

**EMPIRE STATE CHAPTER
OF THE
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

Environmental Activities Fund - Application Form

NYS Envirothon

6/5/18

Name of Project

Date

Education/Environmental

Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY

Project Category (See guidelines)

Project Location (City and State)

Scott Fitscher

\$1,000.00

ESWCS Members Name

Amount Requested

Blanche L. Hurlbutt, NYS Envirothon Chair, 24 North Street, Edmeston, NY 13335

Members Address

607-965-6316

607-965-6316

Daytime Phone

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Wednesday, May 23 & Thursday, May 24, 2018

E-mail address

Project start date/completion date

Project Summary Description: See attached: news article

The NYS Envirothon was a great success once again. This is a great hands-on environmental Educational program for high school students. The students work together & learn about their Environment. This is something they will carry with them the rest of their lives. They will be Better stewarts of the land.

COMMISSIONER BALL CONGRATULATES STUDENT WINNERS OF THE 2018 NEW YORK STATE ENVIROTHON COMPETITION

High School Students in Ulster County Receive Top Honors in the Environmental Science Competition, Earn Scholarships

State Department of Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball today congratulated the student winners of the 29th annual New York State Envirothon Competition, which took place May 23 and 24 at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. The team from The Mount Academy in Ulster County was named New York State Champions at the long-standing environmental science competition, which challenges students on their knowledge of natural resource science, public speaking, and civic engagement. Allegany County's Cuba-Rushford Central School and Onondaga County's Skaneateles High School were awarded second and third place.

Commissioner Ball said, "I'm proud to know that we have so many young people in our State who are excited about the sciences and the environment. The Department of Agriculture and Markets works hard to protect our land, water and natural resources and to support agricultural education. The Envirothon Competition provides a great synergy between the two, and I congratulate all of the participating students on their success this year."

Forty-six teams from across New York State competed in environmental science and natural resource management written and oral tests during the two-day competition. The teams, made up of 5 students from 9th to 12th grades, qualified at the regional level and received invitations to the state competition.

The student team from The Mount Academy will now represent New York State at the NCF-Envirothon this summer at Idaho State University Pocatello. Each member of the team received a scholarship and the team will compete against other top teams from the U.S. and Canada. Last year, New York's team placed second in the national competition.

The Envirothon Competition is a series of field station tests in the areas of soils/land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife, and an emerging environmental issue. The 2018 environmental issue focused on western rangeland management: balancing diverse views.

The 2018 New York State Envirothon was made possible through the contributions of several sponsors and partnering agencies, including the New York State Department of Agriculture and Market. The Department's Land and Water Division works to protect New York's land and water resources through farmland protection, farmland conservation and proactive environmental stewardship.

Many federal and state environmental agencies, soil and water conservation districts, and higher education institutions provide expertise and help organize the event. If any organizations are willing to assist with student travel expenses, please contact NYS Envirothon Chair, Blanche Hurlbutt at 607-965-6316 for more information.

Dale Stein, Chair of the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee said, "Congratulations to all of the Envirothon winners and participants. This competition not only challenges students on their knowledge about New York's natural resources but it also encourages them to continue

their learning on these important topic areas that affect our future. I wish these next generation leaders good luck as they move on to the national competition and represent the very best of New York.”

Vice President of the New York State Conservation Districts Employee Association

Chastity Miller said, “I am proud to volunteer and be part of the NYS Envirothon. This hands-on environmental education competition tests the knowledge and understanding of NYS natural resources. Today’s students will be tomorrow’s property owners, government officials, parents, and teachers. I am proud to make a fun investment in the future of our environment.”

About NYS Envirothon

The New York State Envirothon is coordinated by the New York State Envirothon Committee consisting of members of the NYS Conservation District Employees Association, NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. The program services hundreds of high school students throughout New York State and the five city boroughs. Winning teams from regional and county Envirothon competitions advance to the state level and then to the national level Envirothon, earning awards and scholarships at each level. The program is funded from contributions and grants from individuals, businesses, and organizations. Contributions are tax deductible through the NYS Environmental Education Foundation and 100% of all contributions go towards the program. Additional information about the program and sponsorship opportunities can be found at www.nysenvirothon.net.

Sponsors of the 2018 NYS Envirothon include:

Environmental Education Foundation, NYS Conservation District Employees Association (NYSCDEA), NY Association of Conservation Districts (NYACD) - In memory of Bob VanLare, NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee (SWCC), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Meadowview Tree Farm Nursery LLC., Cattaraugus County Trappers Association, Dominion Energy, Seneca Meadows Landfill, Stewart’s Shop, Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District, Empire State Chapter of Soil & Water Conservation Service, Swift Farms, New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Bergmann Associates, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Hickling’s Fish Farm, Inc., Norton’s Gas, Inc., Cabot Cheese Corp., and Chobani, LLC.

Be sure to include who or what group will be involved, collaborators with contact information, public or private land, etc...

NOTE : A short project summary is required to be submitted for each completed activity. This summary will be used as a newsletter article for the Chapter newsletter. Photos are required.