



Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROSHOLT, WI – Twelve top high school teams competed in the 2009 Wisconsin Envirothon on Friday, April 24, 2009 at the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt, Wisconsin.

The theme for this year's Wisconsin Envirothon was Biodiversity in a Changing World. Event categories included examinations in Forestry, Soil Resources, Aquatic Resources, Wildlife, and an Oral Presentation where students acted as ecological consulting teams hired to present at a town meeting an examination of the biodiversity benefits and consequences resulting from selling an economically endangered public nature area to a real estate development firm to build an "eco-friendly resort."

In a high-stakes competition, where the winning team receives a scholarship to attend the week long North American Canon Envirothon competition in Ashville, North Carolina, the scores were close, and the judging was difficult.

Overall category winners:

Third place, Luxemburg-Casco High School
Second place, Conserve School (Land O' Lakes)
First place went to Middleton High School

Middleton High School will compete in the Canon Envirothon at the University of North Carolina in Ashville, North Carolina on August 2-8, 2009.

James Madison Memorial High School (Madison) and Wild Rose High School also had teams place in various competition categories. Other participating team talents came from Mercer High School, and Newman Catholic High School (Wausau).

"We're very proud of all our participants and volunteers who worked hard to make this a competitive and enjoyable learning opportunity," said Allen Carothers, President of the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, which organized the event. "We're looking forward to Middleton High School's participation in North Carolina."

The 2009 Wisconsin Envirothon was possible due to the partnership and sponsorship of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; the Wisconsin Association of Land Conservation Employees; the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board and the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin; the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources; the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and more. Visit our Web site at www.wlwca.org for a complete listing of all the 2009 Wisconsin Envirothon sponsors.

For schools, teams, agencies or organizations interested in more information about how to participate in the 2010 Wisconsin Envirothon on April 30 at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station in Amherst Junction, Wisconsin, contact Kirsten Moore at the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association by email at kirsten@wlwca.org.

About WLWCA: The Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association is the umbrella organization of county land conservation committees. Those committees are charged under state law with implementing programs to prevent polluted runoff from entering our streams and lakes as well as to control soil erosion. The land conservation committees, and their statewide association, provide a unique and leading voice for implementation of land and water conservation programs.