



Dear ECO-Meet Coach:

It's time to prepare for the 2026 Northeast Kanas ECO-Meet, scheduled for Wednesday, October 28. We are tentatively planning on hosting the meet at **Ernie Miller Nature Center in Olathe, KS**. Construction to the building is almost completed, but we are skeptical that will be done by Oct. 28. We are looking at alternative locations as back-up locations, including the possibility of it being at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka again. We will let you know as the date gets closer.

Please review the attached **Schedule of Events** for the agenda for 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 Habitat and Invertebrates portions of the event. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the top overall team as well. Please visit www.kansasecomeet.org for rules and all information about the event. Checklists for studying are on the website.

Highlights for 2026:

1. Seven Regional ECO-Meets are scheduled for this year. The top three teams and top two individual winners in the Tallgrass and Invertebrate events from all ten regional ECO-Meets will qualify for the state meet, to be held at Rock Springs Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston, KS November 5th. 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 and Invertebrate 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 Northeast KS Meet, each school can bring a maximum of three teams with 3-4 students per team. Students eligible for participation 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 or email it back to the address provided before October 21.**
3. **The registration fee is \$15.00 per student and non-refundable.** Checks should be made out to JCPRD and mailed to Ernie Miller Nature Center at the address listed below. You may also pay over the phone with a credit card by calling 913-826-2800 M-F 9am-4:30 pm.

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

Sincerely,

Andrea Joslin

Andrea Joslin
Outdoor Education Manager
Ernie Miller Nature Center
Johnson County Park and Recreation District
909 N Highway 7
Olathe, KS 66061
913-826-2800