

## **Delaware Program Promotes Environmental Understanding**

### **Issue (Who care and why?)**

Delaware's physical landscape is changing rapidly, moving from open-space agricultural land and large forest parcels to urban and suburban development. As the urban/suburban population grows, children are less often exposed to exploring natural habitats in their neighborhoods or through classes in school.

### **What has been done?**

UD Extension continues to provide environmental outreach education through Delaware ENVIROTHON™ --a high school environmental knowledge challenge. Extension partners with environmental agencies throughout the state to assist in implementing other education programs on topics such as water quality, wetlands, urban forestry, pests, tree planting and poultry operation windbreaks.

### **Impact**

In 2002, 13 Delaware schools participated in ENVIROTHON™ and other environmental education programs about aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife and invasive species. Individual environmental education was provided to 830 individuals, including seven group presentations. A one-day State Challenge event involved 130 participants in an environmental education program.

### **Funding**

Federal Renewable Resources Extension Act

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