

2019 IRL Envirothon's Aquatic Ecology Station





Focal Point



Most of the questions are linked to water conservation and sustainability, so keep that in mind when studying:

- How will development effect water quality?
- What are the pros and cons of water conservation when involving agriculture?
- What would scientists look for in the field to indicate impaired water systems?
- What techniques/methods would scientists use?



Focal Point (cont.)

- Remember where we live! Several questions will tie the IRL and our area to aquatic studies.
 - How do we impact our surroundings?
 - Where does our water come from and what are we connected to?
 - What are normal conditions in our area?



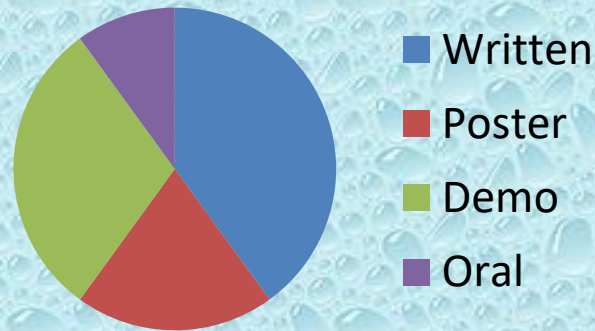
What should you see in water bodies?

- Aquatics' focus is types of organisms this year.
- Remember why the plants/animals are important to the ecosystem and what happens if we remove them or increase their population.
- Consider the whole timeline, not just the immediate impacts to the ecosystem.
- Remember BMPs and how to apply them.
- How can the average person help?



The Breakdown

Aquatics Station



- The written portion is mostly about water quality, where our water comes from, and stormwater protection.
- The poster portion is mostly about water quality. Again, remember to look at watersheds as a whole.
- For the demonstration portion, think about tests performed by scientists everyday in the field for water quality in agricultural areas.
- The oral question is a situation that links the current issue to aquatics.