

August 15th, 2019

Dear ECO-Meet Coach:

It's time to prepare for the 2019 Northwest Kansas ECO-Meet, scheduled for Thursday, October 10th at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays. Please review the enclosed **Schedule of Events** for the agenda of the day. Medals will again be awarded to the top three placing teams as well as the top two placing individuals in the Woodlands Ecosystem and Ornithology events. Scholarships will be awarded to placing teams and individuals if the funding is available. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the top overall team. The complete ECO-Meet packet is enclosed in this initial mailing.

Highlights for 2019:

1. Plans are to conduct ten Regional ECO-Meets held this year. The top three teams and top two individual winners in the Woodlands Ecosystem and Ornithology events from all ten regional ECO-Meets will qualify for the state meet, to be held at the Dyck Arboretum in Hesston on November 7th. Scholarships in the amount of \$300/student will again be the top team prize at the State event, as well as a traveling trophy and medals. Scholarships and medals will be awarded to second (\$200) and third (\$100) place teams and the top two individual winners (\$200 & \$100) of the Woodlands Ecosystem and Ornithology test events. More information on the State event is posted on the ECO-Meet web site later in August.
2. For the Northwest Kansas ECO-Meet, each school can bring a maximum of four teams. Students eligible for participation can be in grades **8-12**. **The first 28 teams to register and pay their registration fees will be assured of a space.** Spaces are available only on a first-come/first-served basis. I will acknowledge receipt of your registration forms and fees by telephone or email. After 28 teams have paid, registration will be closed. (Coaches, the sooner you send us the completed registration forms along with the registration fees, the better chance you have of being among the first 28 teams). Team roster changes can be made up to the morning of the ECO-Meet. The registration form is included in this packet. Please mail it to Mike Rader at the address provided before **October 1st**. Please visit the web site: www.kansasecomeet.org to see the new information for 2019.
3. **The registration fee is \$8.00 per student & coach and is non-refundable.** All registration fees are deposited directly into the Northwest Kansas ECO-Meet scholarship account. Lunch and entrance to the museum exhibits will be provided by utilization of the registration fees and other sources, with any excess going into scholarships.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mike Rader
Wildlife Education Coordinator
KDWP – Pratt Operation Office
512 SE 25th Avenue, Pratt, KS 67124
(620) 672-0708
mike.rader@ks.gov