



NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ENVIROTHON

"Fostering Environmentally Conscious, Decision Making Young Adults"

August 2023

Public perception of environmental issues has been increasing, and there is now greater acknowledgement of the damage that has been inflicted on the environment through human activities, such as ozone depletion, greenhouse gas emissions, forest degradation and soil erosion. Emphasis is now placed on immediate and mandated actions to mitigate environmental concerns, to protect natural resources and ensure a better tomorrow.

Environmental education is recognized as an important step towards protection of the environment; it not only encourages examination of the fundamental issues that surround current and future uses of the world's resources but empowers individuals to work towards achieving sustainability. Unfortunately, most environmental education is provided by traditional curriculum and instruction.

On the other hand, programs like the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon, the Illinois Envirothon, and the North American Envirothon allow educators and natural resource professionals to provide hands-on, outdoor coaching and testing in the five topic areas: aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and an annual current environmental issue. This further exemplifies current initiatives, providing quality education, training, and hands-on learning; thus, equipping young citizens with the tools to become stronger leaders and providing communities with an increase in environmental awareness. With over 500,000 participants from across North America annually, the Envirothon program is quickly becoming a primary vehicle for promoting environmental awareness.

The 2024 Northeastern Illinois Envirothon two event competition will take place **March 12th (North event - DeKalb County Farm Bureau) and March 14th (South event - Morton Arboretum)**. This year's theme is **"Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future"**.

Your **contribution** will provide the tools necessary to give teams of high school students the technical and public speaking skills to become the confident thinkers who will keep conservation at the fore in all aspects of their lives. Be a part of the total environmental education package!
Sponsor the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon with a contribution today!

Sincerely,

The Northeastern Illinois Envirothon Committee

Northeastern Illinois Envirothon Committee Members

Boone County SWCD, Teagan Duffy
DeKalb County SWCD, Jeff Woodyatt
Kane-DuPage SWCD, Kat Gerds
North Cook SWCD, Lori Hargett
McHenry-Lake SWCD, Spring Duffey
Will-South Cook SWCD, Deb Crawford
Winnebago County SWCD, Melisa Long, Chair & Treasure



Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future

In our modern world, energy touches almost every aspect of our lives. It lights our homes, transports our food, cleans our water, and fuels our cars, powers life-saving medical equipment, and so much more. The production and use of energy are deeply entwined with the economy, social and political issues, and the environment. The environmental, economic, and social outcomes of the choices being made about energy now will shape the future of our planet. Governmental policies, industry, and public opinion are shifting to embrace a sustainable future that includes renewable energy.

Today, power generation from renewable energy sources accounts for approximately one third of the total global output. Signatories to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change agreed to work towards the goal of nearly 80% of the global power demand to be met by renewable sources by 2050. New York State is working to build a vibrant renewable energy industry covering all facets of the process from manufacturing to installation, and including technologies for solar, wind, biomass, and hydroelectric energy. New York State also has some of the most progressive energy and climate goals in the United States, including: the adoption of the Clean Energy Standard, the passage of a mandate for 70% of electricity in the state to be from renewable sources by 2030, the goal of achieving a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (using 1990 levels as the baseline), and saving 185 trillion British Thermal units (Btus) in end-use energy by 2030 through greater efficiency (New York State Legislation: Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act).

Decisions about sustainable energy are not just made by politicians and corporations. Individuals can choose what energy practices to support and can advocate for the transition to renewables. New energy innovations are constantly transforming this emerging field, with technological developments in energy sources, production methods, and flexible delivery.

Students will learn about the different sources of renewable energy; the challenges facing the transition from traditional fossil fuels to renewables; the environmental, economic, and social impacts of energy consumption; and how individuals can affect change in their communities.



Northeastern Illinois Envirothon Sponsorship Levels



Find out more about Illinois Envirothon on our State Webpage or Facebook

White Oak Sponsorship – \$3,500 and up*

- Logo and name displayed during awards ceremony with option to present award to winning team/s
- Logo and name displayed in Northeastern Illinois Envirothon welcome area and lunch station
- Northeastern Illinois Envirothon team T-shirt for your company (limitations apply)
- (Large) Logo and/or name on Northeastern Illinois Envirothon team T-shirt
- Name listed on Northeastern Envirothon outreach materials and advertisements
- Certificate stating your sponsorship level

Watershed Sponsorship – \$1,000-\$3,499*

- Logo and name displayed in Northeastern Illinois Envirothon welcome area and lunch station
- Northeastern Illinois Envirothon team T-shirt for your company (limitations apply)
- (Small) Logo and/or name on Northeastern Illinois Envirothon team T-shirt
- Name listed on Northeastern Envirothon outreach materials and advertisements
- Certificate stating your sponsorship level

Cardinal Sponsorship– \$500-\$999*

- (Small) Logo and/or name on Northeastern Illinois Envirothon team T-shirt
- Name listed on Northeastern Envirothon outreach materials and advertisements
- Certificate stating your sponsorship level

Minnow Sponsorship – \$50 to \$499*

- Name on Northeastern Illinois Envirothon outreach materials and advertisements
- Certificate stating your sponsorship level.

*Is there something else **Your Organization** would like to see or have interest in other types of contributions? Materials and product donations are eligible for recognition levels equal to the retail value of the donation. All level and recognitions are open to sponsor negotiation.*

“Fostering Environmentally Conscious, Decision Making Young Adults”





Yes!

I (we) want to sponsor the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon

<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 - \$499 Minnow Level	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 - \$999 Cardinal Level	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 - \$3499 Watershed Level	<input type="checkbox"/> > \$3500 White Oak Level	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ Other
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Contact and Payment Information:

Company Name: _____

Sponsorship Level: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Name: _____ Charge Amount \$ _____

Signature: _____

Visa MasterCard CVC#: _____

Check Enclosed (payable to Community Foundation of Northern IL). Please include in memo line: Fund #1170 NE IL Envirothon Operating Fund

Contact me about volunteer opportunities

Contact me about in-kind donations

Send completed form with payment to:

Melisa Long, Committee Treasurer
Winnebago Co. Soil & Water Conservation District
4833 Owen Center Rd.
Rockford, IL 61101
mlongswcd@comcast.net
(815) 965-2392 Ext. 3

Northeastern Illinois Envirothon is a 501(c)(3) organization and your contribution is tax deductible.

