

## Carmichaels places fourth in Envirothon

CARMICHAELS — A team of students from Carmichaels Area High School took fourth place at the 28th annual Pennsylvania State Envirothon May 24 and 25 at Susquehanna University and Shikellamy State Park. High school students from 66 Pennsylvania counties participated in this year's event.



In the state competition, the team scored 493.3 points. In the oral component of the competition, Carmichaels finished third with a score of 96.3.

The team received a plaque, wildlife identification book and medallions.

The Carmichaels Area team placed first in the county Envirothon, sponsored by the Greene County Conservation District. The team includes teacher and coach Kevin Willis and members Christine Broadwater, Kasey Osborne, Robert Kowalewski, Lucas Cumpston and Samantha May.

The Envirothon is an environmental education and natural resource program. It consists of the annual state competition in which winning teams from participating counties compete for recognition and scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management.

This year marks the sixth year in a row a Carmichaels Envirothon team has placed in the top 10 at the state Envirothon. The team placed second last year and in 2006. In 2009, the team placed seventh; in 2008, the team placed eighth; and in 2007, the team placed 10th in the state.

At the Envirothon, five-member teams participate in a series of field-oriented tests that focus on five topic areas - soils and land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife and environmental issues.

The 2011 current environmental issue was salt and fresh water estuaries. The teams also prepare and deliver oral presentations to panels of judges who evaluate each team on its problem-solving capabilities, oral presentation skills and recommendations to help solve the specific environmental challenge, which usually relates to the current environmental issue.

At the state level, the Envirothon is sponsored by Pennsylvania's 66 conservation districts, the State Conservation Commission and the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts.

The 2011 Pennsylvania State Envirothon champions, scoring 537.3 points of a possible 600, are from Penncrest High School I in Delaware County.

The Delaware County team earned the honor to represent Pennsylvania at the Canon Envirothon July 24-29 at Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada.

Pennsylvania has won the North American event in 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2009. More than 45 states, eight Canadian provinces and one Canadian territory have initiated Envirothon contests based on the program that was originally developed by Pennsylvania's conservation districts.

Top 10 winners, with scores, include:

- First place - Penncrest High School, Delaware County, with a score of 537.3
- Second place - York Homeschoolers, York County, with a score of 511
- Third place - Blue Mountain High School, Schuylkill County, with a score of 496.3
- Fourth place - Carmichaels Area High School, Greene County, with a score of 493.3
- Fifth place - MMI Preparatory, Luzerne County, with a score of 484
- Sixth place - Bald Eagle High School, Centre County, with a score of 483.3
- Seventh place - Warren Area High School, Warren County, with a score of 474
- Eighth place - Oley Valley High School, Berks County, with a score of 460.6
- Ninth place - Emmaus High School, Lehigh County, with a score of 440.3

The Pennsylvania Envirothon awarded scholarships to the first, second and third-place teams. The scholarships were sponsored by The Hershey Co. and EXCO Resources (PA). Each of the top 10 teams received a plaque and other prizes.

The Pennsylvania Envirothon partners with a variety of organizations, including the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Game Commission, DCNR Bureaus of Forestry and State Parks and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

For more information on the Envirothon program, call your county conservation district or call the Pennsylvania Envirothon at 814-623-7900, ext. 111; email [paenvirothon@pennswoods.net](mailto:paenvirothon@pennswoods.net); or visit [www.envirothonpa.org](http://www.envirothonpa.org).

## Carmichaels Team #1 Is Number 1 in District Envirothon

CARMICHAELS — Under a bright, blue sky at Ryerson Station State Park, the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Greene County Envirothon was held on May 5, 2011. Twelve high school teams from all five Greene County School Districts attended this contest to test their environmental knowledge in five subject areas: Soils, Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatics and the 2011 special topic: “Salt and Fresh Water Estuaries.” A variety of hands-on testing methods are used with only 35 minutes allowed at each station.

This event is organized each year by the Greene County Conservation District and was funded through a grant from the Community Foundation of Greene County’s Pennsylvania Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program.



*Pictured (left to right):*  
*Tom Headlee, Conservation District Board Member;*  
*Michelle Anderson, Alpha Natural Resources; and team members*  
*Luke Cumpston,*  
*Christine Broadwater,*  
*Samatha May,*  
*Robert Kowalewski,*  
*Kasey Osborne, and Team Advisor Kevin Willis.*

Carmichaels Team #1 won this year’s competition with a score of 443 points out of 500 points possible. This team will now compete at the State Envirothon to be held May 24-25 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA and at Shikellamy State Park, Sunbury, PA. Each student on the winning team secures a \$500 college scholarship which was funded by Alpha Natural Resources.

For more information on this event, please contact Laurel Rush in the Greene County Conservation District at 724-852-5278.