

Envirothon - WHAT AND WHY?

Envirothon - an environmental competition for high school students

- Teams of 5 students
- Participate in workshops to prepare for testing in the field on core environmental topics
- Builds environmental awareness and leadership

Objectives

- Increase students' awareness of the natural balance and complexity of environmental ecosystems
- Increase students' understanding of basic science concepts in the areas of forestry, wildlife, aquatic ecology, and soil, together with a current environmental issue each year
- Provide opportunity for students to experience differing views and concepts relative to environmental issues
- Provide opportunity for students to experience new ideas, geography, and cultures throughout Ontario and North America.

Benefits

- Build leadership, communication and collaboration skills
- Learn skills and techniques employed in the environmental research field
- Interact with professionals working in the natural resources sector
- Learn about career opportunities and education pathways
- Enhance resume and post-secondary applications
- Give back to the community

Right from an alumni

I wanted to go to a school that had sustainability, resource management and the environment in mind, and Trent U fit that perfectly. Trent was featured in the Study Guide and it immediately appealed to me.

- Maddie Trotter, 2014 Ontario Envirothon Alumni and first year Trent student

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Components of most Envirothon programs

Training

WORKSHOPS

STUDYING

Testing

Testing outdoors challenge students to apply what they learned through their own studying and workshops.

Tests often include multiple choice, short answer, diagrams, and applied skills.

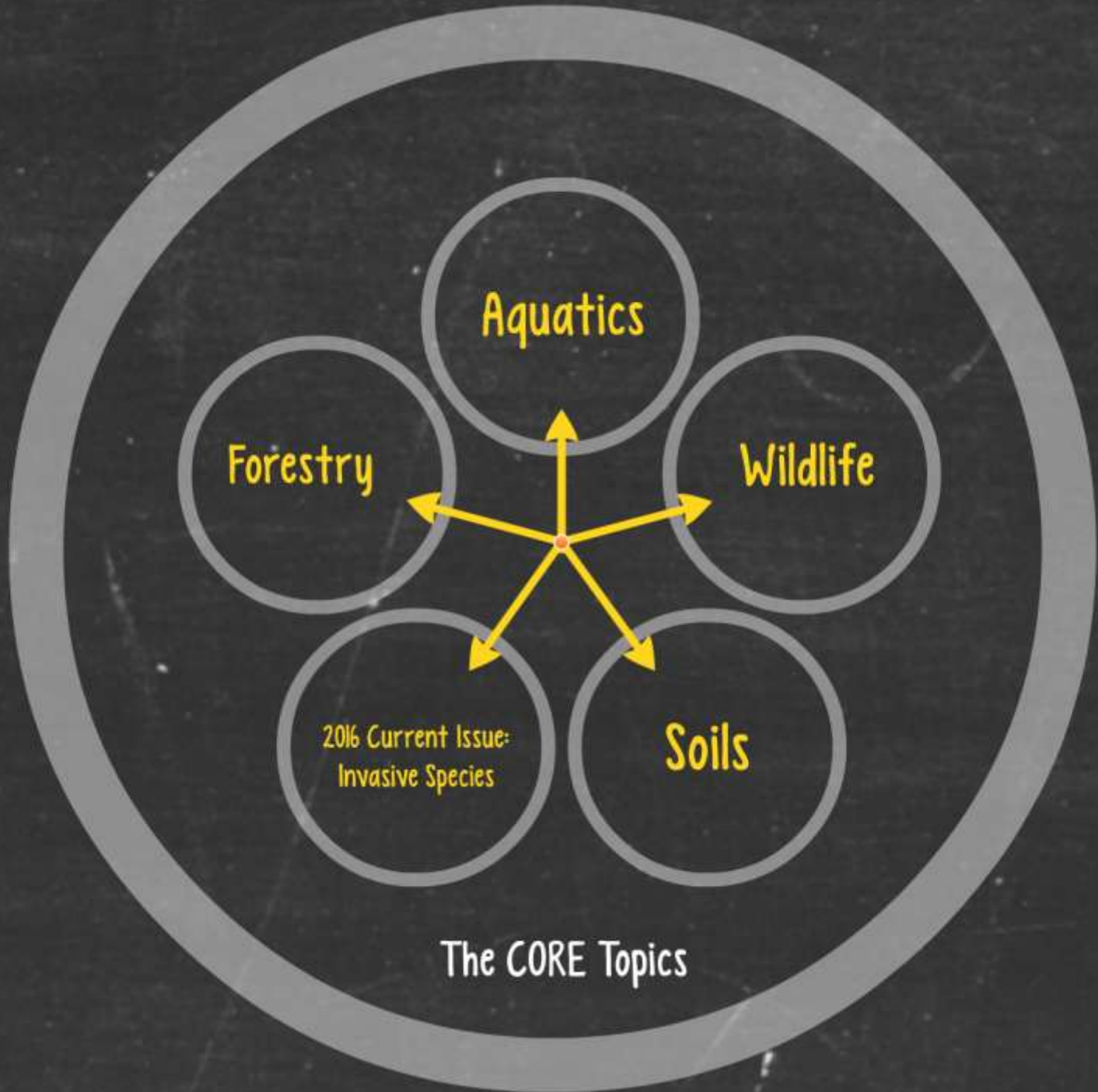
Sample question: In the soil pit in front of you, identify the soil sections, moisture regime, and draw and label the soil profile.

Presentations

- Students are presented with a local environmental issue.
- Teams are given limited time and materials to develop a solution to the issue.
- Teams present their solution to a panel of judges.



Envirothon Program!



WORKSHOPS

- Hands on workshops delivered by natural resource professionals
- Vary in length
- *Goal:* introduce students to concepts in environmental science including hands on skills and theoretical knowledge



STUDYING

- Online resources provided to help teachers bring concepts into the classroom
- Group studying outside of class - get outdoors!
- Using links to online resources provided through NAE or state/provincial/territorial website
- Connect with local resource professionals

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Regional Events

Some provinces and states have competitions across the region. Regional winners move on to the larger provincial/state/territorial competition.

e.g. Ontario has up to 22 regions annually that hold their own workshops and competitions.

Provincial/State/Territorial Championship

Upwards of 57 provinces, states and territories hold large championship events. The top team will represent that region at the North American Envirothon.

These competitions are often longer and more challenging than the regional events that lead up to them.

North American Envirothon

North American Envirothon brings together all provinces, states and territories to compete for the championship title.

This larger event is a step above in difficulty - longer tests, longer presentations, higher expectations.

One Envirothon Champion!

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2016 North American Envirothon

- July 24-29, 2016 at Trent University
- Bringing together 50+ top states, provinces and territories to compete
- Expect over 700 visitors (students, advisors, volunteers)
- Beginning Sept 2015 everyone will be looking to Ontario
 - Showcase Ptbo, Kawarthas, Ontario and Canada
- Reach over 500,000 students, teachers and volunteers through NA network