

ECO-MEET SCAVENGER HUNT

GUIDELINES

1. Each team will be given a list of various items related to natural history or human influence on the environment to be collected in a designated area. They will also be given a large bag and three film canisters to hold their collection.
2. The list will be divided into five areas, each of which will be worth 15-30% of the total 100 points. The five areas are: Forbs, Grasses, Woody Plants, Animals and Miscellaneous. The Miscellaneous category will test the knowledge of second-order concepts about natural objects such as: classification (a legume), anatomy (a compound leaf), processes (evidence of decomposition) and adaptations (a wind-distributed seed).
3. Each item will have a point value.
4. Teams should decide their collecting strategy before the event begins.
5. Teams will collect as many listed items as possible during the 30 minutes allowed. Coaches are not allowed to accompany the team. Use hand pruners or scissors to collect plant specimens. (These tools are not provided by the ECO-MEET.)
Remember: each item may be presented to the judges only once. Get more than one item if you need it for more than one list entry.
6. **EACH TEAM SHOULD HAVE A WATCH TO KEEP TRACK OF THE TIME.**
7. All lists must be returned at the end of the event before team members will be allowed to leave the area.
8. Teams will be ranked by highest score.
9. Field guides and keys are allowed during the event. RESEALABLE PLASTIC bags to help sort out items are permissible AND ENCOURAGED. All backpacks, fanny packs, books, and plastic bags must be submitted for inspection to the judges before collecting begins.
10. All telecommunication devices, including cell phones, are prohibited and must be surrendered to the team coach prior to the event.
11. Teams will not be allowed in the hunt area on the day of the event unless it is their time to compete.
12. No item may be collected before the event begins. e.g., customized "field guides" using actual plant specimens are not allowed.
13. Point penalties will be deducted from team scores for running over the 30-minute time limit. 0-5 minutes late = minus 5 points: 5-10 minutes late = minus 10 points.
14. **Observe proper collecting etiquette.** Do not harass wildlife, do not destroy habitat and do not uproot any plants or collect more of a plant than is necessary. Collect enough of a plant that identification is certain but no more than is necessary. Points will be deducted for violating this rule. A team may be disqualified if the violation is flagrant.

Reference lists for the ECO-MEET may be found on the Kansas ECO-MEET website at:
<http://www.KansasEcomeet.org>

Revised April 5, 2017