



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 6, 2013
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Coweta 4H Captures First Place at Regional Envirothon Competition, Qualifying for State Event

ATHENS, Ga. - Coweta's 4H team scored first place in Georgia's West Regional Envirothon, overcoming competition from 11 other high school teams to post the highest overall score in the annual contest that tests participants' knowledge of natural resources and ecology. The competition took place outdoors on March 1 at the Newman Wetlands Center, which is operated by the Clayton County Water Authority.

The Coweta team won three of the five individual testing categories – aquatics, forestry and sustainable rangeland management – and placed second in soils and placed third in wildlife knowledge.

Second place went to Rockdale Magnet Varsity with Rockdale 4H scoring third in the competition. All three teams will advance to the state championship scheduled for the Elachee Nature Center in Gainesville, Georgia, on April 19.

The teams will face competition from the East Region winning teams, scheduled for March 7 at the Whitehall Forest in Athens and the South Region winning teams, who will compete on March 13 at Little Ocmulgee State Park near McRae, Ga.

The state champion will represent Georgia in August at the Canon Envirothon located at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana.

At the West Regional, teams competed by visiting five stations, one for each study unit, located within easy walking distance from other stations at the competition site. Teams moved between the stations in groups. At each station site team examinations were administered by the station coordinator. Tests contained many question formats including narrative responses, true/false, fill in the blank, multiple choice, and matching. Teams were also given a brief presentation by the station coordinator on ecosystem issues important to that station. Teams have 45 minutes per station except at the state, where the presentation station is generally 20 minutes.

Envirothon is North America's premier educational competition for high school students on the environment. Contests offer both in-class curriculum and hands-on field experiences focused around ecology, natural resource management, and current environmental issues. This unique combination of learning experiences and breadth of study is part of what has made the Envirothon a huge success with students and educators across the United States and Canada.

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.

Information on the upcoming competitions for Georgia Envirothon can be found at <http://www.georgiaenvirothon.org/>.

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