

NCF-ENVIROTHON

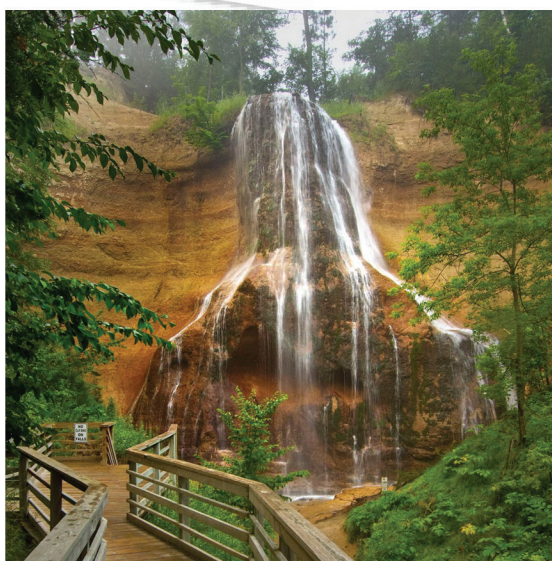
July 25-28, 2021



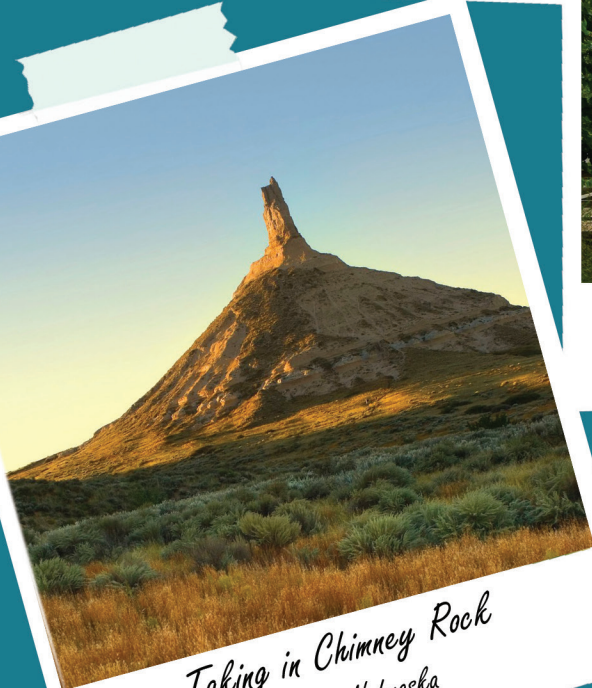
*Watching the Crane Migration
Alda, Nebraska*



*Tanking the River
Mallen, Nebraska*



*Soaking in Smith Falls
Valentine, Nebraska*



*Taking in Chimney Rock
Bayard, Nebraska*

NEBRASKA

More Than Meets The Eye

WELCOME TO NEBRASKA (VIRTUALLY)!

The name “Nebraska” originated from the Otoe Indians and means “flat water” referring to the Platte River that flows throughout the state. With approximately 1.9 million people, Nebraska is one of the least densely populated states. Much of the landscape is dominated by agriculture and rolling grassland prairies.

Once dismissed as the “The American Desert,” Nebraska is now known both nationally and abroad for its agricultural bounty and natural wonders. We sometimes take these wonders for granted, but they surround us from one corner of the state to another. Western Nebraska grasslands provide a way of life for livestock producers, homes for wildlife and recreation opportunities. Eastern Nebraska croplands and more heavily populated areas provide unique natural resources challenges.

Just below those crops and grassland is the Ogallala Aquifer, a vast groundwater supply that covers most of the state providing drinking water and irrigation for farmland. Today 85% of Nebraska’s irrigated acres are irrigated with groundwater. Nebraska has more irrigated acres than any other state in the United States and, by far, the most irrigated acres per capita in the world.

While agriculture is Nebraska’s No. 1 industry, the state is also part of the “Silicon Prairie.” Lincoln is home to more than 100 software startups, and Omaha is headquarters to several Fortune 500 companies including Union Pacific Railroad, Kiewit Corporation and Berkshire Hathaway.

LESSER-KNOWN THINGS ABOUT NEBRASKA

- Arbor Day was invented in Nebraska and Nebraska is sometimes called the “Tree Planter’s State.”
- Kool-Aid was invented in Hastings, Nebraska.
- The World’s largest woolly mammoth fossil was found in Lincoln County (south central Nebraska).
- Omaha is home to the College World Series hosted in June.
- Nebraska has the only “one-house” or unicameral legislature in the nation. Nebraska senators are considered non-partisan and work together as one party to make political decisions.
- Nebraska’s farms and ranches use 45.2 million acres or 91% of the state’s total land.
- One in four jobs in Nebraska are related to agriculture.

RANKED NATIONALLY

- #1: Beef (exports/cattle on feed)
- #1: Popcorn
- #1: Great northern beans
- #2: Pinto and kidney beans
- #2: Biofuels
- #2: Bison
- #3: Corn
- #4: All ag commodities
- #4: Land in farms and ranches
- #5: Soybeans
- #5: Sugar beets
- #5: Eggs
- #5: Pork

NEBRASKA STATE SYMBOLS



TREE

Cottonwood



BIRD

Western Meadowlark



INSECT

Honeybee



FLOWER

Goldenrod

EVENT COMMUNICATIONS

Get the Scoop and Share the Fun!

EVENT AND TESTING PLATFORMS

The virtual NCF-Envirothon will be made possible using several online event resources. At this time, we expect to use an online event hub to allow teams and guests to view the agenda, training videos, announcements, network and watch live streaming of activities. We also will be using an online testing platform where all teams will take their field tests. Oral presentations will likely be given live using Zoom. More information on what to expect will be forthcoming.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us on social media @2021EnvirothonNebraska and @NCFEnvirothon on Facebook and Instagram. On Twitter and LinkedIn follow @NCFEnvirothon.

Whether you are studying, going outdoors, or preparing for the competition, we want you to share your Envirothon experience with everyone by tagging your photos with #2021NCFEnvirothon. Try out these other hashtags, too: #NCFEnvirothon and #LocalWaterSolutions



WHOVA EVENT PLATFORM

We will be using Whova as our event platform for the virtual NCF-Envirothon, which will go live for registered participants in June. The platform is available online using your web browser or through the Whova app.

Why use an event platform?

The event platform will host the virtual agenda, training videos, test links and networking opportunities. Registered individuals will be able to watch a live stream of the event and actively participate online. Participants will be able to see other participants, guest speakers and event organizers, and network through the event platform.

Logging On

You'll use the email you provided during registration on the NCF-Envirothon website. Create a password and type in your name. Once you're logged on, you can edit your individual profile.

Web Browser

It is suggested to use the Google Chrome browser when participating online for live streaming. Some streaming software may have compatibility issues with other browsers.

How To Use Whova

Visit: <https://whova.com/pages/whova-app-user-guide/>



PARTNERS & SPONSORS

The 2021 NCF-Envirothon is possible thanks to our partners & sponsors!

Special thanks to our primary sponsors Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts, who contributed monetary funds and many hours of time to planning this competition. We have NRD employees and board members volunteering throughout the virtual NCF-Envirothon.



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United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Smithfield®

Good food. Responsibly.®



National Conservation Foundation



National Association of
Conservation Districts



THANK YOU NOTES & SURVEY

Be sure to send thank you notes to your partners, sponsors, and the people who may have helped you with your virtual adventure to Nebraska.

Advisors and team members will be sent a survey from the NCF-Envirothon following the event. Please fill this out so future hosts can plan for a successful event.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

A welcome from the National Conservation Foundation

The National Conservation Foundation (NCF) extends a warm welcome to all the students, teachers, guests and volunteers attending the virtual 2021 NCF-Envirothon Nebraska competition. Thank you to the Nebraska Host Committee and their volunteers for virtually hosting in their beautiful state and teaching us about the region's natural resources. The NCF-Envirothon wouldn't be possible without the dedicated support of our state, provincial and national partners, as well as the multitude of volunteers and sponsors who work tirelessly to make the program a success each year.

Every year, throughout the United States, Canada and China, students, teachers, parents, volunteers and sponsors participate in this amazing natural resources educational program. Established in 1979, the NCF-Envirothon is a hands-on, environmental and natural resources problem-solving competition that builds leadership skills for high school students. Participating teams are trained and tested in five natural resources categories – Soils/Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Wildlife, Forestry and Current Environmental Issues – and are challenged to develop an oral presentation addressing a practical natural resources scenario.

Thank you to the NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee, the Nebraska Host Committee and the countless volunteers who have worked to make the virtual 2021 NCF-Envirothon Nebraska event a success. Thank you also to those who work so hard to lead local Envirothon programs in your home state, province or country. Your work is important to thousands of high school students and their families, and to the future of natural resources. We hope you enjoy your virtual week in the Cornhusker State and wish all the teams competing good luck!



National Conservation Foundation

NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICTS

A welcome from your host: Nebraska's NRDs

Congratulations on your achievements and joining us virtually in Lincoln to represent your state, province or territory at the 2021 NCF-Envirothon. Between July 25-28, you will be joining us and hundreds of others virtually at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Nebraska's beautiful state capital. As the host of this annual event, we are excited to welcome you to our great state and show you what we have to offer!

Established in 1972, Nebraska's 23 Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) are local government units involved in a variety of projects and programs to conserve and protect the state's natural resources.

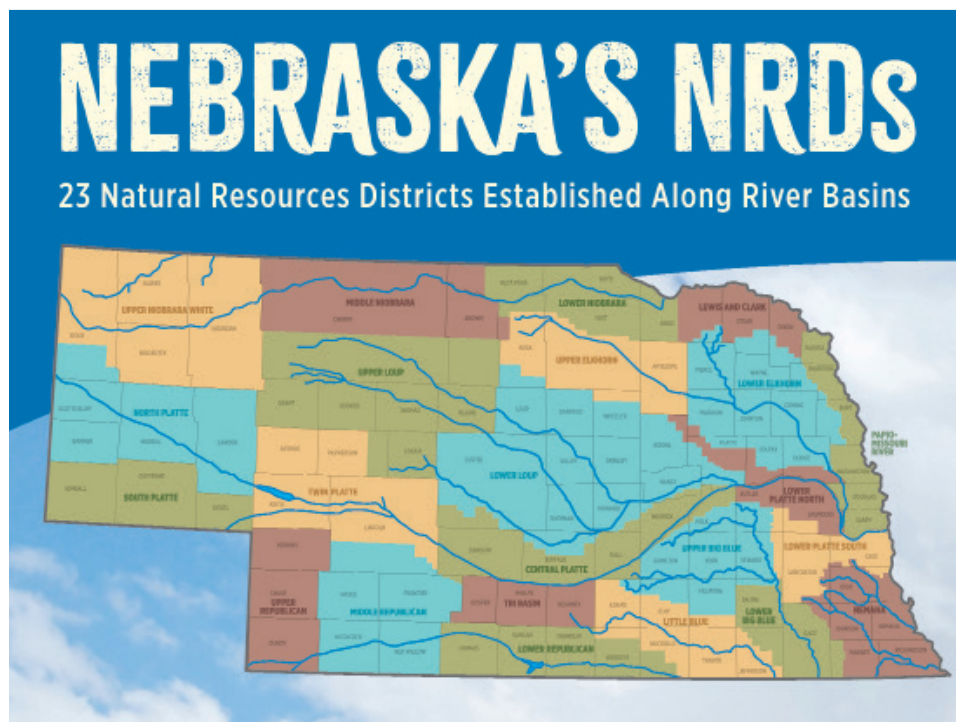
Under state law, NRDs are charged with 12 main responsibilities:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Erosion Prevention & Control | 7. Pollution Control |
| 2. Prevention of Flood Damage | 8. Waste Disposal |
| 3. Flood Prevention & Control | 9. Drainage Improvement |
| 4. Soil Conservation | 10. Fish & Wildlife Habitat |
| 5. Water Supply Development | 11. Outdoor Recreation |
| 6. Water Management & Conservation | 12. Forestry & Range Management |

The NRDs are organized based on Nebraska's major river basins, which allows for better management practices to be applied to similar topography. While consolidation and efficiency was important, so was the concept of maintaining local control. Thus, Nebraska rejected the governance framework of a single top-down state agency, preferring to create NRDs that are each governed by a locally-elected board. Nebraska's NRD system is the only one of its kind in the nation.

While NRDs share the main responsibilities, each locally-elected board sets its own priorities and develops its own programs to best serve local needs and to protect Nebraska's natural resources for future generations. Across Nebraska, NRDs offer a major source of assistance – and regulations when necessary – to landowners in conservation and natural resources management.

Today, Nebraska's unique system of locally-controlled, tax-funded, watershed-based conservation is widely admired throughout the nation.



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

Home of the Cornhuskers (Huskers) | Go Big Red!



The University of Nebraska recently celebrated 150 years as a leader in higher education. The University has four campuses – Lincoln, Kearney, Omaha and the Medical Center, which is also located in Omaha. Thank you for joining

us virtually in Lincoln, the University's flagship campus.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln was chartered by the Legislature in 1869 and serves as both the land-grant and the comprehensive public university for the State of Nebraska. A land-grant university is an institution that has been designated by its state legislature or Congress to receive the benefits of the Morrill Acts of 1862, 1890 and 1994.

The original mission of land-grant institutions was to teach agriculture, military tactics, and the mechanic arts as well as classical studies so members of the working classes could obtain a liberal, practical education.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln includes three campuses – City Campus, East Campus and Innovation Campus. City Campus is the hub that houses a majority of the University's majors and activities; East Campus is home to the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; and Innovation Campus houses food science and acts as an incubator for start-up businesses.

Best known for its agriculture and research programs, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln also has a Law College and College of Dentistry located on East Campus.



UNL FAST FACTS

Colors

Scarlet & Cream

Mascot(s)

Herbie Husker and Lil' Red

Academic Programs

Approx. 150 majors

Undergraduates

21,000

Graduate/Professional

5,000

Student to Instructor Ratio

18:1

Cornhusker Volleyball

One of the most decorated teams in all of women's volleyball, the team has more wins than any other program and five NCAA national championships.

Cornhusker Football

UNL holds the longest active college football sellout streak. Memorial Stadium has sold out every game since 1962. On game day, the stadium becomes Nebraska's third largest "city" with approximately 90,000 people.

2021 VIRTUAL NCF-ENVIROTHON TENTATIVE AGENDA

All times listed will be for Central Daylight Time (CDT) also known as Central Standard Time (CST)

PRE-EVENT PREPARATIONS

April 12, 2021	Registration Opens
June 1, 2021	Registration Deadline
July 16, 2021	Release Oral Presentation Scenario with Training

25 SUNDAY WELCOME

Noon	Q&A Video from Trainers Goes Live on Event Hub Website
4 p.m.	Advisor Meeting
5 p.m.	Opening Ceremony

26 MONDAY TESTING DAY

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tests will be live online for 12 hours. Teams will need to take all five tests sometime during this period. Tests will be virtual on an online platform that monitors for rule violations.

27 TUESDAY PRESENTATION DAY

All oral presentations will be given live via an online platform to a panel of judges.

9-9:40 a.m.	Rotation 1
10-10:40 a.m.	Rotation 2
11-11:40 a.m.	Rotation 3
12-12:40 p.m.	Rotation 4
2-2:40 p.m.	Rotation 5
3-3:40 p.m.	Rotation 6
4-4:40 p.m.	Rotation 7 (<i>if needed</i>)

28 WEDNESDAY TOP 3

1:30 p.m.	Top 3 Announcement
1:40-2 p.m.	Educational Speaker
2:05-2:45 p.m.	Presentation 1
2:50-3:30 p.m.	Presentation 2
3:35-4:15 p.m.	Presentation 3
4:30 p.m.	Closing Ceremony & Awards



COMPETITION INFORMATION (TENTATIVE)

QUESTION & ANSWER

We hope to offer an opportunity for teams to ask Nebraska resource professionals questions from the 2021 study resources. More details will be forthcoming.

TESTING DAY

The testing format for the 2021 NCF-Envirothon Nebraska will be virtual testing. Each topic will have its own test link with questions associated with that core subject (Wildlife, Forestry, Aquatics, Soils/Land Use and Current Environmental Issue). Each core topic may also have additional questions related to the Current Environmental Issue.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Keeping time zones in mind, we will randomly draw when teams will give their oral presentation. The oral presentation scenario will be released early. Teams will have from July 16 to July 27 to prepare and practice their oral presentation. Expect additional details and clarification on rules as the competition approaches. Students will give their oral presentations live via video conferencing to a panel of judges on Tuesday, July 27. Oral presentations will be 20 minutes in length. Students will be stopped at the 20-minute mark; the end of their presentation time. Judges will then have the opportunity to ask questions for up to 10 minutes. The top 3 teams overall will present again live streamed to the whole audience in front of a separate panel of VIP judges on Wednesday, July 28.

TEAM REGISTRATION

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Registration for the 2021 NCF-Envirothon can be completed on the [NCF-Envirothon website](#).

NOTE: The deadline for registration information/certification for teams holding state/provincial competitions in the last week of May/early June is seven days post event.

Registration concerns? Please contact NCF-Envirothon at administration@envirothon.org.

INFORMATION: STATE, PROVINCIAL AND PARTNER NATION REPRESENTATIVES

Every state, provincial or partner nation representative must submit a Team Certification form. The state/provincial/partner nation representative is responsible for verifying submission of the necessary registration information/certification documents for the team members and advisors. The representative must then submit the Team Certification online to the NCF-Envirothon office along with the team registration payment prior to the deadline.

REGISTRATION FEES

Team Registration (1 advisor and 5 team members): \$300 USD per team

Guest Registration: \$50 USD per person

- Payment can be made by PayPal or by check/U.S. bank draft
- If paying by check/U.S. bank draft, please make payable to: NCF-Envirothon
- Mail to: NCF-Envirothon
Attn: Karla Maldonado
509 Capitol Court N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
- If mailing in payment for a team registration, please indicate which state/province/partner nation the registration fee is paying for when you submit payment.
- NO REFUNDS will be given after July 1, 2021.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you or anyone on your team requires special needs, please contact:

Jennifer Brooks, NCF-Envirothon Program Manager: administration@envirothon.org

800.825.5547