

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT

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UTAH ENVIROTHON COMPETITION EXPLORES ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

The Utah Envirothon competition, sponsored by the Utah Association of Conservation Districts, was held last weekend at the Salt Lake Valley Landfill where students had an opportunity to see methane gas used to produce electricity for the grid that provides some power for the city of Murray. The special focus issue at this year's competition was alternative/renewable energy and the facility provided the best opportunity to see that technology in action, as well as to provide good learning and testing stations in aquatics, wildlife, forestry and soils.



Twelve teams of five high school students each met Friday evening at the West Valley Family Fitness Center where they made an oral presentation on the alternative/renewable energy issue and were treated to pizza by the Salt Lake Conservation District. The featured speaker was Debra Yazzie, public and recycling information officer for the landfill, who spoke about the future of renewable energy. On Saturday, they met at the landfill to complete the station testing.

The soils learning and test station was presented by NRCS soil scientists Ray Grow and Randy Lewis, shown (left to right) in the accompanying photo with Rulen Miller (center), son of NRCS DC Brian Miller, who is a member of the North Sanpete team.

The overall winning team was the Blacksmith Fork 4-H Team. They will represent Utah at the International Canon Envirothon in New York this summer.

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