



## **Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon 2019 Rules and Regulations**

1. The Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon follows the rules of the Florida Envirothon as modified below by the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee.
2. The rules and regulations of the Florida Envirothon are subject to change by the Florida Envirothon Board. Any and all changes will be provided in advance to all teams and advisors. All changes will be announced and distributed upon request to all Envirothon organizing groups. Florida Envirothon rules may be viewed on the Florida Envirothon web site at <http://www.flenvirothon.com/>.
3. All teams that plan to compete in the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon must complete and submit a registration form by the date on that form. The date is subject to change each year, but generally will be a month in advance of the scheduled competition date.
4. The Envirothon competitions will include hands-on and problem solving activities in five areas: soils and land use; wildlife; forestry; aquatic ecology; and a current environmental issue. **The 2019 current issue is Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge & Technology to Feed the World.**
5. Students must be registered in grades 9–12 for the current school year to compete in the Envirothon. Home schooled students at the same grade levels are eligible.
6. Teams consist of five competing student members who represent the same school or organization. Every team must have an adult advisor. An advisor may serve as advisor to more than one team.
7. Up to **four (4)** teams from each school/organization will be allowed to compete. If a school/organization wants to bring more than four teams, they may write a letter of appeal to the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee detailing how many teams (>4) they want and why they should be allowed. The Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee will review the appeal and respond to the school/organization in no more than 2 weeks. **Address correspondence to: Ann Ruple, BEST, Inc. PO Box 2465, Panama City, FL 32402; or email: RupleAnn@yahoo.com.**
8. Teams will compete together as teams and will rotate between five test stations on the competition site. Students should be prepared to walk between the test stations.

9. Advisors will not be present with the teams during testing. Separate accommodations will be made for advisors during testing.
10. Alternate team members are allowed to attend the regional event as observers but will be required to remain with their advisor(s) during the testing unless otherwise allowed by the event coordinator. Alternates can compete with their team only as a replacement for an official team member.
11. In the event that there are at least three alternates from multiple registered teams not competing with their teams at the regional competition, and pending a determination by the event coordinator that room and resources are available for the alternates, they may be formed into a team(s) of three to five alternates and allowed to compete for the experience.
12. Teams of alternates will not be eligible to win awards or advance to the state competition.
13. There is a registration fee for the 2019 Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon. A team registration fee of \$30.00 per team must be paid for a team to be eligible to participate in the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon competition. Future registration fees may vary.
14. T-shirts will be provided to the team members, one alternate, and one advisor per team at registration. All participating Envirothon team members must wear the current year Envirothon t-shirts at the competition for safety and identification purposes. Teams must provide t-shirt sizes on their registration form. Availability of sizes other than the sizes provided with registration is not guaranteed and should not be expected.
15. Lunch and snacks will be provided by the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee. Awards will be presented after lunch.
16. Transportation is the responsibility of the team members and their advisors.
17. Resource materials to prepare the team for the competition will be provided by the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee. Materials may be web based (online) or hard copy resources. In the case of hard copy materials, one copy per school/organization will be provided.
18. Resource materials are prohibited at testing sites during the competition unless provided by the testing proctor.
19. Cell phones, cameras, Ipods, Ipads, tablets, palm pilots, pagers, computers, calculators, and other electronic devices are prohibited during the testing. Advisors will be required to collect all such devices prior to the start of testing and hold them until testing is completed. The devices may be returned to the students after testing is complete. Possession of such a device by any team member during testing will be grounds for dismissal of the team.

20. The event coordinator will establish an appeals committee prior to the competition to make decisions related to rules or appeals. The appeals committee will hear any complaints on the day of the competition and make a determination of any corrective or disciplinary actions to be taken. Complaints should be filed by an advisor with the event coordinator immediately upon recognition of a circumstance warranting review by the appeals committee. The appeals committee's ruling will be final.
21. Cheating will result in immediate dismissal from the competition and loss of eligibility for regional awards and to advance to the state competition. A team dismissed for cheating will be asked to leave the competition site immediately upon the ruling of the appeals committee.
22. The use of tobacco products, drugs or alcohol is prohibited at any activities associated with the Envirothon. Foul or derogatory language, disruptive behavior or attitudes, or disrespect towards any team member, advisor, or volunteer by any team member may result in dismissal of the entire team from the completion. All rules of the host facility will also apply. A team may be dismissed for breaking these rules. A team dismissed for these reasons may be asked to leave the competition site immediately upon the ruling of the appeals committee.
23. Possession of personal medications must be consistent with the student's school policy.
24. All student participants and advisors are required to be present for a rules and schedule briefing immediately prior to the competition starting.
25. Only if an event coordinator is available to provide a rules and schedule briefing to any late arriving team(s), and only following the briefing, will such team(s) be placed at the next beginning test station or other appropriate starting point rather than be inserted into the middle of a location or test section. No provisions will be made for teams to make up a missed test section. Any late team(s) will be scored zero (0) for the missed test section(s). No late team will be allowed to begin the competition after the second test section has ended.
26. Teams not competing in all five test sections will be ineligible to be overall winners of the competition and will not be eligible to compete at the state Envirothon.
27. Tie-breaker procedures will be established before the competition. Tie-breaker decisions will be made by the appeals committee and will be final.
28. The team in good standing (not dismissed by the appeals committee; also, see rule #29 below) with the highest cumulative score from each county is eligible to participate in the Florida Envirothon competition. The 2019 Florida Envirothon is April 27, 2019 as outlined at the Florida Envirothon web site at <http://www.flenvirothon.com/>. Limited financial assistance may be available from the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee to offset some costs of team(s) competing at the state level.

29. Each county may send one representative team to the Florida Envirothon competition, providing that the team has competed against at least one other team from at least one different school or organization within the same county. If multiple counties compete in the regional competition and are represented by only one school or organization each, only the highest scoring team from the group of counties represented by a single school/organization will be sent to the Florida Envirothon.
  
30. To be eligible to compete at the Florida Envirothon, the team must be made up of the original five team members, or the alternate who participated on the same team at the regional Envirothon. State competitors must be the same as those that compete at the regional event.
  
31. Contact the Emerald Coast Regional Envirothon steering committee at least one month in advance of the competition date if team member(s) with special needs will be competing.