

Smethport to Represent McKean County at the PA State Envirothon

The Smethport team of five students, consisting of Kyle Lightner, Felicia Alfieri, Steven Alfieri, Lauren Stratton, and Adam Groshek took first place overall at the “Wild” Envirothon held on Tuesday, May 3rd at the Keating Sportsmen’s Club in Smethport. This team will now go on to represent McKean County at the PA Envirothon being held at the Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove and Shikellamy State Park in Sunbury on May 24 & 25th..

This exciting academic event pits teams from McKean County School Districts of ninth- to twelfth-grade students against each other in outdoor situations that test their knowledge of the natural world. The event was sponsored by the McKean County Conservation Districts, Upper Allegheny Watershed Association, Lafayette Township Supervisors, and the Keating Sportsman’s Club.

During this hands-on competition, students may be asked to measure a tree...analyze water from a stream...or feel handfuls of earth to identify the type soil. They work as a 5-member team to answer questions of fact, and use their critical thinking to find solutions to reality-based situations, such as how to balance the use and protection of our natural resources through 5 stations.

The stations included: Forestry, manned by Stan Hess, DCNR Bureau of Forestry; Wildlife, manned by Len Groshek and Wayne Hunt from the PA Game Commission; Soil and Land Use, manned by Ben Renner, NRCS and Dave Stratton from the Farm Service Agency; Aquatics, manned by Todd Delucia, Cameron County Conservation District and the Current Event, Salt and Freshwater Estuaries, manned by Jim Clark, Penn State Cooperative Extension and Joan Biehler from the McKean County Planning Commission.



The winning McKean County team from Smethport (l-r) Adam Groshek, Lauren Stratton, Kyle Lightner, Felicia Alfieri, Steven Alfieri, and Chris Swanson, Team Advisor