

Commission NEWS

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All Envirothon teams invited to compete at State April 23

BY KATHY DOUGAN, MSWCC

Hazardous weather and pandemic precautions prompted MSWCC to cancel the four Area Envirothon competitions, which were scheduled to be held March 25.

In order to continue with the competition in Mississippi this year, the Envirothon Steering Committee has invited all 25 area teams slated for the area event to participate in the State Competition, Envirothon Coordinator Chelsey Gazaway said.

The State Envirothon Competition will take place on Friday, April 23, 2021, at the FFA Center in Raymond.



CHELSEY
GAZAWAY

“We are looking forward to the event. There is a lot of work put into Envirothon and I can’t wait to see everyone’s hard work pay off the day of the competition. I feel like all of the students who compete walk away with so much information that they may not have learned elsewhere,” Gazaway said.

“With all of the issues that we have worked through this year related to having this competition during the pandemic, we regret that we had to cancel the area competitions due to severe weather,” MSWCC Bureau Director Nick Ivy said. “But priority No. 1 is the safety of the students, staff, teach-



NICK IVY

ers, and volunteers, and so we had to make that tough call.

“But do not be discouraged, because we have modified our state competition so that all teams can compete and have the opportunity to experience this great event.”

In February 2021, the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Board of Trustees and the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) announced the 2021-NCF-Envirothon annual competition will be held in a completely virtual format because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Editor’s Note: Please see story below for the latest news about the NCF-Envirothon Competition.

National Envirothon Competition moves to virtual format for 2021

WASHINGTON - The National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Board of Trustees and the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) announced in February 2021 the decision to transition the 2021 NCF-Envirothon annual competition to a completely virtual format due to the ongoing COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

“This decision was made after much deliberation, but was determined to be the best option to protect the health and safety of the general public and to prevent the spread of COVID-19,” NCF Chair Steve Robinson said. “The top priority for the organizers is the health and safety of students, advisors, volunteers, sponsors and education partners.”

NARD will still host the 2021 NCF-Envirothon competition, to be held over several days beginning Monday, July 26. Nebraska’s ecology, natural resources and the current environmental topic of “Water

Resources Management: Local Control and Local Solutions,” are still the main focal points of the 2021 competition.

The 2021 NCF-Envirothon will be an innovative competition, with the same quality of training, testing and commitment to providing students with the knowledge and skills to change the world.

“While going virtual will be an adjustment, our dedication to environmental education and protecting lives, property and the future through natural resources management remains strong,” NARD President Jim Eschliman said. “We look forward to virtually welcoming NCF-Envirothon competitors to Nebraska this year.”

Organizers are working to develop the

virtual competition plan of action and will release more information as it becomes available. NCF and NARD are committed

to providing teams with the best experience possible in a virtual format.

“We know that many students look forward to attending this competition each year, and we are truly sorry that we can’t be on the ground together in Nebraska,” Robinson said. “However, we are still committed to ensuring a quality event that may look different, but will have the same spirit of challenging

these students to become the next generation of conservation leaders.”

To learn more about NCF-Envirothon, please visit: www.envirothon.org



Good turnout for the 2021 annual Mike Warren Lincoln County Tree Sale

MSWCC Natural Resource Specialist and Field Rep Chaz Ingram assisted at the Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Mike Warren Tree Sale on Feb. 25. The event was held at the Lincoln Civic Center, 1906 Belt Line Drive NE in Brookhaven.

The annual event was renamed this year as a tribute to the late Mike Warren, a Lincoln County farmer and former chairman of the Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District. Mr. Warren, who was active in the Brookhaven community, passed in December 2020.



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