas in North Carolina. A map of the Soil and Water Conservation Areas is attached. Your middle grades FFA chapter must compete in the appropriate Soil and Water Conservation Area.

Middle grades FFA chapters must follow the rules and guidelines established by the Soil and Water Conservation Areas as well as the North Carolina Envirothon.

Middle school FFA chapters are allowed to enter multiple teams at the area level. If a middle school chapter has more than one team advance to state-level competition, then the FFA Advisor MUST designate the official team at the time of registration prior to the state event. The designated team will count toward final placing of the official FFA results.

When registering your middle grades FFA team, the team name must have “FFA” in some portion of it. For example: Smith HS FFA, FFA, or FFA Blue.



The State FFA Coordinator shall serve as a member on the North Carolina Envirothon Committee.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://sites.google.com/site/envirothonnc/home>
- <http://www.ncenvirothon.org/>
- <https://sites.google.com/site/envirothonnc/contact?authuser=0>

## **State Awards**

The awards for the state middle grades event will be presented annually at the state FFA convention to include a team 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place plaque. The high scoring individual for middle grades will receive a plaque as well.

## **Middle School Envirothon Rules**

1. All teams must participate at an Area competition and be one of seven (7) teams qualified by their Area Envirothon to go to the state competition before competing in the State Middle School Envirothon.
2. Substitutions may be made on a team selected to go to the state competition, but there must be at least three (3) original qualifying team members able to compete at the state level.
3. Only students in grades 6 through 8 are eligible to compete. No other children are allowed at the Resource Stations during training or testing.
4. All team members must be from the same school, home study group, scout group, or 4-H group.
5. Each team will consist of no more than five members.
6. Once the teams are registered on the day of the event, alternates may NOT be substituted for team members unless it is an emergency. (Names listed on the pre-registration form may be changed prior to the event.) Each Middle School team can have no more than 2 alternates.
7. Teams must be accompanied by an adult team advisor.
8. Advisors will be responsible to assure that teams display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facility. Team members, advisors, and guests will be respectful of everyone.



9. Advisors must send each team members' medical and photo release forms to Area Envirothon Committee when registering for the Area Event. All adults at the State Envirothon must sign a code of conduct form.
10. Each Area will submit all registration and medical forms with names of the team members and score sheets from that Area showing teams and members eligible to compete at the state competition to the State Middle School Coordinator as soon as possible after the Area Competition.
11. No clothing or other identification of local schools, towns, cities, or counties will be permitted at the resource stations.
12. No electronic recording, no digital cameras, no taping and no picture taking on Friday afternoon during training sessions. No cell phones are allowed at the resource stations.
13. During the Saturday testing competition, the advisors may NOT travel with the teams and shall not assist their teams in any manner. NO advisors or spectators are allowed in testing areas on Saturday morning.
14. All identification keys to be used will be furnished by the State Envirothon Committee. Biltmore sticks used in the competition will be provided to the teams at the Forestry Station.
15. The winning team will be the team with the highest cumulative point total. Certain questions will be pre-selected as tiebreakers. The tied teams will have their pre-selected questions compared until the tie is broken.
16. The judges' decisions are final on all events.
17. All grievances must be reported before final judging. The grievance committee will handle all grievances.
18. Drugs and alcohol are not permitted during any part of the competition or on the park grounds.
19. Rules & regulations of the Envirothon are subject to change. Any and all changes will be explained in advance to all teams and advisors at the Assemblies.
20. Violations of these rules can result in the disqualification of a team or a lesser penalty

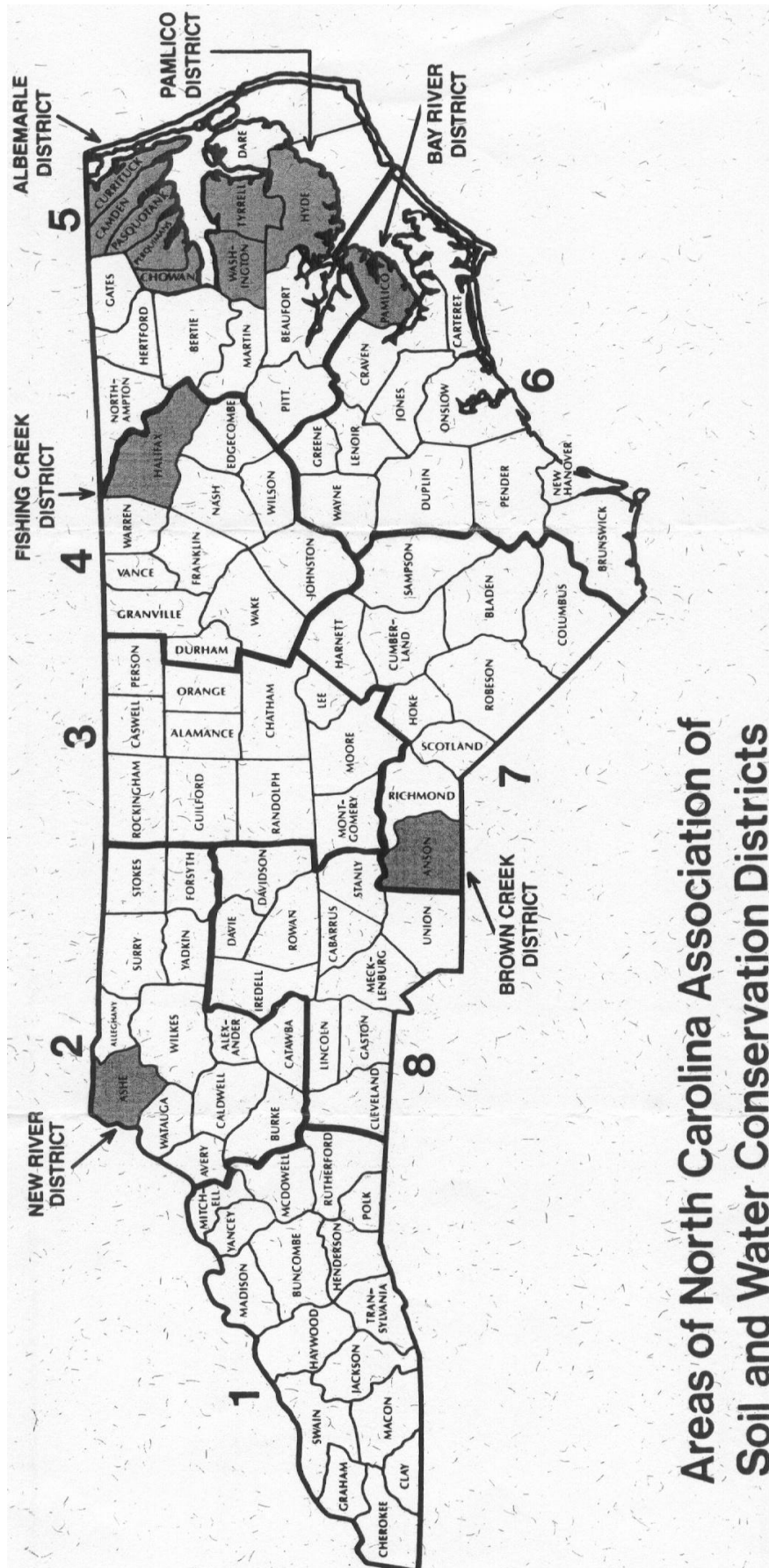


## **Bibliography**

National FFA Career Development Events Handbook

North Carolina Envirothon Reference Notebook – available from Sandra Weitzel or your Soil and Water Conservation Area Director for \$10 each

FFA teams must abide by the State Envirothon Rules found at [www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org)



Areas of North Carolina Association of  
Soil and Water Conservation Districts