

## Meeting Notes

### I. Introduction and Welcome!

Jennifer Brooks, NCF-Envirothon Program Manager, welcomed everyone to the December meeting of Envirothon Program Representatives.



### II. NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee – Introduction of Members

NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee		
Region	Representative	State/Province
Canada	Debbie Waycott	Nova Scotia
Canada	Becky Geneau	New Brunswick
Mid-West	Megan Grimes	Nebraska
Mid-West	vacant	
Northeast	Wendee Dodds, vice-chair	Ohio
Northeast	vacant	
Southeast	Millie Langley, chair	North Carolina
Southeast	Brooke Myers, recorder	South Carolina
West	Shonny Nordlund	Montana
West	Carrie Milligan	Utah
At-Large	Kelley Farr	Prince Edward Island
At-Large	Ashley Melvin	Delaware
At-Large	Mark Hedge	New Mexico

A map of the United States and Canada is shown to the right of the table. The map is color-coded by region: Canada (red), U.S. West (blue), U.S. Midwest (yellow), U.S. Southeast (green), and U.S. Northeast (grey).

## A. About the Operating Committee

Presented by Millie Langley, NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee Chair.

### NCF-Envirothon About the Operating Committee

- The Operating Committee provides guidance, leadership, and support to the overarching NCF-Envirothon program.
- They work to update educational guidelines and curriculum, competition rules and regulations, program policies, and more to aid partner Envirothon programs in better serving their educators and students.
- The NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee is comprised of two (2) appointed representatives from the five Envirothon regions in North America: U.S. Southeast, U.S. Northeast, U.S. West, U.S. Midwest, and Canada, as well as up to three (3) At-Large representatives.

- Canada
- U.S. West
- U.S. Midwest
- U.S. Southeast
- U.S. Northeast

## B. Open Seats – Seeking Nominations

If you reside in one of the states within the Northeast or Midwest regions and are interested in learning more about volunteering to serve on the NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee, please email [administration@envirothon.org](mailto:administration@envirothon.org).

### NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee Seeking New Representatives

- The National Conservation Foundation (NCF) is seeking nominations for a **Northeast and Midwest Representative.**
  - NE: Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.
  - MW: Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.
- If you or someone you know is interested -> **contact us ASAP**

- Canada
- U.S. West
- U.S. Midwest
- U.S. Southeast
- U.S. Northeast

### III. 2023 NCF-Envirothon New Brunswick Competition – Thank you!

Complete details, videos, photos, and more can be found at: <https://envirothon.org/2023-nb/>



2023 NCF-Envirothon  
New Brunswick Competition

- Hosted by Envirothon New Brunswick and partners
- Check out videos and pictures from the week at [envirothon.org/2023-nb/](https://envirothon.org/2023-nb/)



**Thank You, to all the  
amazing partners and  
sponsors!**

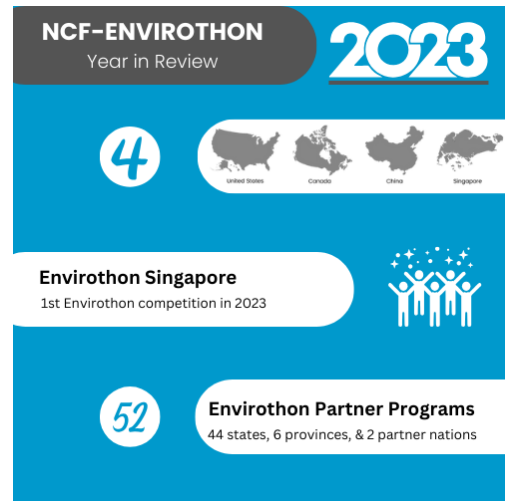




## IV. Program Updates – Membership

### A. 2023 – Year in Review

During the 2023 competition year, Envirothon programs and competitions were held by 52 Envirothon Program Partners in 4 countries around the world.



### B. 2024 Membership

The 2024 NCF-Envirothon Membership Registration and Dues are open and **due by December 31, 2023**. The 2024 Membership fee is \$450.00 (USD) and can be paid by check, PayPal, or direct deposit. (*Canadian Provinces, a U.S. Bank Draft is required if paying by cheque.*)

#### A. Registration and Dues Invoice

By December 31, all state, provincial, and partner nation Envirothon programs are asked to:

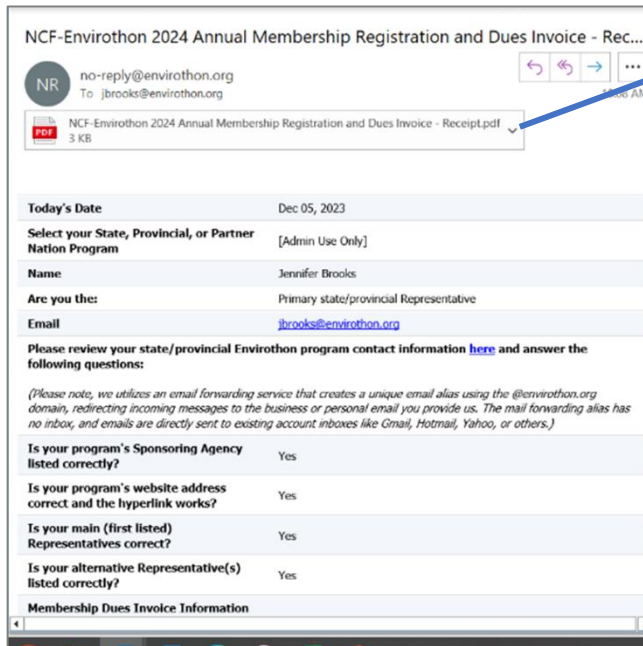
1. Fill out a [2024 Membership Registration and Dues Invoice](#) form
2. Indicate on the form how they will be paying
3. Submit form and complete payment online or mail-in payment

A screenshot of the "NCF-Envirothon 2024 Annual Membership Registration and Dues Invoice" form. The header includes the Envirothon logo and the text "Knowledge & Skills to Change the World NCF-ENVIROTHON envirothon.org". The form title is "NCF-Envirothon 2024 Annual Membership Registration and Dues Invoice". Below the title, it shows a total amount of "\$0.00". The form is addressed to "State, Provincial, and Partner Nation Envirothon Programs,". It contains a thank you message from the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) and explains that annual membership ensures continued access to resources. It states that the 2024 Annual Membership Dues are \$450 (USD) and can be paid via check (U.S. bank draft), credit card (PayPal), or direct deposit. It also mentions that dues for Competition Year 2024 (September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024) are due by December 31, 2023. The form includes instructions to complete the form to register as a member and receive an invoice. At the bottom, there are fields for "Today's Date" (MM / DD / YYYY), "Select your State, Provincial, or Partner Nation Program", and "Name".

## B. Registration Confirmation Email and Invoice PDF

Once the form had been submitted, you will receive:

- a confirmation email, and
- an attached PDF invoice to save and/or print for your records.

A screenshot of a PDF invoice from the National Conservation Foundation. The header includes the organization's name and address: 'National Conservation Foundation, 509 Capitol Court NE, Washington, DC 20002'. The title is 'INVOICE'. The subject is '2024 NCF-Envirothon Membership Dues'. The date is 'Dec 05, 2023' and the program is 'Envirothon Program: [Admin Use Only]'. The name is 'Jennifer Brooks' and the bill to is 'NCF-Envirothon'. The billing address is '509 Capitol Court, N.E., Washington, DC 20002, United States'. The invoice table shows one item: '2024 NCF-Envirothon Annual Membership Dues' for \$450.00 USD. The total due is \$450.00 USD. The payment type is 'Check / U.S. Bank Draft'. It includes a note about paying by check and a memo line '2024 NCFE Annual Membership'. The mail to is 'National Conservation Foundation, Attn: Karla Maldonado-Mitchell, 509 Capitol Court N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002'. A note at the bottom says 'Please include a copy of invoice when mailing check or U.S. Bank Draft!'. The footer includes the NCF-Envirothon logo and contact information: 'NCF-Envirothon, 509 Capitol Court NE, Washington, DC 20002, 1-800-425-5547 | envirothon.org'.

The email will be sent to the email address you entered on the form. Be sure to check your SPAM or quarantine folders as email security may flag the email as potential spam.

If you have not received the email after 24 hours, and it is not in any SPAM/Quarantine folder, contact us at [administration@envirothon.org](mailto:administration@envirothon.org) to request a new copy.

## V. Members Benefit

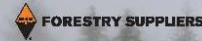
Envirothon Programs and Teams can now receive 7% off purchases through [Forestry Suppliers](#). The forestry and outdoor supply company offers a wide range of professional and educational equipment and models that can aid in teaching Envirothon teams.

Use **promo code 226** at checkout to redeem the discount.



## NCF-Envirothon Member Benefit

- Forestry Suppliers - **7% off purchases**
- Use promo code **226** at checkout
- Professional and Educational equipment and models that can aid in teaching Envirothon teams



205 West Rankin Street, Jackson, MS 39201  
www.forestry-suppliers.com

### The gear you need, when you need it.

Since 1949, we've been committed to providing you with the tools you need exactly when you need them. Trust us to help you get the job done without any compromises.

Save 7% on your  
next purchase!



To redeem, use  
**PROMO CODE 226**  
at checkout!

Don't miss out on this exclusive  
Forestry Suppliers promotion!

Over **13K unique & hard-to-**  
**find products** serving outdoor  
professionals!

We have been an **independent**  
**and family-owned business**  
since day one!

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS  
TO GET THE JOB DONE  
WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to stay up  
to date on social media specific promotions and sales.



A copy of the offer flyer (*right*) is available and will be shared with all program representatives to share with your committees and teams.



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to date on social media specific promotions and sales.



## VI. Envirothon Alumni

NCF-Envirothon encourages state and provincial Envirothon programs to reach out to former Envirothon participants. NCF-Envirothon would like to hear from alumni who participated at any level of competition.

### Envirothon Alumni

#### Where are they today?

- There are THOUSANDS of former Envirothon participants across the globe! We want to hear from them!
- Participants from any level of competition!
  - county, state/provincial, national, or international levels
- Envirothon Alumni Stories
  - Where are they today? What career did they go into? How did Envirothon impact their life? And more...
- Help us spread the word!

### A. Ways to Engage

Please share the following Ways to Engage with your network of Envirothon participants:

- Envirothon Alumni Stories - [envirothon.org/about-us/alumni-spotlight/](https://envirothon.org/about-us/alumni-spotlight/)
- Submit an Alumni Story - [envirothon.org/about-us/submit-alumni-story/](https://envirothon.org/about-us/submit-alumni-story/)
- Social Media - **@ncfenvirothon**
- Envirothon Alumni Network on LinkedIn - [linkedin.com/groups/12404664/](https://linkedin.com/groups/12404664/)

### Envirothon Alumni

#### Ways to Engage

- Website
  - Read stories at [envirothon.org/about-us/alumni-spotlight/](https://envirothon.org/about-us/alumni-spotlight/)
  - Submit a story at [envirothon.org/about-us/submit-alumni-story/](https://envirothon.org/about-us/submit-alumni-story/)
- Social Media
  - f t i d y in
- LinkedIn
  - Envirothon page [linkedin.com/company/ncfenvirothon/](https://linkedin.com/company/ncfenvirothon/)
  - Envirothon Alumni Group [linkedin.com/groups/12404664/](https://linkedin.com/groups/12404664/)

## VII. 2024 Competition Year Calendar of Events

Please note the following important dates on your calendar.

### A. December 2023

- Dec 15: 2024 Diversity Grant Application Deadline (*see pages 16-17 for more information*)
- Dec 31: 2024 Membership Registration and Dues Deadline (*see pages 4-5 for more information*)



### B. February 2024

- Feb 1: 2024 Diversity Grant Award Announcement (*tentative*)
- Feb 10-11: NCF-Envirothon Operating Committee 2024 Winter Meeting
  - held in conjunction with the NACD 2024 Annual Meeting (Feb 10-14, 2024) in San Diego, California
- Feb 29 (*or earlier*): 2024 New York Competition → Oral Presentation Rules & Guidelines



### C. May 2024

- May 1: 2024 NCF-Envirothon New York Competition Study Resources, Key Topics, and Learning Objectives posted online for,
  - *Aquatic Ecology*
  - *Forestry*
  - *Soils and Land Use*
  - *Wildlife*
  - *Current Issues (Part B)*



### D. June 2024

- June 1: Team Registration fees for the 2024 NCF-Envirothon New York Competition are due!

### E. July 2024


- July 28 – August 3: 2024 NCF-Envirothon New York Competition!





## VIII. 2024 NCF-Envirothon New York Competition

Complete details can be found at: [envirothon.org/2024-ny/](https://envirothon.org/2024-ny/)

Annual Competitions  
**2024 NCF-Envirothon New York**




**NEW YORK 2024**



Hosted by the New York State Envirothon program

- **Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future**
- Complete details found at: [envirothon.org/2024-ny/](https://envirothon.org/2024-ny/)




**2024**  
NCF-ENVIROTHON  
NEW YORK



Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Geneva, New York  
July 28 - August 3, 2024

*Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Geneva, New York  
July 28 - August 3, 2024*

Annual Competitions  
**2024 NCF-Envirothon New York**




**NEW YORK 2024**



**IMPORTANT – Please Remember!**

1. Team Registration fee = **\$2,300** USD
  - Covers housing, linens, meals, and events during the competition
    - noon on Sunday (July 28) to the morning of Saturday (Aug 3)
  - 5 student team members + up to 2 Advisors and/or Chaperone (1 male + 1 female).
2. Study Resources
  - Current Issue: **Part A**
    - posted online in September 2023
  - Current Issue: **Part B**
    - Aquatic Ecology
    - Forestry
    - Soils and Land Use
    - Wildlife



*to be posted on May 2024*

[envirothon.org/the-competition/2024-study-resources/](https://envirothon.org/the-competition/2024-study-resources/)

*Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Geneva, New York  
July 28 - August 3, 2024*

A. The Finger Lakes Region Can't Wait to See You! [YouTube video](#)

### B. Additional Information

Presented by Blanche Hurlbutt, Host Committee Chair for the 2024 NCF-Envirothon New York competition.

Blanche welcomed all to attend the 2024 competition next summer and shared the following pieces of information about the competition:

- Tell teams to bring a fan! No a/c in team dorms.
- Guests in townhouse-style suites. Also, no a/c – bring a personal fan.
- Will offer a Shuttle from Syracuse Airport – for an additional fee (TBA)
- Sunday
  - Career Fair during registration
  - 3-on-3 basketball tournament and other fun things during registration
  - Trading session, ice cream social, and movie night
- Monday
  - Mandatory study session for teams
- Wednesday – Education Day
  - Trip to Niagara Falls
- Thursday
  - Solar/wind-powered model car race, smores, & cornhole tournament
- Friday
  - Awards Ceremony and Dance
- Guest Tours – committee is working to coordinate 6-8 tours!
- Volunteers – asking for the Reps to attend and volunteer!
- Early Arrivals – can eat on campus for additional fees, must know in advance
  - Fees to be determined (TBA)

## IX. 2025 NCF-Envirothon Competition

The 2025 NCF-Envirothon annual competition will be hosted by Alberta Envirothon in Alberta, Canada. Dates, locations, and the current issue theme will be announced in February 2024.



## X. Education Resources

Presented by Stephanie Tolar, NCF-Envirothon Education Specialist

### A. Learning Objectives - [envirothon.org/the-competition/areas-of-study/](https://envirothon.org/the-competition/areas-of-study/)

#### NCF-Envirothon ***Learning Objectives***

- A general guide for teams wondering where to start studying
- Compiled for each area of study: Aquatics, Current Issues, Forestry, Soils/Land Use and Wildlife

#### *Purpose*

1. To outline what skills and knowledge are needed to be successful at the annual international competition,
2. To provide a comprehensive framework for the development of future NCF-Envirothon educational materials, and
3. To guide states, provinces, and partner nation Envirothon programs in developing their *own* learning objectives and curricula.

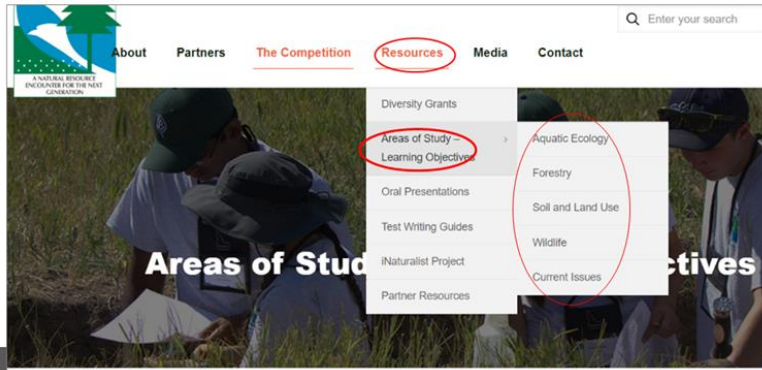
#### NCF-Envirothon ***Learning Objectives***

- They are **NOT** mandatory, but an Envirothon program may decide to use them in their entirety, use only portions of them, or use none at all in their local state/provincial-level competitions.
- Meant to serve as a guide for your state/provincial programs – can be adapted to be more specific to your local ecology
- Encompass a high level of knowledge and skills, which may surpass what is expected at your state/provincial competition
- Developed to be **comprehensive** in scope and depth, with the understanding that not every learning objective will be relevant to every state or province!
- Are a good overview of the types of knowledge and skills expected of students at the NCF-Envirothon annual competition each July.

## NCF-Envirothon Learning Objectives

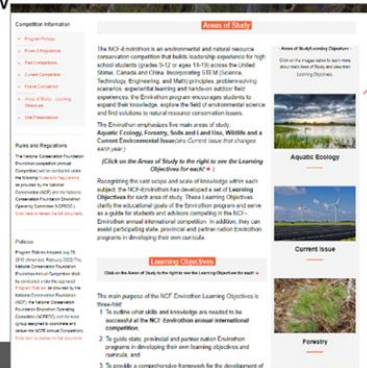
- Where to find them

*envirothon.org -> Resources drop-down menu -> Areas of Study - Learning Objectives -> Subject Areas*



## NCF-Envirothon Learning Objectives

- If on the Areas of Study - Learning Objectives page, click on the image corresponding to the area you want to view





NCF-Envirothon  
Envirothon Representatives Meeting  
December 7, 2023

## NCF-Envirothon Learning Objectives

View the Aquatic Ecology Learning Objectives below:

approved 02/24/2021

### Aquatic Ecology Learning Objectives for the NCF-Envirothon

Fresh water oceans and tiny streams to irrigation systems and kitch aspect of our lives. This essential component makes life on Earth's sustain this life, we must protect our water resources. Aquatic ecosystems that inhabit them. All water on Earth, whether it is flow underground in an aquifer, is connected through the water cycle. Our water resources can have far reaching effects, and careful on making management decisions.

Just like the ecosystems we study, human society and culture are way that biodiversity makes ecosystems more resilient, these diff and experience make us stronger as a global community. Every pe with the environment is important, and we must work together to are hard, including the historically marginalized and economic you to seek our advice from your own communities - to discover the using conservation heroes, to learn the histories that aren't typically taught in classrooms, to highlight local environmental issues, and to explore what type of natural resource conservation are occurring in your local community, state/province, and nation.

Students should be able to:

- Provide an informed opinion about current issues in water quality and water resources.
- Think critically about solutions to current water quality and water resource issues.
- Work collaboratively in a team to synthesize and apply knowledge.

Each Learning Objective pdf can be viewed, saved, printed

## B. iNaturalist Project - [envirothon.org/educational-resources/inaturalist/](https://www.inaturalist.org/educational-resources/inaturalist/)

Direct Link to NCF-Envirothon Project on iNaturalist:

[www.inaturalist.org/projects/ncf-envirothon](https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/ncf-envirothon)

## NCF-Envirothon iNaturalist Project

- Web-based and Mobile App (Android and iOS)

**ABOUT**

Get outside with hands-on environmental education with the Envirothon program! Students and advisors, post your observations and identifications of plants, wildlife, and more through our NCF-Envirothon iNaturalist project. See what others in your state, province, or country are observing, and help fellow students.

**PROJECT MEMBERS ONLY**

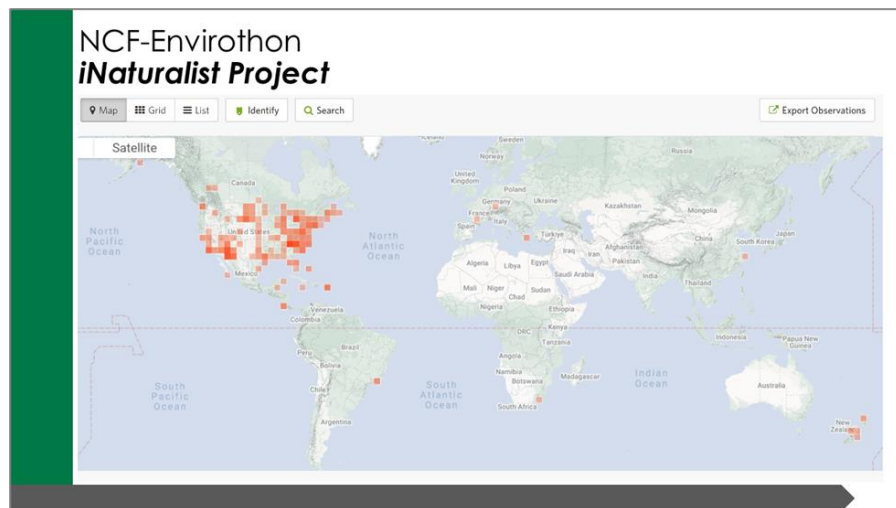
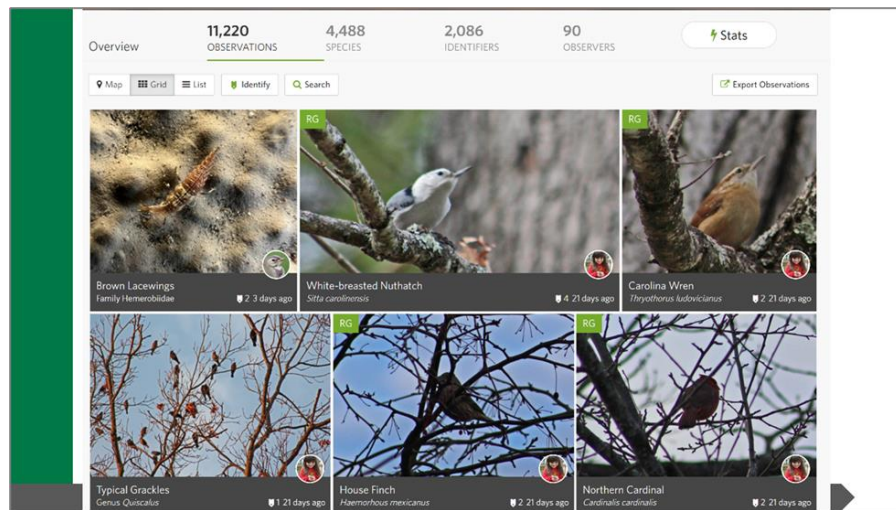
**STATS**

Overview	11,220 OBSERVATIONS	4,488 SPECIES	2,086 IDENTIFIERS	90 OBSERVERS
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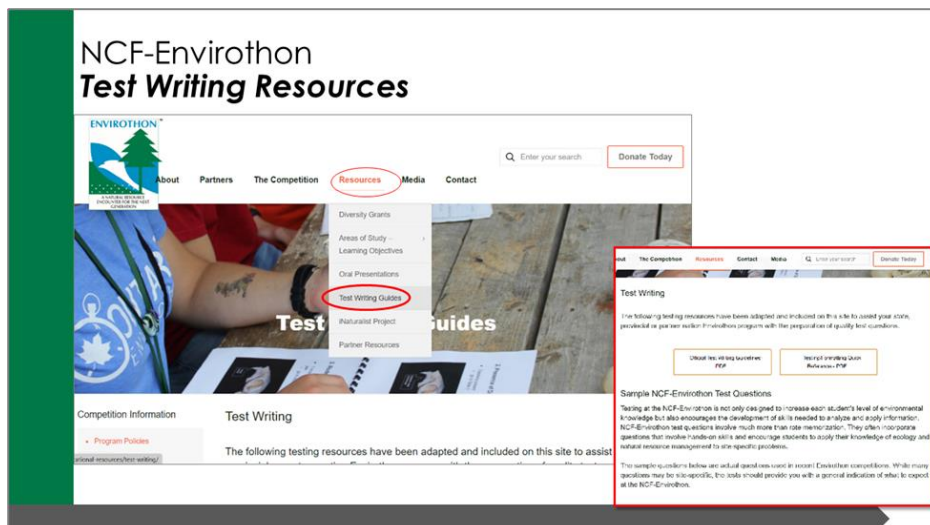
**Recent Observations**

- Brown Lacewings
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Carolina Wren
- Typical Grackles

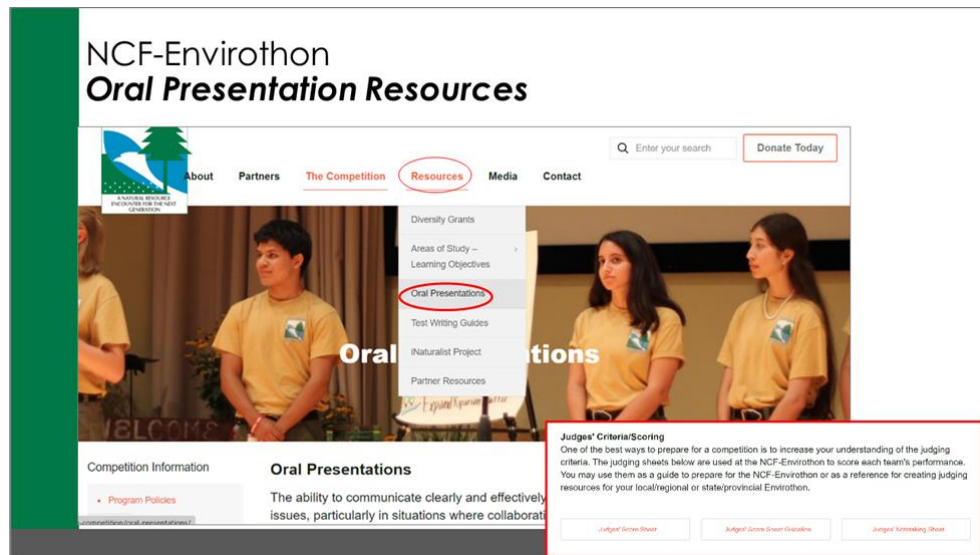
NCF-Envirothon  
 Envirothon Representatives Meeting  
 December 7, 2023



C. Test Writing Resources - [envirothon.org/educational-resources/test-writing/](https://envirothon.org/educational-resources/test-writing/)



**D. Oral Presentation Resources - [envirothon.org/the-competition/oral-presentations/](https://envirothon.org/the-competition/oral-presentations/)**



**XI. Diversity Enhancement and Underserved Audience Grant (Diversity Grant)**

NCF-Envirothon  
**Diversity Enhancement  
and Underserved Audience Grant (Diversity Grant)**

- 2024 Request for Proposals
  - Open until December 15<sup>th</sup>!
  - See the NCF-Envirothon website for information and application
  - Contact Stephanie Tolar with questions

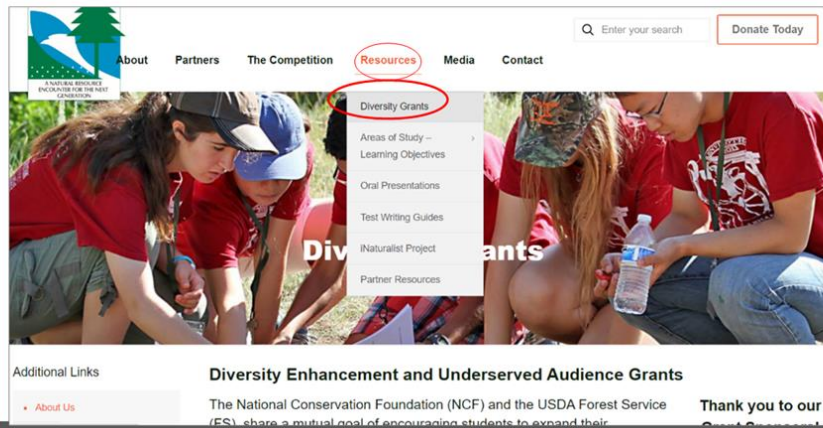


## NCF-Envirothon *Diversity Grant*

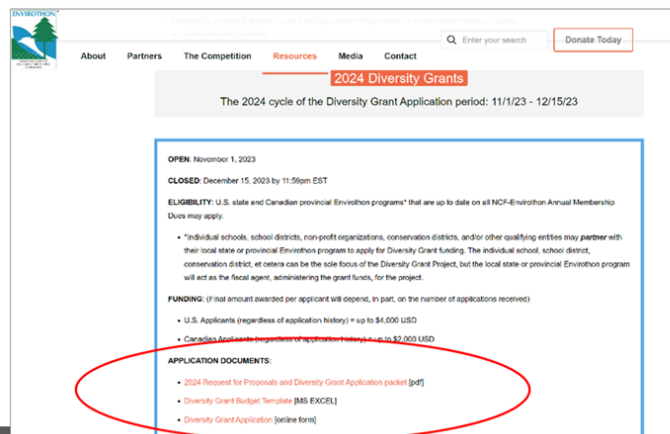
- Intended to provide additional support and financial resources to recipients with the goals of:
  - Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion within local state and provincial Envirothon programs
  - Improving access to hands-on, outdoor natural resource education opportunities
  - Encouraging education exploration
  - Educating young adults on the importance of conservation
- Possible Projects:
  - Participation Projects
  - Outreach and Engagement Projects
  - Cultural Inclusion Projects
  - Environmental Literacy and Experiential Learning Projects
  - Accessibility Projects



## NCF-Envirothon *Diversity Grant Webpage*



## NCF-Envirothon *Diversity Grant Application*





### NCF-Envirothon ***Diversity Grant Application***

- U.S. Applicants can request up to \$4,000
- Canadian Applicants can request up to \$2,000
- Applications must have a 25% budget match from monetary and/or in-kind sources
- Proposals must be DETAILED – Reviewers should have a clear picture of your project and how you plan to accomplish it.
- Budgets must be ITEMIZED - Don't just list "educational supplies": Name which type of supply and how much each costs.



#### **A. Diversity Grant Stories from current/past projects**

- South Carolina Envirothon
- Nebraska Envirothon
- Alabama Envirothon

## **XII. Q&A**

Question from Louisiana Envirothon - asked if anyone has set limits on the number of teams a high school can send to compete at a state event. Discussion followed.

## **XIII. Contacts**

### **National Conservation Foundation (NCF) - Envirothon**

509 Capitol Court, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20002

1-800-825-5547

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

[administration@envirothon.org](mailto:administration@envirothon.org)

#### **Jennifer Brooks, Program Manager**

1-800-825-5547 x 2

[jbrooks@envirothon.org](mailto:jbrooks@envirothon.org)

[jennifer-brooks@nacdn.net](mailto:jennifer-brooks@nacdn.net)

#### **Stephanie Tolar, Education Specialist**

1-800-825-5547 x 4

[stolar@envirothon.org](mailto:stolar@envirothon.org)

### *Contact*

#### **National Conservation Foundation (NCF) - Envirothon**

509 Capitol Court, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
1-800-825-5547

[www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org)  
[administration@envirothon.org](mailto:administration@envirothon.org)

#### **Staff**

**Jennifer Brooks**  
NCF-Envirothon Program Manager  
1-800-825-5547 x 2  
[jbrooks@envirothon.org](mailto:jbrooks@envirothon.org)

**Stephanie Tolar**  
NCF-Envirothon Education Specialist  
1-800-825-5547 x 4  
[stolar@envirothon.org](mailto:stolar@envirothon.org)



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