

Rhode Island Envirothon
This year's orientation (2023)

Thursday November 17, 2022 @ 3:30 pm

Virtual
Agenda

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome and Introductions

What is the Envirothon?	Dolan and Committee
Forms that need to be filled out	Dolan
Fund Raising	Stetson
Special Topic/Curriculum	Talbot
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2283 Hartford Ave. Johnston, RI 02919
Tel. (401) 500-0399 email: rircd2283@gmail.com
www.rienvirothon.org



RHODE ISLAND Envirothon

CAN YOU SEE YOUR STUDENTS IN THESE PICTURES?



If so, could you please think about attending an informational session open to potential coaches, advisors, teachers and leaders with an interest in helping to work with a team of middle or high school students. Students are allowed to attend. The information session will be held at the Virtual

RHODE ISLAND ENVIROTHON

What is the RI Envirothon?

- We are a hands-on, team competition for RI high school students, held in May.
- The competition covers the following environmental topics:
Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatic Ecology, Soils and Land Use, and this year's Environmental Issue — **Adapting to Climate Change**
- Our motto is to teach students how to think, not what to think.

What can the RI Envirothon offer to your school and its students?

- We offer hands-on workshops for your students and teachers, given by local professionals.
- We offer partnerships with various RI Environmental Agencies.
- We provide a soil start-up kit, video library and maintain on-line resources.

How can your school start an Envirothon Team? Come and find out or call the number below

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Mission Statement: The mission of the Rhode Island Envirothon, Inc. is to develop knowledgeable, skilled and dedicated citizens who are willing and prepared to work towards achieving and maintaining a natural balance between the quality of life and the quality of the environment.

Motto: Teaching students how to think, not what to think.

The Envirothon is a multi-phase learning tool that encompasses the fields of Aquatics, Forestry, Soils and Wildlife. Each year a "Special Topic" is chosen by the State or Province that hosts the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon. For 2023 the "Special Topic" is **Adapting to a Changing Climate**

Middle and High School age students are taught the fundamentals of the four basic learning modules by professionals from local, State and Federal agencies and nonprofits. Resource materials (study guides, reading lists, booklets, pamphlets, etc.) are compiled, published, and distributed by various means (printed, web-based, DVD, CD) to enhance the learning experience. A locally designed problem relating to the "Special Topic" is given out to each team approximately 4 weeks prior to the competition day. The five member team must prepare a 12—15-minute oral presentation, using PowerPoint to present a "solution" to the problem. The teams are scored by a panel of 5 -7 judges on their presentation, demonstrated knowledge of the problem, interactions with plants, animals, water and the public. Judges chosen from the various disciplines, educators, sponsors, and members of the community and are allowed 5 minutes to question the teams as part of the scoring process.

A one day academic and hands-on competition in the spring has students identifying animals by their habitat, prey, pelts, mounts and skeletons. Tree identification, forest management, timber cruising, crop tree selection are some of the skills demonstrated in forestry. Students handle soil samples to determine their capacity for home sites, crops and erosion potential. Aquatic species are identified as part of a process to ascertain water quality and suitability for human or other uses.

The winning team goes on to compete in the NCF International Envirothon against teams from 47 States and 9 Canadian provinces in a weeklong event that includes training for the specific area of the country that is hosting the event. This is the world's largest high school competition. The 2023 national event will be held in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada.



RHODE ISLAND

REGISTRATION 2023 ENVIROTHON

In order for us to plan adequate materials for the 2023 Envirothon competition, we ask that you to fill out and return this registration form with payment for your first team by April 3, 2023.

The registration for all teams this year is \$125.00 per team.

We need all teams registered by May 1, 2023 to allocate resources and judges.

At this time we anticipate each school/group will be able to have up to 3 teams. A decision on additional teams per school/group will be made at a later date.

Please fill out the following registration and return it with your payment, payable to RI Envirothon, Inc. Please mail it to:

Paul Dolan
RI Envirothon Inc.
2283 Hartford Ave.
Johnston, RI 02919

School/Group Name _____

Address _____

Advisors' name and email _____

We anticipate having _____ teams at the 2023 Envirothon.

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2023
RI Envirothon
Event Team Registration

School _____

Team Number _____

Advisor _____

Please print each student's name legibly below:

Name	T shirt Size	Dietary Restriction
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1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Teacher/Advisor _____

These are due as soon as possible, but definitely
before May 1, 2023

2023 RI Envirothon

Parent Consent

I give my consent for my child to compete in the RI Envirothon, and for the RI Envirothon, Inc. to print pictures of my child for the purpose of promoting the RI Envirothon. Circumstances might include, but are not limited to, press releases, programs, and/or informational brochures or poster boards.

Parent Signature _____

I give my consent for my child to compete in the RI Envirothon, but I do not give my consent for the RI Envirothon, Inc. to print pictures of my child for the purpose of promoting the RI Envirothon.

Parent Signature _____

Student's Name _____
(printed)

Student's Signature _____

Student's School _____

Design the 2023 RI Envirothon T-shirt Contest

Contest open to all registered RI Envirothon Organizations

Design the back of the T-shirt

This year's theme is:

Adapting to a Changing Climate

Remember the shirt will be a solid color, your design will also be one color and have Rhode Island Envirothon around it. Please suggest one color for the shirt and one for the design. Use the template to frame your design. Each Envirothon school or club should submit at least one design. Designs are to be submitted electronically as a jpeg and are due by midnight April 3, 2023. The winning entry will receive a prize at the competition. Please email your designs to president@rienvirothon.org.

Remember:

We will be looking for this year's theme to be an integral part of the design.

Adapting to a Changing Climate

Student Name:

School/Organization:

Rhode

Island

THE ViroTHON

Shirt Color:

Print Color:

Rhode Island Envirothon Program Support

Criteria for requesting program support - for any of the following reasons. Please include a letter stating your reason for requesting assistance.

1. New school or one that has not participated in a RI Envirothon(RIE) competition within 5 years of the request. Please include the reason for the request.
2. Teachers' request for money to pay for a substitute while that teacher attends the RIE competition (with the idea that that teacher or school will field a team at the next RIE competition). Please list an amount.
3. Teachers request for assistance in rental of transportation to RIE competition. Please list an amount.
4. Site supervisors request for program materials to use at the competition. Please provide a list with source{s} and approximate prices.

Name _____ School _____ Date _____

School Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Info: Email _____ Phone _____

Reason for Request:

RHODE ISLAND Envirothon

Donation Submission Form

Thank you for choosing to endorse the RI Envirothon!

Please circle off the appropriate box and mail to the below address. We accept cash, check, or money order made payable to RI Envirothon, Inc.

under \$100.00: RI Envirothon Patron
\$100.00 - \$199.00: Gold Member \$200.00
- \$499.00: Platinum Member \$500.00 and
up: Diamond Member

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR DONATION!

If you are interested in becoming the official sponsor of the RI Envirothon please contact Paul Dolan, coordinator@rienvirothon.org or rircd2283@gmail.com.
to set up a meeting

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www.rienvirothon.org

Adapting to a Changing Climate

For hundreds of years, New Brunswick's economy has been strongly dependent on its primary resource sectors. Forestry, agriculture, fisheries, energy production, mining and tourism form the foundation for the socio-economic well-being of New Brunswickers. Climate change is predicted to have direct and indirect impacts on the natural environment on which these resource-based industries depend. These impacts may pose a threat to the viability of many New Brunswick resource-dependent communities.

The earth's climate is constantly changing and has been doing so for billions of years. Although long-term fluctuations in temperature are normal and greenhouse gasses are emitted to the atmosphere from both natural and human-generated sources, the vast majority of climate scientists agree that the global warming observed since the mid-20th century (1950s) is cause for immediate concern. Human-induced emissions of greenhouse gasses are being released at a quicker rate than natural processes can remove them¹. Not only do climate models project an increase in temperature, but the models also predict increases in the frequency of hot days above 30°C (86°F) as well as changes in precipitation, extreme weather events, sea level rise, water stress, and ocean acidification. As a result, disruptive changes to ecosystems, the economy, and society are expected to occur on both local and global scales.

The changing climate is one of the most complex issues facing the world today. It spans many disciplines and aspects of everyday life: science, socio-economics, environment, health, politics, as well as moral and ethical values. The impact on New Brunswick's economy and quality of life for its citizens will depend on how effectively we plan and prepare for the complex challenges and changes that will occur.

Students will learn about factors contributing to a changing climate, the effects of these changes on the environment and natural resources, and the unique challenges facing natural resource dependent communities. As they explore the impacts on human social and economic systems, they will learn about management strategies for mitigating and adapting to a changing climate, and the roles of innovative technologies and programs in responding to local and global changes.

¹ Bush, E. and Lemmen, D.S., editors (2019): Canada's Changing Climate Report; Government of Canada, Ottawa, ON. 444 p

Rhode Island Resources

Here are a few links you can check out for a better idea about the program.

Rhode Island Envirothon – <https://www.rienvirothon.org>

NCF Envirothon - <https://www.envirothon.org>

2023 Special Topic **ADAPTING TO CHANGING CLIMATE**

Key Topic 1: Factors Contributing to a Changing Climate

Key Topic 2: Measuring and Monitoring a Changing Climate

Key Topic 3: Risks and Impacts to Natural Resources and Society from a Changing Climate

Key Topic 4: Policies and Programs for Adapting to a Changing Climate

Rhode Island Environmental Education Association: Home Page

2022 Climate Literacy Act - <https://www.ricea.org/about-us/advocacy-efforts/2022-climate-literacy-act/>

Climate Change - RI.gov - <https://climatechange.ri.gov/>

Climate Solutions Lab - <https://watson.brown.edu/climatesolutionslab/>

Coastal Institute - The University of Rhode Island - <https://ci.uri.edu/intitiatives/ongoing-initiatives/taking-the-high-road/>

White House Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaption Portal - <https://resilience.climate.gov/>



RHODE ISLAND

Envirothon

2022-2023 Calendar of Events for RI Envirothon

Workshops:

ZOOM'S Sessions

November 17, 2022 Thursday - Forestry — 2:30 — 3:30 pm

November 17, 2022 Thursday - Orientation - 3:30 — 4:30 pm

December 1, 2022 Thursday — Soils — 2:30 — 3:30 pm

December 6, 2022 Tuesday — Wildlife — 2:30 — 3:30 pm

December 15, 2022 Thursday — Aquatics - 2:30 — 3:30 pm

Other workshops and or Field Days

Special Topic (Adapting to a Changing Climate) will be announced later

Field Day for all disciplines TBA

May 19, 2023 Friday Envirothon Competition- 8:30 am to 1 pm TBA

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