



CHARLES SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Organized 1941

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Recap of MASCD Grant

The Charles Soil Conservation District sincerely appreciates the awarding of the MASCD Environmental Education Endowment Grant issued June 2020 for the Charles County Envirothon 2021 – 2021 Program. Given the COVID situation for that program year, the grant was reappropriated to the 2021–2021 program and was instrumental in the offering of the Envirothon to high school students of Charles County.

Prior to COVID, Charles SCD took pride in the fact that every public high school in Charles County participated in the Charles County Envirothon program. With a lot of hard work on the part of Charles SCD staff and the teachers that either continued as coaches from prior years or signed on to take over their school teams, the program that had only two schools and a handful of students participate in the 2020–2021 virtual season regained its strength, and by the end of the 2021 – 2022 season once again achieved participation by all seven of our public high schools.

Here are some highlights of the 2021–2022 season and grant deliverables documentation:

- October 19, 2021 training – 27 student and coach participants from 5 high schools
- February 15, 2022 training – 47 student and coach participants from 6 high schools
- March 29, 2022 training – 57 student and coach participants from all 7 public high schools
- April 13, 2022 Charles County Envirothon – 57 student and coach participants from all 7 public high schools; 20 resource trainers and event administrators
- Charles County 2021–2022 Envirothon expenses: \$8,130.04
 - Includes \$3,453.97 for transportation (2 buses for each of the 4 events); this is the largest expense consuming 42% of the budget
 - Awards and t-shirts make up 19% of expenses
 - Competition awards luncheon and refreshments at trainings are 14% of costs
 - MASCD Grant: \$1,500
 - Tri-County Council for So Md–SMADC sponsorship: \$500
 - Net District expense: \$6,130.04
- Promotion and operation of Charles County Envirothon 2021–2022 program includes recognition of MASCD and SMADC funding
 - Most recent newsletter article (available at our website: <https://charlesscd.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-Newsletter.pdf>); posted to website and e-distributed to >400 cooperators, engineers, resource professionals, government contacts, conservation partners, county constituents, teachers, students, and other contacts
 - Recognition during Charles County Envirothon Awards program; 77 total attendees
 - Recognition during training opening statements; 34–70 total attendees

Summary for Publication

Charles County Envirothon – Back on the Farm

Charles Soil Conservation District (SCD) is pleased to announce the completion of its 29th Charles County Envirothon season. The Charles County Envirothon encountered lower than normal participation in the first two trainings of the year due to the slow reengagement post-COVID return to school in Fall 2021. The program, however, was back in full swing by the March training and April competition, once again achieving participation by all seven of the county's public high schools.

The fully in-person 2021–2022 season kicked off with the fall training having students from five of the county's high schools, increasing to six schools for the winter training, and all seven schools having representation at our spring training and competition. Trainings are held at Charles SCD's 141-acre farm with the competition being held at Gilbert Run Park.

Charles County Envirothon could not be the successful program it is without the support of the volunteers and cooperating agencies that provide their expertise in the training and testing of our participants including staff from Charles SCD, MDA, Prince George's SCD, St. Mary's SCD, DNR Wildlife Division, and several private foresters.

Charles SCD coordinates as well as funds the Charles County Envirothon program so that no school or student will have to incur a cost to participate. Charles SCD appreciates the financial sponsorship of our community supporters of this year's program including an environmental education endowment grant from Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts and sponsorship from Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

OPTIONAL:

If there is enough room in the publication, one/both of these paragraphs may be good to include:

Envirothon is an international educational program that provides hands-on training to high schoolers interested in natural resources. Topics covered include: soils, forestry, aquatics, wildlife and a current issue that is timely to the area hosting the international NCF Envirothon. This year's current issue is *Waste to Resources* and represents a pressing environmental issue faced by the state of Ohio, the hosts of this year's NCF Envirothon.

Should you or a Charles County high schooler you know be interested in participating, be sure to check out our website for more information about the program including the coach contacts at each of our high schools: <https://charlesscd.com/envirothon/>. More information on Maryland Envirothon can be found at: <https://mdenvirothon.org/> and the NCF Envirothon at: <https://envirothon.org/>.



Several teams at the soils training station during the Charles County Envirothon fall training event at the Charles Soil Conservation District farm October 19, 2021.



Charles County's McDonough High School team at Maryland Envirothon held June 22, 2022, at University of Maryland Clarksville Research Farm. The team is coached by Maurice J. McDonough High School teachers Kelly Bryant and Mary Howard.