

# News Release

**Contact:**

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## Gearing up for 2026 Rhode Island Envirothon!

Planning is well underway for the 2026 [Rhode Island Envirothon](#) to be held on Friday, May 22! Teams of Rhode Island middle and high school students from across the Ocean State have been training all year and will participate in three events over the next two months, finishing with the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual team competition.

Rhode Island Envirothon is an exciting environmental program, perfect for middle and high school students who love the outdoors, animals, and plants, or who are just curious about the world we live in. Throughout the year, Envirothon students attend hands-on workshops that inspire learning about our natural environment and instill an appreciation of nature and the delicate environmental balances that make life possible. After studying with experts on all aspects of the environment, the program culminates each May in a one-day battle of environmental minds!

Volunteers and environmental professionals from state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, higher education, and private industry serve as event organizers, station volunteers, subject matter experts and judges.

This year's outdoor competition will be held at the beach at **Goddard Memorial State Park** (1095 Ives Farm Road in East Greenwich), where the teams will rotate through five stations to answer written questions and engage in hands-on activities like soil analysis, wildlife habitat assessment, tree identification, and water quality sampling. At the last station, they will deliver a 12-15-minute presentation on this year's Environmental Issue, "**Non-Point Source Pollution: It begins at home!**" to a panel of judges.

Do you have a school class, club or youth group interested in participating? It's not too late to sign up! Contact Paul Dolan, at 401-500-0399 or [president@rienvirothon.org](mailto:president@rienvirothon.org), or Peter Stetson at [petestetson8@gmail.com](mailto:petestetson8@gmail.com).

- **April 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Special Topic Session training** on Nonpoint Source Pollution in Rhode Island, Save the Bay, Providence



*2026 RI Envirothon winners from the Wheeler School pose with RI State Resource Conservationist, Cassius Spears, Jr. (left).*

- **May 2, 2026**, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – **All Discipline Field Trip**, Arcadia Management Area, Hope Valley
- **May 22, 2026**, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – **RI Envirothon**, Goddard Park, East Greenwich

The 2026 Rhode Island Envirothon is made possible through the contributions of partner agencies and organizations, including the [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#), AMICA, [Environmental Business Council of New England](#), The Hammond Family, [Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England](#), [Rhode Island Society of Environmental professionals](#), [Senator Susan Sosnowski's Office](#), [Northern Rhode Island Conservation District](#), RI Tree Farm, RIFCO, Navigant Credit Union, Westerly Community Bank, and many other professional and environmental organizations.

The overall winning team will have the opportunity to represent Rhode Island in the [International Envirothon](#), to be held July 19-25, 2026, in Starkville, Mississippi.

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*2026 RI Envirothon participants examine samples at the Water Quality station.*