

NEWS RELEASE

West Virginia Conservation Agency

1900 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston WV 25305

Phone: 304-558-2204; Fax: 304-558-1635; Web Site: <http://www.wvca.us>

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Contact:	Cassandra Holmes phone (304) 558-2204	E-mail: cholmes@wvca.us
	Devin Wanner phone (304) 285-1596	E-mail: dwanner@fs.fed.us

Jefferson FFA Captures First Place at 2010 West Virginia Envirothon Competition

FRANKFORD, WV— The 14th annual West Virginia Envirothon proved to be another exciting competition; especially for Jefferson FFA. Jefferson FFA walked away from this year's competition with a shared \$5,000 scholarship, sponsored by the Weyerhaeuser Foundation. They are also eligible to compete at the 2010 Canon Envirothon at California State University, in Fresno, C.A.

Second place team went to Ripley Environmental Science. They earned a shared scholarship of \$3,750, sponsored by the Dominion Foundation.

Doddridge County Gold took 3rd place, earning them a team scholarship of \$2,500, sponsored by the 319 Clean Water Grant: West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection and West Virginia Conservation Agency.

Fourth place team was Doddridge County Environmental Science. They earned a shared scholarship of \$1,250 sponsored by Mountain RC&D and Great Kanawha RC&D.

^ Fifth place went to Shady Spring Biology Club 1, winning them a shared scholarship of \$500, sponsored by CONSOL Energy.

^ Jefferson FFA also earned the honor of being this year's top scoring FFA team. They are now eligible to compete at the national FFA Competition.

Braxton FFA Blue placed 6th; Hampshire Home School placed 7th; Braxton FFA gold placed 8th; Ravenswood FFA placed 9th; and Cabell Midland FFA placed 10th.

^ Twenty-four teams from all parts of the Mountain State traveled to the Greenbrier County Youth Camp, near Lewisburg, W.Va. to compete at this year's competition, held April 22-23, 2010. The Envirothon is a conservation education program available to students in grades 9 through 12. The Envirothon gives students from across the region the opportunity to test their skills at aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and this year's current environmental topic, The Protection of Groundwater – A Community Focus.

MORE

˘ The West Virginia Envirothon is made possible through generous partners and sponsors. The Dominion Foundation and the West Virginia Department of Education were the 2010 Platinum Level donors, contributing \$10,000 or more. The Weyerhaeuser Foundation has contributed to the Envirothon since its' second year in existence and was a Gold Level donor.

˘ The West Virginia Envirothon Committee is a subcommittee of the West Virginia Association of Conservation Districts, and is a partnership effort of the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, West Virginia Conservation Agency, West Virginia Conservation Districts, West Virginia Department of Education, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, West Virginia Division of Forestry, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, West Virginia Forestry Association, and West Virginia University Extension Service.

Information about the West Virginia Envirothon can be found at www.wvca.us/envirothon.

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