

2018 Virginia Envirothon Current Issue Learning Objectives

Pastureland Management

Key Topics:

1. Grazing is a popular tool in pastureland management. How can this tool be used to help manage the ecosystem?
2. How can management strategies help to reduce the spread and impact of noxious weeds?
3. How can pasture management be used to maintain a balanced plant community to support livestock, wildlife and land uses?
4. How can pasture managers balance livestock production (grazing) with the maintenance of water quality?
5. How can landowners and farmers with different values and opinions improve communication and working relationships to develop improved pasture management strategies?

Learning Objectives:

Information and examples provided will help Envirothon Teams understand the following:

1. Ways to protect water quality within pasture management.
2. How grazing is used as an effective management tool to control noxious weeds and improve wildlife habitat.
3. The current Best Management Practices (BMPs) for pasture management and how they support livestock production, pest management, and wildlife habitat maintenance.
4. How the use of the land by humans, domestic livestock, and wildlife affects the plant community.
5. The basics of pastureland management concepts, especially grazing systems, stocking rates, and pastureland improvements.