New Email addresses

To email staff use first name and the extension:

@trumbullohswcd.org

Environmental Education at its finest... the annual Envirothon Competition

Save the date for the Area 2 Envirothon – April 25, 2019 at Camp Beaumont, Ashtabula County

Envirothon is designed to stimulate, reinforce and enhance interest in the environment and natural resources among high school students. A competitive outdoor team event, Envirothon offers a unique and enjoyable learning experience. A team consists of 5 students, all from the same school. An adult advisor (or advisors) must accompany the team, but is not permitted to assist the team during the competition.

Envirothon tests students’ knowledge of soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatic ecology and current environmental issues. Natural resource and environmental specialists from many agencies, organizations, colleges, universities, park districts and businesses devise the Envirothon questions and staff the various testing stations. This year’s current environmental issue is “Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge & Technology to Feed the World”. In addition, the Envirothon encourages cooperative decision-making and team building. While each student on an Envirothon team is challenged to contribute his or her personal best, the score that counts at the end of an Envirothon is the team score.

Five Area Envirothons are conducted around Ohio each spring. Trumbull County is in Area 2. This year’s Area 2 Envirothon is hosted by Ashtabula and Trumbull SWCDs. The top four teams from Area 2 will join the winners from the other four Area competitions and progress to the Ohio Envirothon held in June. The top-scoring team in the Ohio Envirothon is eligible to compete in the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon representing Ohio. The NCF Envirothon is hosted by a different state or Canadian province every year. For more information, go to www.envirothon.org.

For more information on Envirothon or to schedule an Envirothon introduction or training program, please contact Amy Reeher, District Administrator/Watershed Coordinator at 330-637-2056, ext. 8624 or amy@trumbullohswcd.org

Beautiful Camp Beaumont will be the site of Area 2 Envirothon for 2019.

Registration deadline for Area 2 Envirothon is March 15

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) are equal opportunity providers and employers.
Trumbull SWCD is sponsoring essay and poster contests. Kindergarten through high school seniors can participate in the poster contest. The essay contest is open to 6th through 12th graders.

The submissions for last year’s contest were very light and students missed out on $310.00 in prizes. This could have been due to the submission date being the end of Spring break or the national requirement of paper size.

Two new rule changes have been made. The National contest will only accept digital entries for posters. To comply with this rule change, submissions must be 11 x 17 or smaller so that we can scan the entry with our equipment. Digital entries must be submitted in JPEG format. The second change is to the essay contest. All entries must have a bibliography page attached to the essay. Submissions must follow APA format for bibliography page and in-text citations. For a complete list of contest rules, go to the essay or poster tabs under the education menu on the home page.

NACD has resource material on their web site. The poster entries must include the stewardship theme and be submitted to Trumbull SWCD by April 5, 2018. Judging will be at the April Board of Supervisors meeting tentatively scheduled for April 24 at 6:00 pm. More information will be coming closer to the submission due date.

### Field Trip Programs

Our on-site field trips have been a great success. Several schools have taken advantage of this program and the teachers and students have not been disappointed.

The day’s schedule typically starts at 10:00 am with two sessions in the morning, then BYD lunch, a tour of the facilities, and a game before going home around 1:30 pm.

- Session programs range from the Recycle Relay outside to story time inside with programs like Little Lily and Eddie the Earthworm and a worm observation experiment. Edible Soil and The Incredible Journey programs are only offered at field days. You can choose any program for a full day experience or we can customize a program for your specific requirements.

Animals in Winter—This program is popular with Pre-K through grade 2. Adaptation, hibernation and migration are discussed by reading two books by Jenny Freeland Van-Voorst, Animals in Winter and Birds in Winter. These books are on PPT or Google Slides so that the students can read along. The question and answer presentation asked the student to respond to decisions animals have to make in winter.

A hands on activity is part of the program. Students make a birdfeeder from bread, lard, and birdseed. The response to this program is great. Teachers and student alike have a wonderful time. We are still scheduling this program through the end of February.

### Soil Formation Processes

The new and improved hands on activity helps develop a student’s creative thinking and problem solving. Instead of giving the student the experiment, the student must design an experiment that uses the tools provided to demonstrate the concept of the stations. Stations include water weathering and erosion, ice weathering and erosion, physical weathering, chemical weathering, and if the weather permits exploration of a decomposing log. Students write a complete lab report suitable for class presentation.

### Stream Watch

If your school is close to a body of water, this program is a good fit. Students love to “play” in the water looking for tiny macro-invertebrates identification of the organisms give clues to the water’s health in this introduction to stream quality monitoring. All materials are provided for this activity.

### Loan Materials

Trumbull SWCD has a variety of models that can be borrowed for your classroom for up to a week at a time.

Envision 3000 Series Bedrock Model (black) – bedrock cross-section to illustrate groundwater flow. It can be used to show porosity, aquifers and permeability. It can be used to illustrate groundwater flow and contamination and septic system functions.

Enviroscape Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Model (brown) – used for Source Water Environmental Education Teams (SWEET) events. It illustrates water paths under ground and what happens to the water we use at home.

Enviroscape Nonpoint Source Model (green) – watershed model to illustrate point and nonpoint source pollution.