

# MISSOURI ENVIROTHON



**2019**  
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# MISSOURI ENVIROTHON

## Missouri Envirothon *A Brief History*

Missouri held its first Envirothon competition in 1998, with the Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the local soil and water conservation districts as sponsors. Ten teams competed in the pilot. Participation has grown significantly over the past 21 years. The state event now hosts an average of 21 teams each spring for the annual competition. Students come from all corners of the state, having earned the right to compete based on their scores at regional competitions. Missouri sends one team to the NCF-Envirothon (the North American level of competition) where more than 50 United States, Canadian and Chinese teams compete. Since 1998, a Missouri team has placed in the top five during 10 of those years.

Year	Missouri's Placement	Host State/Province	Current Issue Theme
2007	Fourth	New York	Alternative Renewable Energy
2008	Second	Arizona	Recreational Impacts on Natural Resources
2009	Fifth	North Carolina	Biodiversity in a Changing World
2012	First	Pennsylvania	Non-point Source Pollution/ Low Impact Development
2013	Third	Montana	Sustainable Rangeland Management
2014	First	Illinois	Sustainable Agriculture
2015	First	Missouri	Urban/Community Forestry
2016	Fourth	Canada	Invasive Species A Challenge to the Environment, Economy and Society
2017	Fourth	Maryland	Agricultural Soil and Water Conservation Stewardship
2018	Second	Idaho	Western Rangeland Management: Balancing Diverse Views
2019	Sixteenth	North Carolina	Agriculture & the Environment...Knowledge & Technology to Feed the World

## What is the Envirothon?

Envirothon is a problem solving, natural resource education program for high school students. Teams of students are challenged to hone critical thinking skills as they answer questions and conduct hands-on investigations of environmental issues in five categories - Soils/Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife and Current Environmental Issues. In addition to a written test, teams also prepare an oral presentation solving a specific natural resource problem.

Envirothon began in Pennsylvania in 1979 as an outgrowth of a vocational agriculture land judging contest. The first national event was held in 1988 with five states participating.

MoDNR photo

It is through the support of the generous people and organizations listed here that the Envirothon is available to students in Missouri.

**Thank You**  
for your support!



**How you can help**

## Campaign for the Continuing Support of the Envirothon in Missouri

The regional and state Envirothon programs require approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually. These dollars fund trainings, competition t-shirts, lunches, site fees, materials, water, and other necessities for more than 300 students, 125 teachers and numerous volunteers across the state.

### How to Donate to the Missouri Envirothon

For more information about how to donate to the Missouri Envirothon, a non-profit educational high school competition, contact Audrey Rayl at the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District at 573-767-5276, ext. 3, or [audrey.rayl@swcd.mo.gov](mailto:audrey.rayl@swcd.mo.gov). Your donation will help the Missouri Envirothon committee fund seven regional competitions and the state event every year. These funds will also provide a cash financial award for the winning Missouri team to attend the NCF-Envirothon held annually in one of the participating states or Canadian provinces.

**Send donations to:**

**Missouri Envirothon**

**Audrey Rayl at Lewis County SWCD**

**504 South Washington Street**

**Monticello, MO 63457**

### Donate Using the Amazon.com Smile Program



Amazon.com offers charitable organizations the chance to receive donations in it's AmazonSmile program. The Missouri Envirothon is one of the charities you can choose to donate to when making a purchase though AmazonSmile. It does not cost people anything to choose a charity nor does it increase the cost of items purchased. Amazon gives charities 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

Make Missouri Envirothon your choice at <https://smile.amazon.com/>

### Missouri Envirothon Donors

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Missouri Envirothon  
Magazine 2019

Theresa Strunk – Writer/Editor  
Van Beydler – Design/Layout/Editor

# Grant Coe Awarded Missouri Envirothon Scholarship



Grant Coe of North Shelby High School is the 2019 Missouri Envirothon Scholarship recipient. Grant is the son of Ed and Susan Coe of Shelbyville, and a participant of the Northeast Region Envirothon program.

He received a certificate and \$750 during the closing ceremony of the Missouri Envirothon competition held at George Washington Carver farm near Jefferson City in early May 2019.

Grant truly embraced all that the Envirothon program has to offer, taking the reins as a leader on his team. The Shelby team's teacher/coach, Donna Henderson, said "Grant has been a leader for the other members in the logistics of the contest, working as a team, and in giving the oral presentation. He told me that working with the other students and having lengthy discussions about topics brought up during training was his favorite part of the program." She added that Grant has a keen ability to motivate the other students and keep them focused.

Besides leadership skills, Grant credits Envirothon with playing a huge part in growing his self-confidence and improving his ability to speak in public.

The oral presentation component "was the most beneficial area of the contest for me," Grant said. He explained that being able to speak confidently, whether before a group or just in conversation with others, is a skill he knows he'll use throughout his life.

He noted that the advice and feedback from the oral presentation



**Theresa Strunk presents the scholarship award to Grant Coe at the 2019 Missouri Envirothon.**

MoDNR photo by Van Beydler

judges helped him understand how an audience perceives and reacts to what the presenter has to say.

"You also have to be able to think on your feet," Grant said. "This is where problem-solving skills come into play. The judges can ask some tough questions, and there's no way to prepare an answer ahead of time."

Grant explained this also brings into play the importance of being able to work on a team. He said students have to be prepared to jump in and help a fellow teammate if they get "hit hard with a question."

"Another example of the importance of teamwork is when we are working on the tests. We have to be able to quickly discuss a question, agree on an answer, and provide support for that answer." Henderson offers Envirothon to her students because she sees the benefit to

their education. She said the Envirothon allows students "to enter college as more well-rounded students with a better understanding of the resources of our state and how the actions of citizens both help and harm those resources." They are "exposed to a wide variety of professionals who work to maintain our resources in the agricultural sector as well as in urban, suburban and public use areas."

Grant graduated high school in May 2019. He is currently attending the University of Missouri at Columbia studying plant sciences and precision agriculture. He said he plans to hold a job during college, and that one of his goals is to graduate debt-free.

"I learned a huge amount during my participation with this wonderful program, and I know the knowledge I gained will help me in my years at college."

Congratulations Grant!

## Missouri Envirothon Scholarship Honors Former Committee Members

The Missouri Envirothon offers one \$750 scholarship each year to a Missouri student who has participated at any level in the Envirothon program. The student must be a senior in high school, and planning to attend a college or university.

This scholarship was created in honor and memory of Mary Burt of the St. Louis Region and Paula Champion of the Southwest Region.

Not only were both Mary and Paula instrumental in developing the program in their regions of the state, but they also were long-standing members of the State Envirothon Committee.

Their commitment to education and love for the outdoors were combined in this program in which students learn the importance of managing natural resources.

Mary took a special interest in reaching as many students as possible with regional trainings and workshops, whether or not those students would compete at the state or national level.

Paula developed a program in southwest Missouri that was rich in resource education, and which became one of the largest regional programs in the state.

It is through their inspiration that the Missouri Envirothon committee offers this scholarship.



**Grant Coe (left) with his North Shelby team at the aquatics station during the 2019 Missouri Envirothon.**

Photo by Theresa Strunk

# 2020 Oral Presentation Topic: Water Resources Management - Local Control and Local Solutions



The water we have now is all the water we will ever have. The Earth does not get new water. We must reuse water throughout millennia and depend on the water cycle to clean and filter this resource for us. We also can rely on Water Managers – ground and surface water experts who monitor our life-giving resource.

Nebraska, the 2020 Envirothon host state and Missouri's neighbor to the northwest, has different water resource advantages and challenges than our state; and therefore different management concerns.

Nebraska sits atop the Ogallala Aquifer, which is one of the largest unconfined aquifers in the world. The aquifer's water resources are shared by multiple states in the region, and while Nebraska is the No. 1 irrigated state in the country, it also has one of the best water management and conservation programs.

Most of the state draws its drinking water from the Ogallala, and Nebraska uses millions of gallons of water to sustain its important agricultural industry. Add in other industrial and commercial uses; and the water needs of surrounding states, and Nebraska has reason for concern about the quality and quantity of water over time.

Because of this, Nebraska water management involves "local control" over the resource. Natural Resource Districts across the state are responsible for monitoring and maintaining groundwater levels to

near predevelopment levels, and manage local competing uses.

They do this through water use regulation, conservation cost-share practices, and fees and fines where applicable.

Scott Kaden, Water Resources Center Groundwater Section Chief, with the Department of Natural Resources' Missouri Geological Survey, explains water resources and their management in Missouri:

Missouri is quite different in its management of water compared to western neighbors.

Water use is not restricted in Missouri because most areas have access to large quantities of high-quality water, whether surface or groundwater sources. These sources are recharged readily through annual precipitation amounts that contribute to surface water flow or infiltration to replenish subsurface aquifers.

Water is typically plentiful in our state, but that does not mean there are no concerns. Bedrock aquifers in northern Missouri often contain highly saline water that limits availability to alluvial aquifers or surface water lakes and streams.

While the vast Ozark Aquifer lies beneath much of southern Missouri, it can be compromised by the presence of karst features such as sinkholes, losing streams and caves.

These features can provide surface contamination paths to quickly mix with the groundwater.

There are eight groundwater provinces in Missouri, and each has its own challenges and advantages. Geology plays a prominent role in each province as to the quality and availability of groundwater.

Provinces that are dominated by geologic formations consisting of highly porous materials such as sand, gravel, sandstone, limestone and dolomite, with few confining layers of clay or shale, are quickly replenished by precipitation.

The Springfield Plateau, Salem Plateau, Southeastern Lowlands, and Missouri/Mississippi River provinces have these types of rock units present, and groundwater is the predominant source of water here.

Provinces that are capped by clay deposited by ice age glaciers or their formations have multiple layers of shale typically have poor groundwater quality, with the exception of stream alluvial valleys. The shale and clay limit the amount of aquifer recharge from precipitation which results in bedrock groundwater that becomes stagnant and highly saline.

The West-Central, Northwest, and Northeast provinces have many shale and clay units resulting in poorer groundwater quality necessitating the use of surface water sources in these areas.

While the St. Francois province does have geologic units of dolomite and sandstone, there are also large expanses of granite and rhyolite that are very restrictive to groundwater movement.

The availability of groundwater is greatest in this province where there

are significant deposits of dolomite or sandstone. Areas of the St. Francois province dominated by granite and rhyolite tend to rely on surface water sources.

Missouri also shares surface water resources with many other states. Two major rivers, the Missouri and Mississippi, flow through or along the state. There are 11 upstream and five downstream states that Missouri must work with to manage water usage of these two large rivers.

Predominant uses for water from these rivers is for drinking water supplies, navigation, wildlife, power generation and recreation.

Surface water captured in lakes is a significant and important source of water. Where groundwater is saline, many municipalities obtain water for their communities from water reservoirs. Where the quality of groundwater is potable, but is not sufficient to supply the quantity of water needed, lakes can also provide an alternate source of water, such as in southwest Missouri.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources partners with other state and federal agencies to help ensure the state's waters are protected to provide this renewable resource for future usage such as drinking water, agriculture, power generation, navigation and recreation.

Learn more about Missouri's water resources online at [dnr.mo.gov/geology/#water](http://dnr.mo.gov/geology/#water).



Photo by Van Beydler

# Volunteer Spotlight: Dave Fry, Former Kansas City Region Coordinator and State Envirothon Committee Member



**Dave Fry (right) at a national competition with (to his right) Judy Stinson and Andrea Mckeown, Missouri Envirothon co-chairs; and five members of the Kansas City winning team from Pembroke High School.**

When the Envirothon program first arrived in the Kansas City Region in 1998, William David Fry, known by all as “Dave,” was busy teaching junior high science and coaching high school baseball for the Fort Osage school district in Independence.

Among the student athletes on Dave’s baseball team at that time was the young Albert Pujols, now a famously successful Major League Baseball player, who had helped Fort Osage win the Class 4A State Baseball Championship the previous year under Coach Fry’s skilled instruction and guidance.

Dave became acquainted with Envirothon that year through Bill Bohnert, Kansas City’s first regional

Envirothon Coordinator. Bill remembers going to Dave’s classroom “to provide soil programs for Dave’s classes.” Bill’s mother taught Home Economics at Dave’s school.

Bill reminisces that “Dave would bring my mom the torn high school baseball uniforms for her to mend.”

Bill appreciated Dave’s talents as an educator and coach and his enthusiasm for soils and natural resource education. Upon Dave’s retirement from Fort Osage in 2002, Bill encouraged Dave to begin a new career as a District Technician with the Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District.



**Dave enjoyed sharing the wonders of soil with guided walks through the “worm tunnel” during festivals and other events.**

Dave accepted and quickly became Bill’s “right hand man,” helping Bill with all aspects of the Envirothon program.

According to Bill, “Dave had gifted salesmanship and organizational skills, making him a real asset for our Envirothon program. Dave, along with the efforts of our District Manager

Linda Struwe, helped us grow the Kansas City Envirothon program through a true team effort.”

Bill Bohnert retired after the 2009 Envirothon season, and Dave continued to help with the regional competitions even though the coordinator job moved to another agency.

In 2013, however, the Kansas City Coordinator fell ill on competition day, and without a moment's hesitation Dave stepped up to fill the void and run the competition seamlessly.

"I remember that day well," SueAnn Wright, former KC Region Envirothon coach recalls. "The competition day was a complete success, and on that day Dave Fry became our new Kansas City Region Coordinator."

Dave continued as the Kansas City Region Coordinator and also as a Missouri Envirothon Committee member for five more years, through the 2018 season, organizing and running the Kansas City training and competition events, helping plan and run the Missouri state competitions, and joining other professionals in training the winning Missouri team each summer as the team prepared for national competition.

Reflecting on their years in the Envirothon program, which included a First Place finish in the 2012 North American competition, students sent messages of thanks to Dave upon his retirement. "Thank you for everything you did for all of us students, Dave," Jeffrey Rubel (2013 graduate) said in a videotaped message. "We could not have done it without you." Jeffrey's co-captain Riley Sloan added, "We all love you, Dave." Hosain Ghassemi, another member of the winning 2012 team added, "After college, I found myself wanting to give back. Inspired in part by the work that you have done, I decided to work as an Americorp Volunteer in a public school."

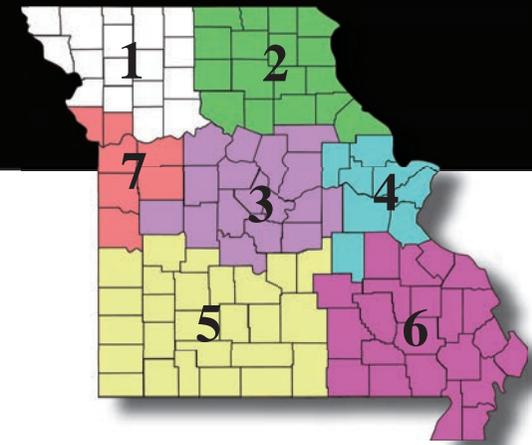
Now fully retired, Dave spends his time with his family, traveling, and teaching Sunday school, where Dave's talent and love for instructing and guiding our youth continues to positively influence young lives. Thank you, Dave, for your 16 years of enthusiastic service to the Missouri Envirothon program!



Dave Fry with the Jackson County SWCD Worm Tunnel.

MISSOURI  
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Envirothon Regions



1

## Unlock the Secrets of Envirothon in the Northwest Region

*Heather Keith* 660-359-2006, ext. 101  
[swcd.mo.gov/grundy/Envirothon.htm](http://swcd.mo.gov/grundy/Envirothon.htm)

The Northwest Region covers a 17 county area. A fall competition is held, with the most recent at Hartell Lakes Conservation Area. There were six teams competing, and of those teams 66% of the students were new to the Envirothon scene.

The Northwest Region is mainly populated with rural farming communities. These communities host numerous livestock producers and cropland producers of corn, beans, wheat, hay, pasture and CRP and grazing lands.

A goal of this region is to unlock the secrets of the Envirothon and share our love of the program to more schools and in turn increase participation in this wonderful and enriching program.

We have four sites that rotate yearly for our competitions, so students can experience the beauty of Northwest Missouri. Every year will be a new and exciting adventure.

We are so thankful for our major support from the Missouri Department of Conservation, Smithfield Hog Production, Smithfield Milan, NRCS, Missouri Master Naturalists and the Soil and Water District staff.



Students work together to identify and measure a tree at the forestry station.

## 2

## Northeast Region hosts 40 High School Students at 2019 Event

*Audrey Rayl* 573-767-5276, ext. 3  
*Lena Sharp* 660-327-4117, ext. 3  
*Jacky Martin* 660-727-2955, ext. 3

The Northeast Region committee prepared for the 2020 competition with training in September 2019, with teams and advisors gaining a better understanding of what to expect on the day of competition. The fall competition was held Oct. 10, 2019 at the Ted Shanks Conservation Area in Ashburn. This was a new location for the competition, and everyone enjoyed discovering what it had to offer.

Eight teams, consisting of 40 students, participated from six different high schools. North Shelby, South Shelby and Moberly advanced to the state competition. Other teams included Kirksville, LaPlata and Atlanta.

At the annual training, teams and advisors gain a better understanding

of what to expect on the day of competition. We are able to offer the students an opportunity to interact with professionals in the conservation field, and to obtain resources and hands-on experiences they wouldn't necessarily get in a classroom.

Congratulations to North Shelby Senior Grant Coe for receiving the \$750 Missouri Envirothon Scholarship at the State Envirothon event in May 2019.

Without volunteers and support from local businesses the committee could not have a successful competition. Thank you to them and to our test writers for their dedication to the Envirothon.



**Moberly team.**



**North Shelby team.**

## 3

## Central Region Envirothon Hosts 18 Teams in 2019 and Sends One to the NCF-Envirothon Event in North Carolina

*Tina Dulaban* 660-547-2351, ext. 3

The Central Region Envirothon Committee has 10 outstanding members and four of the best test writers. We meet on average four to five times a year to plan our competition.

We hold our event at the Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City. Enough cannot be said about the wonderful staff at Runge and the help they give us. They truly help us tie our event together.

The Envirothon Committee consists of Soil and Water District employees and test writers from Missouri Department of Conservation and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The local Soil and Water Conservation Districts provide support for the teams when requested, sponsor teams and assist with local training opportunities for the teams.

The Central Region relies on strong partnerships to consistently host up to 24 teams each year. The Runge Nature Center has been the testing location for several years. Runge has excellent trails that lend themselves well for Envirothon use. There are indoor facilities that may be used in case of inclement weather.

The Central Region Envirothon competition was held on April 10. The weather was a perfect 71 degrees for what



**Central Region students celebrate a win.**

turned out to be a record setting day for our region. Eighteen teams from 12 schools and six different counties in our region participated.

Each year we see the scores of our teams improve. We attribute this to a group effort from the counties that sponsor the teams, support of our committee and the teachers who take the extra time out of their schedules to work with these students.

It takes 45 to 50 volunteers to make the event go smoothly each year. The Runge staff is always ready to assist, along with other volunteers including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Missouri Department of

Conservation, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Soil and Water Program staff, Soil and Water Conservation District Employees and even Soil and Water Conservation District Board members.

The Central Region hosts a field trip the day of the Envirothon for the teachers and bus drivers that bring their students. After the tour the teachers are given lunch and have an opportunity to tour the testing stations and review the tests with answers.

Schools competing included: California, Cole Camp, Eugene, Jamestown, Laddonia, LaMonte, Lincoln, Nichols Career Center, Sacred Heart, Smith Cotton, Stover and Tipton.

This year, all three teams from the Central Region placed in the top 10 at the Missouri Envirothon; two Smith Cotton teams and one from Sacred Heart, all from Sedalia. Our Smith Cotton High School Team B went on to the NCF-Envirothon Competition in North Carolina where they placed 16th out of 53 teams.

Tina Dulaban, our committee chairperson was able to travel to North Carolina with the winning team.

The Central Region is very proud of their competition and the students who work so hard to compete for the state title as well. Congrats to all and especially Smith Cotton at the NCF-Envirothon event!



**Students work together at the Soils and Land-Use Station.**

4

## Lindbergh High School Takes First Place in St. Louis Region

*Theresa Dunlap 636-922-2833, ext. 3*

Earning the first place position for the 2019 Envirothon season in the St. Louis Region was the team from Lindbergh High School. Their coach is science teacher Barry Marquart who has participated in Envirothon for several years with two different St. Louis area high schools.

The contest was held at the University of Missouri Extension Center in St. Peters, with 20 students participating on a rainy day. With the relatively low number of teams participating, it was decided to allow the teachers/coaches to form a team and participate in the competition. Their participation was just for fun; and since we didn't want to embarrass them, we didn't reveal their score to the students. (Just kidding...they did quite well!)

The topic was Agriculture and the Environment, Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World. Dr. Micah Humphreys of St. Charles Community College provided training for the students.

The 2020 Envirothon season is underway. The St. Louis Region held their fall training at the Dana Brown

Conference Center in the Shaw Nature Preserve in Gray Summit on Oct. 11 and 12. This overnight session not only provides resource training for the students, but also a fun opportunity to get outside, explore nature, enjoy a bonfire, and sleep in a cabin. Another training will be held in January. Thank you to all our trainers and volunteers. We truly could not do this without all of you!



**Students examine soils at the Soils and Land Use station.**

Photo by Theresa Strunk



**First Place Team – Lindbergh High School.**

Photo by Theresa Strunk

## 5

## Southwest Region Envirothon Wins with Nature

*Amy Carter* 417-466-7682, ext. 3

*Ashley Fisk* 417-745-6613, ext. 3

The Southwest Region Envirothon was held at Missouri Department of Conservation's Springfield Nature Center in Springfield on Nov. 7, 2018, hosting nine teams from six area schools. Central, Lutie and Stockton brought two teams each and El Dorado Springs Christian, Kickapoo and Monett rounded out the attendance with one team each.

The top three teams from the Southwest Region are consistently competitive and in the Top 10 at the state competition; and this year all three teams were in the top 10!

1st place team at Regional Competition – Central A  
3rd at State Competition

2nd place team at Regional Competition – Central B  
5th at State Competition

3rd place team at Regional Competition – Stockton  
9th at State competition

The Central teams and coach were new to the Envirothon this year and impressed everyone as they dominated at both the Regional and State competition. Stockton is one of our veteran teams and consistently impresses at both competitions. All of the teams not only worked hard at the competitions but also showed up ready and eager to learn as much as they could at the Mini-Envirothon hosted before the State competition.



**Central High School Teams A and B.**

All the students and coaches had great questions as the day went on and left feeling prepared for the State competition.

As with most events, none of this could happen without the support of not only donations but also from the numerous volunteers and agency partners.

This year's competition had 37 volunteers that came from federal, state and local agencies along with community members.



**Students consult on an Aquatics test question.**

## 6

## Southeast Region

The Southeast Region has experienced some changes resulting in the area being without a committee at the present time. The Missouri State Envirothon Committee is seeking an individual who would like to lead the formation of a new committee for this region. Anyone interested should contact the Missouri Envirothon chair Andrea McKeown at 660-263-5702.

Meanwhile, any schools from this region wishing to participate in the Envirothon program are encouraged to contact the St. Louis Region by calling Theresa Strunk at 636-922-2833, ext. 90037. Teams from the Southeast Region can attend trainings in the St. Louis Region, and would compete alongside the St. Louis Region teams.

## 7

## Kansas City Region Welcomes New Partners and Resources

*SueAnn Wright* 913-485-8594

*Linda Struwe* 816-229-5113, ext. 3

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in the Kansas City area administer the Kansas City Region Envirothon program. During the 2019 Envirothon season, Kansas City Envirothon gave each registered team newly-created Lessons and Resources.

These lessons can be used as an Envirothon curriculum or as self-study tools to streamline and direct learning and help teams compete more effectively in Envirothon competitions.

The Kansas City Region also unveiled new, revamped Resource Trunks for the four core Envirothon subjects: Soils and Land Use, Wildlife, Forestry, and Aquatic Ecology. Responses from coaches and students about these new Lessons and Resources have been enthusiastic!

The Kansas City Region held two 2019 spring regional events: The March 6

Kansas City Region Envirothon Training Day, and the April 4 Kansas City Region Envirothon competition. Both events were hosted by the Missouri Department of Conservation at Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area in Blue Springs, Missouri.

The KC Region Committee opened its Training Day to all Missouri teams, and was delighted to have a few Central Region teams attend this fun day. Trainers included Kim Vinson, NRCS, training students on Soils; Kent Shannon, MU Extension, on Current Issue; Larry Pollard, Land Learning Foundation, on Wildlife; and Scott Sigman, Missouri Stream Team, on Aquatic Ecology.

SueAnn Wright, Kansas City Region Coordinator and former Envirothon coach, trained teams on Oral Presentation and reviewed the Regional Oral Presentation Scenario with attending coaches and students.



**Students use a Biltmore Stick to calculate tree measurements.**

The Kansas City Region’s Envirothon teams battled rain and mud at the outdoor stations during the April 4 event. At the end of the day, Pembroke Hill School earned the most points and placed First overall; Lafayette County placed Second; Fort Osage High School placed Third; and Ballard School placed Fourth.

“Alternate-Only” teams do not compete for prizes or advancement to the Missouri Envirothon, but the talented students on the 2019 Alternate team (comprised of students from several schools) accumulated the most points on the Wildlife Station test and deserve special recognition. Great job everyone!

The Kansas City Region welcomed an unprecedented number of sponsors, observers and volunteers to the April 4

competition, including representatives from SWCDs, Smithfield Foods, Kansas City’s Osage Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalists, the Kansas City Zoo, the Missouri Department of Conservation, Heartland Conservation Alliance, Bass Pro Shops, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

The Kansas City Region Envirothon Committee is excited to explore expanding these partner interactions in 2020, and hopes to offer additional field training sessions and opportunities during the 2020 year for interested coaches and students.

We invite any high school, home-school, FFA, Scouting, or other youth group to contact us to learn more about the Envirothon program’s fun, learning, and scholarship opportunities. Join us!

In the field, teams of students are challenged to hone critical thinking skills and work as a team. Students answer written questions and conduct hands-on investigation of environmental issues in five categories:

- Soils/land use
- Aquatic ecology
- Forestry
- Wildlife
- Current environmental issues

In addition to a written test, the teams also present an oral presentation solving a specific natural resource issue.



**A five-member team works through an Aquatics test.**

- Aquatics Ecostation
- Wildlife Ecostation
- Current Issue Ecostation
- Forestry Ecostation
- Soil Ecostation
- Oral Presentation



## Wave of the Future Award Recognizes Advisor's Achievements



SueAnn Wright was chosen by the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon to be the first recipient of a new award, the Wave of the Future Award. This award recognizes the achievements of teachers, advisors and alumni who have been involved with Envirothon for at least five years and who have directly influenced, impacted and promoted NCF-Envirothon.

SueAnn is a former Kansas City Region teacher/advisor for Pembroke High School in Kansas City, and a current committee member on the Missouri Envirothon Committee.

As a team advisor, SueAnn worked with multiple teams and created a curriculum of lesson plans and hands-on activities and experiments. Through regular sessions oriented both for education and enjoyment, SueAnn and her teams were able to become front runners in Envirothon competitions regionally, at state, and at national competitions. After retiring from her advisor role at Pembroke, SueAnn expanded her reach to the entire Kansas City Region as the region's coordinator, and to the entire state as a member on the state committee.

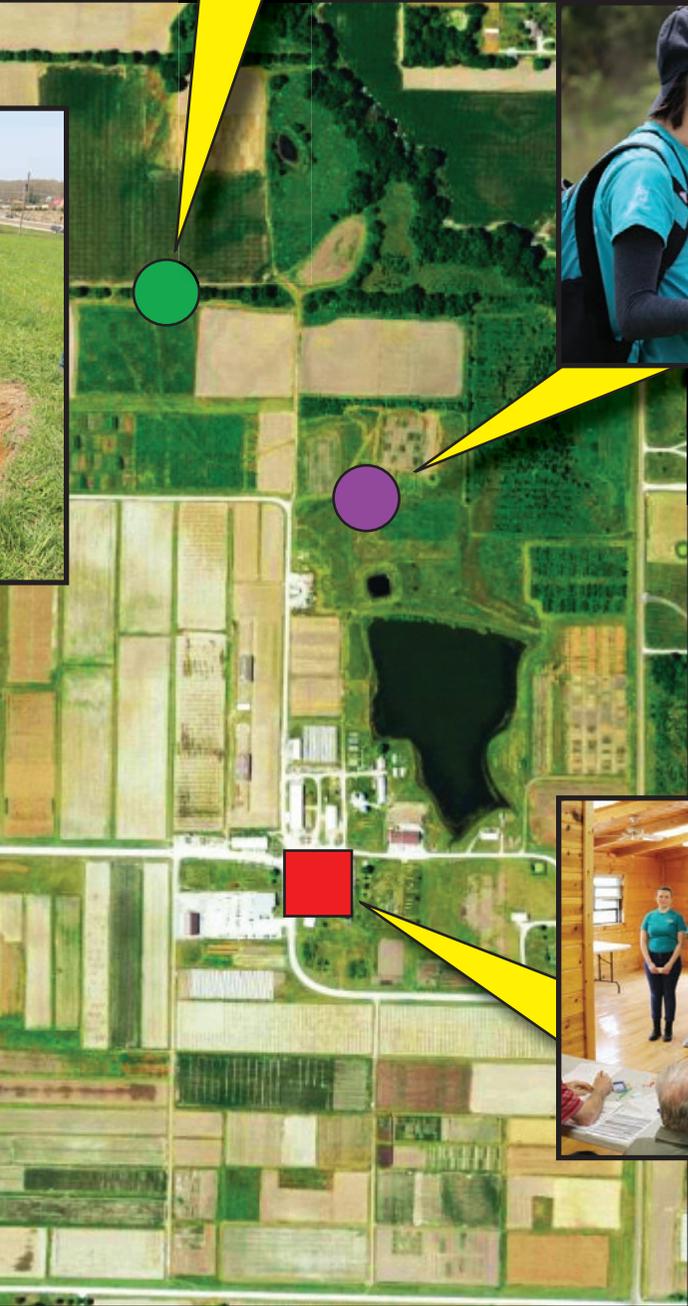
She shared the curriculum she developed with all regions in Missouri, and is in the process of updating resource trunks for them as well. The state committee was able to secure a grant to purchase the resources for the trunks. Through her efforts, each region in Missouri will start the next Envirothon season with new options for training and education.



**SueAnn Wright**

SueAnn promotes the NCF-Envirothon at every opportunity, whether a workshop, a gathering of teachers or a group of business people, SueAnn is ready to share how much she loves Envirothon, and how it can influence and shape young lives.

Congratulations SueAnn for being the wind behind this Wave for the Future!



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## A First-Time Win for Smith-Cotton High School



Five seniors from Smith-Cotton High School from Sedalia won the 2019 Missouri Envirothon that was held at the Lincoln University George Washington Carver Farm near Jefferson City in early May.

This was the first time that this school has ever won the state competition. Team members were Sarah Adams, Katelin Frame, Katelyn Montgomery, Edward Toderescu-Stavila, and Dylan Miller. Their advisor was Mona McCormack.

They competed at five testing stations that included aquatic ecology, forestry, soils and land use, wildlife, and the 2019 current conservation topic of Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World. Test stations required the teams to answer a variety of both hands-on and written natural resource questions.

Each team also gave an oral presentation to a panel of three judges. The other teams rounding out the top six were: Pembroke Hill High School, Central High School A, North Shelby High School, Central High School B, and Parkway North High School. Smith-Cotton took top resource awards for Forestry and Oral Presentation.

Central High School took top resource awards for Aquatics and Current Issue. Pembroke Hill High School took top resource awards for Soils and Wildlife.

Smith-Cotton advanced to the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Envirothon held on July 28 through Aug. 2 at the North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The NCF-Envirothon is North America's largest high school natural resource competition with more than 40 states, seven Canadian provinces and two teams from China competing at the national level.

The state event features the top three teams from each of Missouri's regional competitions held throughout the year.

Contact your local soil and water conservation district office for information and dates about the regional events.

Sponsors for this year's event included the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, local soil and water conservation districts, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Districts Employee Association, USDA Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, University of Missouri Extension, Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, Smithfield Foods and The Land Learning Foundation.

Additional information is available at [moenvirothon.org](http://moenvirothon.org).



**Smith-Cotton High School with the 1st place state Envirothon award.**

MoDNR photo by Van Beydler



## Smith-Cotton Places 16th at National Competition

Smith-Cotton High School took 16th place in the 2019 NCF-Envirothon held at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina on July 28 through Aug. 2. They ranked second overall in oral presentation, just missing first place by two points.

Fifty-three teams traveled to the North Carolina State University campus from across the United States, Canada and China for the week-long competition. Students tested their knowledge of soils, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife and this year's topic of Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World through written tests and oral presentations. The top three overall scoring teams received cash prizes sponsored by Smithfield Foods, the world's largest pork producer and processor.

Team members were Sarah Adams, Katelin Frame, Dylan Miller, Katelyn Montgomery, and Edward Toderescu-Stavila. Their advisors were Mona McCormack and Ethan Weller.

When asked about attending the NCF-Envirothon for the first time, their advisor Mona McCormack had this to say, "It was an honor representing Missouri at the NCF Envirothon. We may not have taken home first place, but we certainly took home some cherished memories. We appreciate all the hard work that goes into making Envirothon possible at every level of the competition from regional to national. The hard-working and passionate people involved in providing training to our students and organizing these events are truly amazing."

Tina Dulaban, chair of the Central Region Envirothon, also attended the event this year with the team and said, "It was a great experience. North Carolina did a great job and the campus was beautiful." She added, "I truly feel having a representative from the region of the winning team is a must, especially if it's their first time to the NCF-Envirothon event. I enjoyed being the "paparazzi" for our Missouri team!"



**Smith-Cotton High School team (l to r) Mona McCormack (advisor), Sarah Adams, Katelin Frame, Kaitelyn Montgomery, Edward Toderescu-Stavila, Dylan Miller and Ethan Weller (advisor).**

## 2020 NCF-Envirothon to be held at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska

The 2020 NCF-Envirothon will be hosted at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska on July 6 through Aug. 1. The 2020 current issue is “Water Resources Management: Local Control and Local Solutions.”

For more information about Envirothon, visit [moenvirothon.org](http://moenvirothon.org).



**Missouri's 2019 winning team from Smith-Cotton High School.**



### 2019 NCF-Envirothon TOP 8

- 1st Jamestown High School - Williamsburg, VA
- 2nd High Rock Home School - Davidson County, NC
- 3rd Carmichaels Area High School - Carmichaels, PA
- 4th The Mount Academy - Esopus, NY
- 5th Oxford High School - Oxford, MS
- 6th Spartanburg High School - Spartanburg, SC
- 7th Shanghai High School International Division - China Team #1 - Shanghai, China
- 8th Paul Laurence Dunbar High School - Lexington, KY

## MISSOURI ENVIROTHON

## Student Spotlight: “The Coolest Competition” Fun-loving Alum Remembers Envirothon

Matthew Hendrickson joined Envirothon for one reason – it looked like fun! During his high school career, Matthew had participated in other resource-based activities and competitions that were based more on individual achievements. Envirothon presented an opportunity to work as a team. Win or lose, the five students were in it together.

“While FFA is an awesome program, it can be super competitive and rivalries develop at times. With Envirothon, I found I was talking more

and making a lot more friends,” Matthew explained. “I really enjoyed my two years with Envirothon, and became sort of the team’s comedy relief.”

It’s easy to see that Matthew’s great sense of humor helped make his team a joyful bunch, but pushed for a better answer to his role on the team Matthew admitted that he developed a specialty in forestry. He continues to use his knowledge of trees and other plants in his job as a Soil and Water Technician for Cooper County SWCD.



**Matthew Hendrickson**

“I work with trees and conduct native plant identification on a regular basis.” Matthew participated in the Envirothon program in 2012 and 2013 under the direction of Ag Teacher John Muri at Jamestown C-1 at Jamestown, Missouri, in the Central Envirothon Region.

Public speaking is another area in which Matthew said Envirothon improved his skills and aids his career. “I was horrible at public speaking. I found it nerve-wracking and embarrassing. It was a little easier standing up there with four other students, but it took some work to learn how to appear comfortable.”

Matthew said he learned that the feelings of fear and embarrassment never really go away, but that becoming knowledgeable in the subject in which you are speaking definitely helps. “You can learn to hold yourself correctly, conduct yourself as if you are an expert, study up on your topic, and go for it”

Students prepare their presentations over a 4-5 week period, and all students are required to participate.

“Being able to communicate with your teammates is important. Speaking up in a group without being rude or passive requires a lot of thought and patience. You learn to speak thoughtfully, whether you’re arguing a point with your team or persuading a judge that your ideas are sound.”

While he definitely values the skills and lessons learned during his time with Missouri Envirothon, Matthew never moves too far from mentioning the fun he had.

When he first joined his high school Envirothon team, the team advisor showed the group an oral presentation from the previous year.

“I remember watching the presentation. It was about estuaries and water quality, and the team on the tape had not prepared any material so they were winging the whole presentation. They ended with a 60 second live air guitar performance and a drum solo! I thought, ‘this is the coolest contest I will ever participate in’, and I was right!”

**MISSOURI  
ENVIROTHON**

**State  
Coordinator**

*Andrea  
McKeown*  
660-263-5702



**MISSOURI  
ENVIROTHON**

## Test Writer Spotlight: Forestry Test Writers Challenge Bright Minds

David Massengale and Jeremiah Privett, foresters with the U.S. Forest Service, agree that challenging young minds to give their best is an important part of test writing. Massengale and Privett have been writing forestry tests for the Missouri Envirothon for the past 10+ years.

“After months of studying, and reaching the top at their regional contests, the students who come to the state competition are ready for a challenge,” Privett said. “Creating a test that not only meets that challenge, but also stimulates deeper thought and increased knowledge is important to test writers.”

Massengale added, “Through Envirothon we inspire future generations to become invested in the protection and enhancement of natural resources. By the time these students reach the state contest, many of them are incredibly well-versed in natural resource topics, and we have to write a test that will allow them to demonstrate that knowledge.”



David Massengale

Massengale, a District Silviculturist with the U.S. Forest Service for the past 18 years, has a background in forest management. His intimate knowledge of Missouri trees and woodland environments combined with his commitment to education made him a perfect choice for writing the forestry topic test.

“My first introduction to Envirothon was through the Missouri Society of American Foresters. We were asked to help as team guides at an event,” Massengale said. “Later the previous test writer needed to step down and I volunteered to take that position.” He wrote his first test in 2008.

Privett was approached by his supervisor at the USDA Forest Service, where he has been a technician for the past 19 years. He began working on test writing in 2009.

“It’s very important for future generations to learn about the outdoors,” Privett said. “And Envirothon is a great way to immerse students in that learning.”



Jeremiah Privett

Many people shared their knowledge with me over the years and I'm honored to be able to share that knowledge with others."

Privett said he also likes the fact that Envirothon is not just about acquiring knowledge. "These students also learn more about public speaking, working together as a team, and finding solutions to problems based on real-world scenarios."

Massengale agreed, "When we grade the tests, we can see interesting insights that the students have developed. Envirothon has challenged them to think deeper, and we can see that in their test answers."

"Most of the time, the answers are pretty straight-forward: either right or wrong, or some form of partial credit,"

he continued. "But sometimes we get an answer that provokes thought among the judges, and that can be very interesting."

Privett agreed, "There have been times when I thought some of these young people might do a better job of writing these tests than we do."

Both men then recalled a "great" answer, but as Massengale pointed out – one that received no points. "The team wrote 'You are so good looking' as one of their answers. While we appreciated the compliment, the answer was incorrect."

The Missouri Envirothon Committee greatly appreciates the assistance of both Massengale and Privett, forestry professionals making a difference in the lives of Missouri youth.



## Coach Spotlight: Allen Niedermann

Envirothon Coach Allen Niedermann is bringing urban students "into the wild."

Allen has been teaching high school biological and ecological sciences for the past nine years, and the majority of his St. Louis-based students at McKinley Classical Leadership Academy have had relatively little natural resources exposure. Allen is on a mission to change that.

Through his science classes, and his involvement with Envirothon, Allen is immersing his students in the wild and wonderful world of natural resources conservation.

"It's a huge benefit to my students to be able to learn about opportunities in conservation," he said. "Our students live in the urban environment and are not typically exposed to the type of curriculum Missouri Envirothon promotes."

A few years ago, Allen created an Ecology class in which he uses the Envirothon curriculum as the foundation for the lessons.

"The response has been positive," he said. "And the outcomes may be far-reaching, as some of my students have gone on to college to pursue conservation-related majors."



**Coach Allen Niedermann (right).**

Photo by Theresa Strunk

Allen first learned about Envirothon while doing some online research for his AP Environmental Science classes. "I came across the Envirothon website, and I went to a St. Louis Region competition to see what it was all about. I was very impressed so I formed my first team for the 2012/2013 year. We've participated in seven competitions to date, and we have had a Missouri State Envirothon qualifier for the last five years."

McKinley students rarely miss a training opportunity in the St. Louis Region. A favorite of the teams is the overnight total immersion training held in the fall at the Dana Brown Conference Center within the Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit.

"My students and I love the fall training. At Dana Brown, the students live for two days within walking



MoDNR photo by Van Beydler



MoDNR photo by Van Beydler



**Coach Niedermann (right) with some of his McKinley students.**

Photo by Theresa Strunk

distance of the Meramec River, glades, wetlands, woodlands and prairies. Many of my students would never get the chance to have that kind of exposure to diverse natural environments if it wasn't for this program."

Allen also said that he enjoys the team building that takes place at training. "It's great to interact with my students outside of the school setting. It's an important team-building experience and an opportunity for me to get to know them at a deeper level. It's especially rewarding when one of my students tells me that they wish to pursue a career in natural resources conservation."

"My favorite part of the program is watching students tackle a fairly tough curriculum with a spirit of fun. They really enjoy learning about the natural world, and I enjoy learning and sharing right alongside them."

The Envirothon has become a favorite of McKinley students. It is a relatively small school, 200 students, and there are a lot of extracurricular activities they can choose from, and most students are involved in more than one group or program. Allen said that some of the Envirothon students are also in the school band, and the band usually takes a spring trip for four or five days.

"One of my students missed the state Envirothon competition one year because of the band trip," Allen said, "so the next year, my student went to the band meetings and made sure the trip wouldn't be scheduled on the same date as the state Envirothon."

Allen speaks with pride and admiration of his students, but it's easy to see that those sentiments go both ways. He jumps right in with his students at trainings, pulling apart algae looking for aquatic macros or sifting through leaf litter looking for tree fruits to identify, or leading them on a hike through the night woods.

And his students are always flocking around him as he holds a leaf up in the air and talks about its features, or points out an interesting bird in the trees, or sets up his nighttime bug collection contraption hoping to find an interesting nocturnal insect.

Coaches like Allen, who take urban kids into the woods, are making incredible steps toward encouraging environmentally responsible adults. These students understand the importance of preserving green spaces in large urban areas and are able to apply what they know about urban living to the challenges of bringing nature back into the cities.



**Winning St. Louis Region team: McKinley High School students and Coach Niedermann.**

Photo by Theresa Strunk

In May 2019, Envirothon Chair Andrea McKeown announced that Missouri Envirothon had been awarded a Diversity Enhancement Grant, sponsored by the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). The grant was in the amount of \$5,000, including an in-kind match by the Missouri Envirothon.

Andrea approached the grant with an economic diversity theme, noting that there is a great economic disparity between rural areas and large city centers in the state. Some regions have access to more materials, physical resources, conservation areas and experts than other areas. Securing the grant is a big step toward evening the playing field.

The grant purchased educational materials to establish and enhance resource trunks in all the competition regions. Each of the seven regions in Missouri received two identical trunks for each natural resource topic: aquatics, soils, wildlife and forestry.

SueAnn Wright, Missouri Envirothon committee member, determined which resources to purchase and organized the contents for each trunk ranging from animal pelts to soil augers.

SueAnn contributed an Envirothon curriculum, complete with lessons, activities and quizzes to use in conjunction with the hands-on items in the trunks. Each region in the state now has the same quality and quantity of study resources. A team can walk through common Envirothon activities, like identifying a fish using a dichotomous key or measuring a tree using a Biltmore Stick. SueAnn provided instructions for games and activities that help students identify trees by foliage and bark, or teach them how to texture soil or read a soils Munsell Color Book. Teams that use the trunks will be more familiar with items they encounter at the hands-on testing stations during competitions.

The Envirothon Committee would like to thank NCF and USFS for the opportunity to enhance Envirothon education for all students in Missouri.



Photo by Theresa Strunk

## Volunteer Spotlight: Theresa Brightwell Kansas City Region



## Missouri Envirothon Founding Member Judy Stinson Retires

Dedicated volunteers play a major role in the success of our Missouri Envirothon program. Theresa Brightwell is one of these important people.

Theresa's Envirothon adventure started when she began coaching an Envirothon team for Oak Grove High School in the Kansas City Region. Under Theresa's direction, her students achieved the opportunity to not only compete at the regional level, but also at the state-level Missouri Envirothon.

When Theresa retired from teaching high school science, her love for natural resources and desire to continue to connect with the Envirothon program lead her to volunteer her time for the Kansas City Region Envirothon program.

With Theresa's enthusiastic assistance, the Kansas City Region's spring Envirothon competition formalized a "Coaches' Activity" field trip each year. During the Coaches' Activity, Theresa takes coaches off-site to visit a nature center, museum, or other destination thoughtfully researched and chosen by Theresa.

While off-site, Theresa also takes coaches to a lunch sponsored by the Kansas City Envirothon program. After lunch, Theresa returns the coaches to the competition site and guides them on a tour of the outdoor testing stations.

"Theresa does a fantastic job in creating learning opportunities for the coaches. She puts in a lot of time and



**Theresa Brightwell**

energy coming up with the trips and experiences. I have always enjoyed the Coaches' Activity and hope she continues donating her time to us. We love her!" says Kendra Ramsey, science teacher and Head Envirothon Coach for LaFayette County C-1 High School in Higginsville.

Marjorie MacGregor, Head Envirothon Coach for Pembroke Hill Upper School in Kansas City, Missouri, agrees. "We think Theresa is great and appreciate her."

Missouri Envirothon is indeed very fortunate to have talented volunteers like Theresa donate their valuable time to help create positive and successful training and competition events for our students and coaches. Thank you, Theresa!

Anyone involved with the Missouri Envirothon in almost any capacity knows Judy Stinson. She's that cheerful little lady running around the annual state competition like the Energizer Bunny making sure everyone is healthy, happy, on-time, in-place, and with a smile on their face!

When she slows down a bit to speak with you, she'll ask how you've been, she'll be joyful about your successes and share your sorrows, and then she'll ask how you would like to help or contribute to whatever project we're working on that day. And she'll roll up her sleeves and work harder and longer than almost anyone else.



**Judy Stinson announces the winners and hands out the first, second and third place plaques at the 2019 Missouri Envirothon.**

MoDNR photo by Van Beydler



**Judy Stinson** MoDNR photo by Van Beydler

Judy is a teacher! She has worn many hats and had many jobs but through it all, she is a teacher. And she would quickly counter that statement with "I am a student, too," because you can tell as you speak with her that she not only has a natural need to share what she knows, but she also has a thirst to gather wisdom from her encounters with others. Every interaction and every experience is an opportunity to learn.

Judy recently retired from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Soil and Water Conservation Program (SWCP), after 21 years of service. It was through her position with the SWCP that she first became involved with Envirothon, serving on an executive committee to bring the educational program to Missouri. In 2005, the state hosted the national level of competition in Springfield, Missouri. Judy and Peggy



**Judy Stinson (left) created many fun activities for students to participate in during the Envirothon competitions.**

MoDNR photo by Van Beydler

Lemons co-chaired the hugely successful event, and also forged a long-lasting friendship. Peggy is a program specialist with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and she is Judy's equal in commitment to the Envirothon program in Missouri. These two women were Missouri Envirothon founding members, and in 2015 both Peggy and Judy were recipients of the Envirothon Hall of Fame Award.

"Judy has had tremendous influence on the Envirothon program in Missouri," Peggy said. "Her educational background kept the program focused on the students as the program grew. She brightened the day with her smile and cheerful attitude, which I will miss very much."

SueAnn Wright, former Envirothon coach and current Missouri Envirothon committee member agreed and added, "Judy has the ability to make everyone feel great about themselves and their talents. The students truly loved and respected her."

It's plain to see that Judy believes strongly in the educational merits of the Envirothon program. In the end, it was not how many competitions our state could win, but how many students our state could reach.

It didn't matter if it was a top team of high achieving, academically stellar students, a team of rural boys all wearing camouflage, or a group of girls dressed up with matching shorts and bows...each team was special to Judy. The "mom" would come out in Judy if someone was hurt or upset, or if a girl wore her shorts too short, or a young man brought chewing tobacco. Judy would take them aside, speak with them privately; and if a rule was broken, she would explain the infraction and any possible competition penalties before putting an arm on their shoulder and letting them know "we all make mistakes, that's how we learn."

It would take many pages to list all of Judy's duties with Envirothon. She assisted with identifying the site

of testing, and recruited all the volunteers. She assisted with contacting both financial and in-kind supporters, and set-up outreach booths at events to recruit more participants.

She and Peggy handled every aspect of state competition, and were the leaders for the Missouri Envirothon Committee in the monumental task of bringing the NCF-Envirothon to Missouri in 2015. With partners Van Beydler (MoDNR) and Theresa Strunk (St. Charles County SWCD), Judy developed an annual magazine (the one in your hands at this moment) to assist with outreach and offer an outlet to applaud students, coaches, volunteers, supporters and more. The magazine is now in its sixth year.

Missouri teams who progressed to the NCF Envirothon will remember Judy as their oral presentation coach. Judy loved this part of the job. She really got to know the five team members each year, and gave them instruction and encouragement for a part of competition that for many is the most frightening part.

The teenagers have to give a formal, professional presentation before judges who are experts in their fields. Public speaking is a very common fear, and Judy knew that she could make a huge difference in that arena. Public speaking has been a big part of her job with MoDNR, and of course teachers speak in front of an audience all day long!

Plus over the years, Judy has learned the tips and tricks to successful presenting and has been able to successfully convey that wisdom to many students.

It would be a challenge to try to put a number to how many students Judy has touched throughout her career. Before MoDNR, she taught in the public school system for six years,



**Judy Stinson with husband Dennis and her grandchildren.**

MoDNR photo by Van Beydler

and worked at the Missouri Division of Tourism.

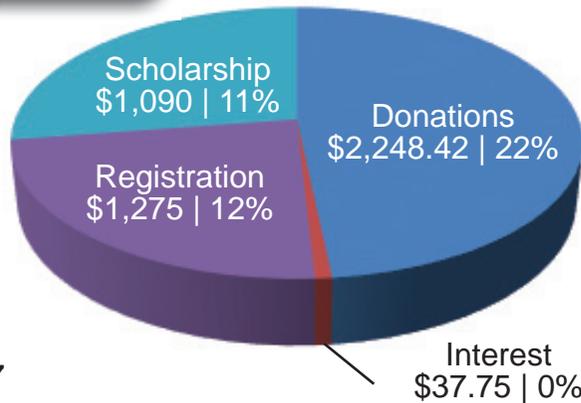
In the soil and water program, she also reached many adult learners through her outreach and training workshops.

Judy's retirement from MoDNR has brought her to a crossroads with Envirothon. She said that she wasn't sure to what capacity she would continue with Envirothon, but that "she'd be around." In the meantime she plans to hang out with husband, Dennis Stinson, and spend oodles more time with her grandsons, Cash and Brooks.



**Income**

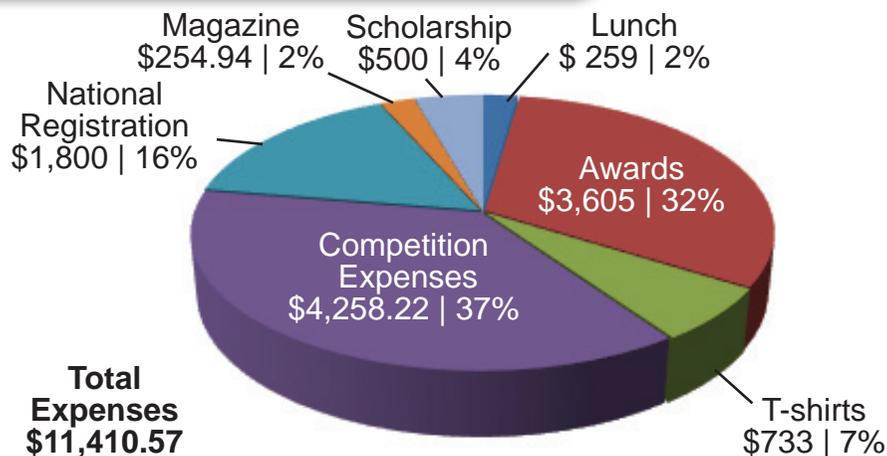
Donations	\$	2,248.42
Interest	\$	37.75
Scholarship	\$	1,090.00
Registration	\$	1,275.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>13,301.17</b>



**Total**  
**Income**  
**\$10,301.17**

**Expenses**

Lunch	\$	259.00
Awards	\$	3,605.00
T-shirts	\$	733.41
Competition Expenses	\$	4,258.22
National Registration	\$	1,800.00
Magazine	\$	254.94
Scholarship	\$	500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,410.57</b>



**Total**  
**Expenses**  
**\$11,410.57**

**2020 NCF-Envirothon**  
**to be held in**  
**Nebraska**  
**University of Nebraska**  
**in Lincoln, NE**  
**July 26 - Aug. 1, 2020**

Go to

**[envirothon.org](http://envirothon.org)**

for more information.

Visit the NCF-Envirothon  
webpage for links, photos,  
and more.

**Missouri State Sponsor Agencies**

- Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 114 Local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)
- Missouri SWCD Employees Association
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- Missouri Department of Conservation
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- University of Missouri Extension
- Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Society

These agencies also provide volunteers and resource professionals who instruct the students during training sessions, write and grade the tests, and monitor the test stations.

**In one year, more than 280 people volunteer at an Envirothon event in Missouri.**

# Thank You

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## Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts



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## Mission

The mission of the Missouri Envirothon is to develop knowledgeable, skilled, and dedicated citizens who have an understanding of natural resources and are willing and prepared to work toward achieving and maintaining a balance between the quality of life and the quality of the environment. The Envirothon mission is accomplished by developing in young people an understanding of the principles and practices of natural resource management and ecology, and through practice dealing with complex resource management decisions.

## An Environmental Education Program and Competition for High School Students

