

For Immediate Release

Aug. 3, 2015

Contact: Erika Hill, Public Relations Director
Phone: (402) 471-7672 Cell: (402) 570-2283
Email: ehill@nrdnet.org

“STATE ENVIROTHON WINNERS RANK 11TH IN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION COMPETITION ACROSS NORTH AMERICA”

Lincoln, NE – The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts is proud to announce the 2015 Nebraska Envirothon state championship team ranked 11th across North America after competing in the National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Envirothon competition last week. The Nebraska team hails from Concordia High School in Omaha. Concordia Team 1 spent the summer preparing for the National Envirothon which was held in Springfield, Missouri this year from July 27th – August 1st. There were 52 teams total from the United States and Canada competing.

Student teams, consisting of five members, first competed in one of six regional contests around the state. The highest scoring teams had the opportunity to compete at the state competition which was held at Camp Comeca near Cozad in April. The state winners are sponsored by the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts to compete at the national competition.

Members of the Concordia High School team are Sam Manning (12th grade), Matthew Kernen (12th grade), Michael Eesley (12th grade), Jackson Grasz (12th grade) and Trevor Grimm (12th grade). Their coach is Mike Ellis.

The five-member teams compete in seven areas of environmental studies: soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, range, policy and present on a current environmental issue pertaining to urban forestry. Test questions are not only written, but many require hands-on observations, measurements and calculations.

“We are so proud of Concordia High School’s team and have seen how hard they have worked these last few months preparing for the NCF Envirothon,” said Jim Johnson, Board Member of the Nebraska Association of Resources and Chair of the Information and Education Committee. “This group of students values our natural resources and we’re positive they’ll do their part to conserve them now and in the future,” said Johnson.

Missouri’s team from Penn Brook High School won the NCF Envirothon. A team from Pennsylvania got second place and a team from Texas got third.



The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts is the annual sponsor of the Nebraska Envirothon. NARD gave \$1,500 to Concordia High School's team for winning the state competition. The team used the money to re-invest back into their Envirothon program at the school.

The NCF Envirothon for 2016 will be held in Ontario, Canada.

###

The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD), the trade association for Nebraska's 23 natural resources districts, works with individual NRDs to protect lives, protect property, and protect the future of Nebraska's natural resources. These districts are unique to Nebraska. NRD's are local government entities with broad responsibilities to protect our natural resources. Major Nebraska river basins form the boundaries of the 23 NRDs, enabling districts to respond best to local conservation and resource management needs. To learn more about Nebraska's NRDs visit www.nrdnet.org. Or you can head to the Natural Resources Districts' Facebook page at www.facebook.com or follow NARD's Twitter page at [@nebrnd](http://www.twitter.com). NARD is located at 601 S. 12th St. Suite 201, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508. Email NARD at nard@nrdnet.org or call NARD at (402) 471-7670.