

Dear ECO-Meet Coach or New Contact:

The 2017 Milford Lake ECO-Meet is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 27th** at the Milford Nature Center, 3415 Hatchery Dr., Junction City, KS. (See [Schedule of Events](#))

If you're a new teacher to the area or to the ECO-Meet event, we invite you to check out the [Fact Sheet](#) included in this mailing for a quick introduction to our program. The statewide ECO-Meet web site at www.kansasecomeet.org can answer many questions you may have. It is also home to the various reference lists that we use to create the test questions and the Scavenger Hunt so these lists are a great place to start when studying for an ECO-Meet. The 2015 Kansas State ECO-Meet will be held Thursday, November 3rd at Camp Aldrich/Kansas Wetlands Education Center near Great Bend, Kansas. Detailed information about the State meet will be posted on the aforementioned web site. The top three teams from the Milford ECO-Meet along with the first and second place finishers from the Ecosystem and Focus tests will advance to state. Winners at the Milford ECO-Meet will also be awarded scholarships ranging from \$50 to \$100 and at the state level, the winners can compete for larger scholarships.

The 2017 schedule for the Ecosystem and Focus tests are as follows:

Tallgrass Prairie (Habitat Test)

Kansas Amphibians and Reptiles (Focus Test)

Each of the four ECO-Meet activities makes up ¼ of the team's total points; every activity carries the "same weight" in final scoring. All ECO-Meet rules and regulations are available on the web site

The Milford Lake ECO-Meet has space for up to 28 teams. Spaces are available on a "first come/first served" basis and coaches are initially allowed to bring up to 4 teams per school. If all 28 team positions do not fill, then schools may be allowed to bring more than 4 teams. We will acknowledge receipt of your registration forms/fees by e-mail. After 28 teams have paid, registration will be closed. You do not need to supply us initially with the final roster of student's names, however, you do need to register and pay for the "number of teams" you are bringing. Registration fee is \$5.00 per student and \$5.00 for the coach. **Final team rosters should be turned in no later than noon on Friday September 22nd** and can be e-mailed to pat.silovsky@ks.gov.

To ensure that we have enough t-shirts in the sizes the students need, please submit t-shirt sizes for your team members **as soon as possible**. We will try our best to have the sizes the students need, but substitutions may have to be made. You can email pat.silovsky@ks.gov with t-shirt sizes as soon as you know them.

Any teams wishing to study for the scavenger hunt (and we encourage you to do so) after normal hours (9-4:30 M-F year around or 1-5 pm Sat/Sun April thru September) must call or email the Milford Nature Center and make us aware of your plans.

The Milford Lake ECO-Meet invites schools from an eleven county area including Republic, Washington, Marshall, Cloud, Clay, Dickinson, Riley, Pottawatomie, Geary, Wabaunsee, and Morris Counties. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Milford Lake ECO-Meet committee members below. If you choose not to participate in 2017, we will contact your school again next year for the 2018 ECO-Meet.

We are looking forward to a great ECO-Meet in 2017. We hope you will join us. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Pat Silovsky

Chuck Otte

KDWPT

Geary Co. Extension

Milford Nature Center

119 E 9th, JC, KS

785-238-5323

785-238-4161

pat.silovsky@ks.gov

cotte@ksu.edu

