## Press Release



# 2026 New Jersey Envirothon to Take Place on May 9, 2026

Oradell, NJ — Get ready for an exciting opportunity to put your environmental knowledge to the test! If you're a teacher or student passionate about the world around you, the 2026 New Jersey Envirothon is the event you don't want to miss! This dynamic competition brings together high school teams from all over New Jersey for a day of hands-on challenges, teamwork, and real-world problem-solving centered around the theme "Non-point Source Pollution: It begins at home!"

The New Jersey Envirothon Committee announces the 2026 New Jersey Envirothon for Saturday, May 9, 2026. This annual event invites high school teams statewide to compete in hands-on environmental challenges covering conservation, natural resources, and sustainability.

This year's theme, "Non-point Source Pollution: It begins at home!" highlights how daily choices contribute to pollution and stresses individual responsibility. Students will examine causes of nonpoint source pollution in urban and rural areas and learn to survey their communities and watersheds.

### **About the New Jersey Envirothon**

The Envirothon is a statewide competition that encourages interest in conservation and stewardship. Teams are tested on soil, aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife, and current issues, while developing teamwork and leadership through real-world experience.

#### **Event Details**

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2026

**Location:** The Lighthouse Center for Natural Resources

**Eligibility:** High school student teams from across New Jersey

Registration: Opened October 2025 at <a href="https://www.njenvirothon.org">https://www.njenvirothon.org</a>

#### Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Apply classroom knowledge to real-world environmental issues
- Connect with environmental professionals
- Compete for scholarships, awards, and a spot at the 2026 NCF-Envirothon, July 19-25 at Mississippi State University
- Build lasting relationships with peers and mentors passionate about the environment

#### How to get involved?

Teachers, advisors, and students interested in forming teams or learning more about the event can visit <a href="https://www.njenvirothon.org">www.njenvirothon.org</a>.

The New Jersey Envirothon is made possible through the support of local conservation districts, state agencies, and sponsors dedicated to fostering the next generation of environmental leaders. **Ocean County Soil Conservation District (OCSCD)** is honored and excited to serve as this year's host of the New Jersey Envirothon! OCSCD is dedicated to promoting natural resource conservation through education, outreach, and community partnerships. Hosting the 2026 Envirothon is a wonderful opportunity to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards and celebrate New Jersey's diverse ecosystems.

Jersey-Friendly Yards (JFY) is an online resource created to help reduce non-point source pollution and protect New Jersey's waterways. The website offers practical, science-based tools and guidance for creating landscapes that are both beautiful and environmentally sustainable — supporting healthy soil, clean water, and thriving wildlife habitats. JFY will also be a valuable study tool for Envirothon teams as they prepare for the Soils, Aquatics, and Wildlife sections of the competition, helping them understand the vital connections between soil health, water quality, and habitat conservation. <a href="https://www.jerseyyards.org/">https://www.jerseyyards.org/</a>

