



# Michigan Envirothon

Sponsored by the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts

[www.michiganenvirothon.org](http://www.michiganenvirothon.org) – 517.324.4421

*“Inspiring Environmental Stewardship in Michigan’s High School Students”*

## News Release

For Immediate Release

Date: November 10, 2009

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### MACD Hires New Michigan Envirothon Program Coordinator

EAST LANSING – The Michigan Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) is pleased to welcome Benjamin Wickerham as the new Michigan Envirothon Program Coordinator. MACD administers the Michigan Envirothon, an environmental competition for high school students from throughout the state. The students compete in teams at Regional and State levels.

Ben will support and assist the Michigan Envirothon Board and Committee in activities such as fundraising, promotion, volunteer recruitment, and test development. He will also coordinate the Regional Envirothon and Statewide competition events.

Regional Envirothon competitions are held each spring in parks and natural areas across Michigan. Students work in teams to answer questions related to our natural resources and to develop creative solutions to environmental problems. The motto of the Michigan Envirothon is, "Inspiring environmental stewardship in Michigan's high school students." **Registration for the 2010 competition is now open. Registration deadline is February 12, 2010.**

The top 24 teams then go on to compete in the State Envirothon. The team who wins the state competition becomes the team to represent Michigan in the Canon Envirothon. **The 2010 State Envirothon Competition will take place at scenic Leelanau Outdoor Camp in Maple City, on May 13 & 14, 2010.** Every team presents its Community Outreach Projects and takes tests at outdoor “eco-stations” in natural resource subject areas during the state competition. The winning team will participate in the Canon Envirothon, North America’s largest high school environmental education competition.

Svenja Drebes has served as the Michigan Envirothon Coordinator since 2007, and MACD appreciates her dedication, enthusiasm and hard work resulting in building a highly successful program.

“I would like to build on the success of last year's competition and expand the number and diversity of schools involved in the competition,” said Ben. “In doing so, I hope to incorporate more statewide partners and increase participation in Envirothon fundraising events.”

Prior to his position with MACD, Ben served as the Education/Administrative Coordinator for the Genesee Conservation District and worked as a Watershed Project Coordinator for Branch County Conservation District, where education and outreach was a major component of watershed project responsibilities. He earned a bachelor of science degree in Zoology from Michigan State University.

Michigan Envirothon is administered by MACD. MACD is a non-profit organization that represents the interests of Michigan Conservation Districts and works to strengthen Districts through leadership, information and representation at the state level. Michigan’s 79 Conservation Districts are the local providers of natural resource management services that help our citizens conserve their lands and our environment for a cleaner, healthier, economically stronger Michigan. For more information about the Michigan Envirothon - including registration materials - call Ben at (517) 324-4421, email at [mienvirothon@macd.org](mailto:mienvirothon@macd.org) or visit [www.michiganenvirothon.org](http://www.michiganenvirothon.org).