What is it?

- Envirothon is a competitive environmental learning opportunity for high school students.
- Testing is done in five areas:
  - Aquatics and Ecology
  - Forestry
  - Soils and Land Use
  - Wildlife
  - Current Issue that changes yearly. Rangeland is a subject area tested at Regional competitions. An Oral Presentation over the Current Issue is done only at the State Competition.
What is it? (cont.)

- An international competition including the US, Canada, and China
- Started in Pennsylvania in 1979
- Came to Kansas in 1991
First Envirotahn, Pennsylvania

Peggy Ricker gets resolution approved by KACD Youth & Education Committee to bring Envirotahn to KS

1st Kansas Envirotahn


3 states compete in first National

First year a Canadian team competes at National

Kansas one of the first states west of the Mississippi to compete at National

Kansas sets and still holds the record for Highest Oral Presentation Championship score

1st Oral Presentations at Kansas Envirotahn

Today
Kansas

- Kansas Envirothon Committee is run completely by Conservation District Staff
  - Chair- Aubrey Evans, Riley county
  - Vice-Chair- Dana Schmelzle, Nemaha county
  - Vice-Chair elect-

  4 committee meetings a year, 4 regional competitions and one state competition, all in April.
Why?

“The mission of the North American Envirothon is to develop knowledgeable, skilled and dedicated citizens who have an understanding of natural resources and are willing and prepared to work towards achieving and maintaining a balance between the quality of life and the quality of the environment.” - www.envirothon.org

Sound familiar?
NACD Mission Statement

“NACD’s mission is to promote the wise and responsible use of natural resources for all lands by representing locally-led conservation districts and their associations through grassroots advocacy, education and partnerships”

www.nacdnet.org
What do the Kids Get?

- Hands-on experience with natural resources
- Meet and talk to professionals in natural resources careers
- Public speaking experience
- Points for FFA or 4H
- Potential for travel to other states or countries
- Potential for money!
FUN!
What do We Get?

- A pool of potential job applicants
- The next generation of land stewards
- A fantastic marketing tool for CD’s and NRCS as well as our sponsors
- An educated voting base
- A chance to collaborate with our partner agencies in a positive way
How Can You Help?

- Donate
- Start a team
- Host a regional in your area
- Join the Committee