



enviroweb

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Join the Manitoba Envirothon community on Facebook!

Coordinator's Corner

Regional Orals Format

We're trying something new this year with a consistent format for the regional orals competition—including having the question available ahead of time for teams to prepare. Check out page 4 for more information.

Wildlife Resources

The resources for the Wildlife area have undergone some major changes this year – make sure to check the wildlife page on the website to make sure you have the latest information.

Registration

Registration for the 2013 Manitoba Envirothon is still open! Join us as we hold our fourth year of Manitoba Regional Events. These events will be held on April 16 & 17 across the province, please see

pages 2-3 for more information on locations and host organizations.

Register online at www.thinktrees.org. You can also contact Ellen (your Manitoba Envirothon Coordinator) by email or phone at the contact information below to request a form. There is no limit to how many teams a school can enter, but every team needs their own registration form. Register soon, as space is limited!

Please feel free to call or email anytime you have a question or want to chat about Envirothon.

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Join these students in the Envirothon! Registration is available online until March 29!

Picture: Students at the Envirothon Kickoff held on October 30th at Kelburn Farm.

All About the Regional Competition:

The regional events are a one day competition. In 2013 four regional events will be held; two on April 16, two on April 17 (your steering committee has ordered good weather for all!). Teams will attend one regional competition before advancing to the provincial event. Each regional competition will vary depending on the host organization. You can register online (before March 29) at: <http://www.thinktrees.org/Registration.aspx>

Your team can start to prepare for regionals right away — resources are available online at: [thinktrees.org/EnvirothonResources.aspx](http://www.thinktrees.org/EnvirothonResources.aspx).

The regional Manitoba Envirothon competitions have both a field test and orals competition component. The field test consists of a number of stops along a looped trail. At each stop, teams complete a certain amount of questions about the five main Envirothon topics. All stops have hands-on activities. For the orals competition teams will prepare a ten minute presentation based on a pre-determined question that they deliver to a panel of judges. The question will focus on the current theme topic (Sustainable Rangeland Management). This question will be available to teams on March 21. See PAGE page 4 for more details on the regional oral process for teams

- At each regional competition, there will be time for registration, welcome, training, lunch, field test, orals competition, and wrap-up.
- Be prepared to be outdoors all day during the regional competition. Rain or shine, the field test will be completed outdoors.
- You will be given a Manitoba Envirothon T-shirt at the regional competition. If your team advances to the provincial competition, your team must bring the T-shirts to the provincial competition at the International Peace Gardens.
- ADVISORS: you will be able to take part and experience the regional competition as a Trail Guide. You will guide a team (other than your own) around the Field Test Trail.

Results from the regional competitions will be distributed by email, your team's test will be returned to the mailing address provided and all results posted at www.thinktrees.org within a week following the competition (target date: April 19, 2013).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

NORTH REGION:

Location—Swan River, Manitoba
Host—Duck Mountain Forest Centre
Date—April 16, 2013

EAST REGION:

Location—Pine Falls, Manitoba
Host—Manitoba Model Forest
Date—April 17, 2013

SOUTH-WEST REGION:

Location—Clearwater, Manitoba
Host—Pembina Valley Conservation District
Date—April 17, 2013

WINNIPEG REGION:

Location—Oak Hammock Marsh
Host—Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
Date—April 16, 2013

What To Do Before Regionals

- ☑ **REGISTER** your team for the 2013 competition. It can be found at <http://www.thinktrees.org/Registration.aspx> and is due by March 29.
- ☑ **STUDY** the materials provided [thinktrees.org/Envirothon_Resources.aspx](http://www.thinktrees.org/Envirothon_Resources.aspx).
- ☑ **RETURN** signed image release forms for all of your team members—these are available online on the registration page. These forms need to be signed by an adult/parent/guardian. They can be faxed to 204.477.5765 or mailed to 900 Corydon Avenue R3M 0Y4, Winnipeg MB. These must be received no later than two weeks prior to the competition.
- ☑ **PACK** these items and bring them to the regional competition:
 - ✓ Water and water bottle
 - ✓ Sunscreen and insect repellent
 - ✓ Outdoor clothes, warm clothes and rain gear
 - ✓ Outdoor shoes, hat, sunglasses
 - ✓ Medications and any other personal items
 - ✓ Lawn chair
- ☑ **PASSPORTS** will be needed for the provincial competition—if you hope to advance, make sure to get your passport now!



Manitoba Envirothon Regional Partners

The Manitoba Envirothon Steering Committee would not be able to expand the program into a regional format without the help from our Regional partners. Several organizations are donating their time and resources to help the program grow. In particular, four organizations are hosting a regional competition this year. We would like to recognize the following groups for the support they are providing for 2013:

- Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
- Duck Mountain Forest Centre
- Manitoba Model Forest
- Pembina Valley Conservation District



REGIONAL ORALS COMPETITION

An important part of the Manitoba Envirothon experience is the Orals Competition. All teams will have an environmental question to examine and solve. At one of the stops along the Trail Test, teams will present your solution to a small panel of judges. The presentation should draw on team members' expertise in forestry, soil, wildlife, aquatics and the special theme (Sustainable Rangeland Management).

Samples of past Provincial Envirothon questions can be viewed on the MFA website at http://www.thinktrees.org/orals_resources.aspx. Please keep in mind that these questions are designed for the provincial competition where students have 2 and a half hours at the competition to prepare a presentation, 10 minutes to present and 10 minutes for judges questions.

FORMAT OF THE ORALS COMPETITION

Three weeks in advance of the regional competition on March 21, teams will be given a question / issue for which they will develop a poster that answers / solves the issue. When teams register on the day of the event, they will submit their poster. When teams are at the Field Test Training Session, the Orals Coordinator will be responsible for bringing all of the posters to the Orals Training.

After the Field Test Training Session, teams will be given their poster, a copy of the Orals question/issue and a Ziploc bag labeled with their team number containing 5 sheets of scrap paper, 25 index cards and 5 pencils. Teams will have 15 minutes to enhance their answer/solution based on what they have learned at the training session. Teams will return their poster, and the Ziploc bag containing the scrap paper, pencils and index cards to the Orals Coordinator at the end of the half hour.

After lunch, the Orals Coordinator will ensure that all of the posters and Ziploc bags are available to the team when they arrive at the Orals test stop.

Teams will stay at Orals test stop for 20 minutes. The team will be given their poster and Ziploc bag. The team will have 5 minutes to polish/practice their 10 minute presentation. They will then present for 10 minutes. The judges will ask questions for 2 minutes and then provide constructive feedback for 2 minutes. One minute is allotted for transition.





Teams at the 2012 South Regional hosted by Assiniboine Hills Conservation District and held in Spruce Woods Provincial Park.

Important Dates

March 21

- Regional orals question is distributed to teams

March 29

- Deadline for team registration

April 16

- North Region Event – Swan River, MB
- Winnipeg Region Event – Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre

April 17

- South-West Region Event – Clearwater, MB
- East Region Event – Pine Falls, MB

May 23-25

- Provincial Competition at the International Peace Gardens

Tips and Tricks

- *Orals: Look up the past questions, scoresheets and info on how to impress the judges online*
- *Field Test: Find the old tests online to go through*
- *Subject Areas: Go through the learning outcomes*

All about the Provincial Competition:

- ⇒ The provincial Manitoba Envirothon consists of two parts: 1) an outdoor field test along a trail and 2) an orals competition.
- ⇒ During the Provincial Competition, there will be time for registration, welcome and introductions, training, field test, trading session, orals competition, and awards.
- ⇒ On the first night teams will be given 5 minutes to introduce themselves. Feel free to be creative - for example you may incorporate skits, jokes, music and props into your introduction.
- ⇒ Be prepared to be outdoors all day during the field test on Friday. Rain or shine, the field test will be completed outdoors.
- ⇒ Teams are welcome to bring some items to trade with other teams during the event. Typical trading items include: pens, water bottles, homemade items such as jam, etc.
- ⇒ If you were given a Manitoba Envirothon T-shirt at a Regional Competition, please bring it to the Provincial Competition in Brandon. If you did not attend a Regional Competition, you will receive a T-shirt at the Provincial Competition.
- ⇒ ADVISORS: you will be able to take part in the Provincial Competition as a Trail Guide. You will guide a team (other than your own) around the Field Test Trail. There may also be the opportunity to participate as a “mystery team”. Please email Ellen at envirocoordinator@mts.net if you are unable to be a Trail Guide.

Get Your Passports—It’s never too early to start!

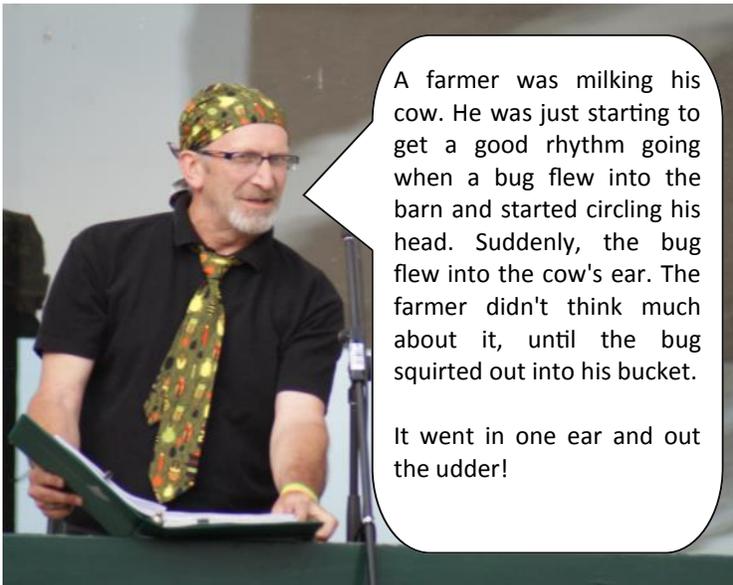
Get your passports! The 2013 provincial competition will be held at the International Peace Garden (IPG) from May 23-25. The IPG is located on the international border between Canada and the United States, celebrating the largest unprotected border in the world. **Passports for Canadian students are not required, but are recommended—just don’t try to cross into the United States without one!**

For more information on border crossing and obtaining/renewing a passport please visit the Canada Border Services online: cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html. International students should visit this link: https://help.cbp.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/572/kw/travel and consult with their International Student Advisor.

2013 will mark the 4th time a provincial competition has been held at this site. Previous themes include:

- 2002: Introduced Species and their Effect on Biodiversity
- 2006: Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate
- 2009: Biodiversity in a Changing World

Glenn's Joke Corner: Your Jokes Wanted!



A farmer was milking his cow. He was just starting to get a good rhythm going when a bug flew into the barn and started circling his head. Suddenly, the bug flew into the cow's ear. The farmer didn't think much about it, until the bug squirted out into his bucket.

It went in one ear and out the udder!

Glenn is in search of your most hilarious, and creative environmental jokes for a Joke Contest!

After your team has registered for Envirothon you can submit up to 5 jokes appropriate for the event. A crack team of humour consultants will read through all jokes and select the best one. The winning team will receive a prize pack. This joke, along with the runner-up jokes, will be used at the 2013 opening ceremonies

The jokes should be of an environmental nature, with theme topic jokes receiving more points. This year's theme is 'Sustainable Rangeland Management'.

Submit your jokes to envirocoordinator@thinktrees.org with 'Envirojoke' in the subject

Carpooling Wanted!

How are you and your team planning on getting out to the provincial event? If you are planning on taking a bus, let us know and we can help arrange carpooling between teams.



Hmmmm, how am I going to get to the provincial event at the Peace Garden?!??



The Manitoba Envirothon is a program of the Manitoba Forestry Association



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As Manitoba's oldest environmental education organization, the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) is a leader in the field of forest education. Our mission is to educate all Manitobans about wise management of trees and forests, to ensure they will remain healthy and productive for today, and for future generations.

In 1996, MFA explored the idea of Envirothon. Four teams participated in the first Manitoba Envirothon in 1997 at Birds Hill Provincial Park. In 2006, the MFA hosted the North American Canon Envirothon and made Envirothon one of its core programs. Due to the popularity of the Manitoba Envirothon it evolved into a regional and provincial format in 2010. In 2011 Manitoba won the Canon Envirothon—the first Canadian team ever to do so. Today, the Manitoba Envirothon is still going strong with over 2000 students participating to date.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Thank you to our 2013 Manitoba Envirothon Sponsors!

We would like to thank the 2013 Manitoba Envirothon Sponsors whose generosity helped us make this youth environmental education program a success.

LEGACY SPONSORS

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Government of Manitoba

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- Education • Innovations, Energy and Mines •

ENCOURAGING SPONSORS

Society for Rangeland Management
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