

August 24th, 2017

Dear ECO-Meet Coach:

It's time to gear up for the 2017 Ernie Miller ECO-Meet, scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th. Please review the enclosed **Schedule of Events** for the agenda of the day. Medals and certificates will be awarded to the top three placing teams, overall, and to the top two placing individuals in the Tallgrass Prairie Ecosystem and Herpetology portions of the event. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the top overall team as well. The complete ECO-Meet packet is enclosed in this initial mailing.

Highlights for 2017:

1. Ten Regional ECO-Meets are scheduled for this year. The top three teams and top two individual winners in the Tallgrass Prairie Ecosystem and Herpetology events from all ten regional ECO-Meets will qualify for the state meet, to be held at the Webster Conference Center in Salina on Thursday, November 2nd. Scholarships in the amount of \$300/student will again be the top team prize at State, as well as a traveling trophy and medals. Scholarships and medals will be awarded to second and third place teams and the top two individual winners of the Tallgrass Prairie and Herpetology events at State. More information on the State meet will be posted on the website. Please visit the website: www.kansasecomeet.org for all the new information for this season.
2. For the Ernie Miller ECO-Meet, each school is allowed to bring a maximum of three teams. Students eligible for participation in the Ernie Miller ECO-Meet can be in grades **9-12**. **The first 24 teams to register and pay their registration fees will be assured of a space.** Spaces are available only on a first-come/first-serve basis. We will acknowledge receipt of your registration forms and fees by telephone or email. After 24 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 24 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 back to the address provided before October 13th.** If you are not able to make it in the first 24 teams, there will be another ECO-Meet scheduled on October 16th, at the Prairie Park Nature Center in Lawrence. Your school can attend it if there are not teams from your school already planning on attending the Ernie Miller event. Please contact me for more details.
3. **The registration fee is \$10.00 per student and non-refundable.** Checks should be made out to Johnson County Parks & Recreation and mailed to Mike Rader at the address listed below. Coaches and any extra folks wanting to get lunch on-site will also need to pay the \$10.00 fee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Pratt KDWPT Office.

Sincerely,

Mike Rader
Wildlife Education Coordinator
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