



News Release

Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission
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Stephens County High School wins state environmental championship *Team qualifies for trip to national competition in Montana this August*

ATHENS, Ga. – Stephens County High School came home with a championship trophy on Friday, April 19, after winning the 2013 Georgia Envirothon state competition.

The win qualifies the student team, led by Stephens High School teacher Terry Seehorn, for a place in the Envirothon North America contest scheduled at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, August 4 – 9, 2013.

The Stephens High School team won the East Region competition held at the Whitehall Forest in Athens in March and then advanced to the state competition, which was held at the Elachee Nature Center in Gainesville, Ga. More than 300 high school students take part in the regional and state contests each year.

“Envirothon is North America’s premier educational competition for high school students on the environment,” explained Georgia Envirothon Chair Jennifer Standridge. “Contests offer both in-class curriculum and hands-on field experiences focused around ecology, natural resource management, and current environmental issues.”

To win the competition, the team excelled against other high school teams from around Georgia in five categories of knowledge: aquatic, forestry, soil, wildlife and rangeland management. For each topic, teams are given a brief presentation by a coordinator on ecosystem issues important to that topic and then given a test. Teams have 45 minutes to complete each of the five topics. Students spend an entire year studying environmental issues and preparing for this annual contest, which includes private and public high schools from around Georgia.

Envirothon offers a combination of classroom and hands-on learning experiences that is unique and has made the competition a huge success with students and educators across the United States and Canada. In 2014, Envirothon North America will be held at the University of Georgia in Athens, Ga.

Georgia Envirothon is sponsored by a number of environmental groups including the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission, the Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

More information on the Georgia Envirothon is available at <http://gaswcc.georgia.gov/georgia-envirothon>. Individuals can test their own knowledge of environmental issues by accessing sample test questions used in preparation for the contests at <http://gaswcc.georgia.gov/how-much-do-you-know-about-conservation-issues>.

Information about the GSWCC is available at <http://gaswcc.georgia.gov> or by calling (706) 552-4470.

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