**MAINE FFA ENVIRONMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT – 2023**

**FORMAT:**

The State FFA Environment/Natural Resources Management Event will be conducted for teams of up to four contestants from each participating chapter of whose scores the **top four** will be counted.

**GENERAL EVENT RULES:**

1. All written materials will be furnished for the event.
2. One table in the identification room will contain specimens that can be handled. That table will be clearly marked for handling the specimens. Under no circumstances will any participant be allowed to handle any of the other specimens in the identification portion of the event.
3. There will be no discussions between team members/teams during the general exam or identification portions of the event and cell phones may not be used.

**EVENT COMPONENTS:**

General Knowledge Exam – 1 Hour – 100 Points

Exam will cover areas related to Soils, Water, Ecosystems and Waste Management. Students will answer questions on an individual basis with no outside assistance from other individuals, resources or technology.

Team Activity – (specifics TBD) 1 ½ hour – 300 Points

Students will work as a group to discuss project/challenge and identify potential benefits and disadvantages which they will orally present to judges.

Students will be provided poster board and markers to use in preparing their presentation. They may opt to prepare a digital presentation but must provide their own laptop to do so. Either format will be judged equally.

Artifact Identification – ½ hour – 50 Points

Students will be presented with one or two tables of wildlife related specimens, some of which will be labeled “Do Not Touch,” while others may be handled. On an individual basis, students will attempt to identify each in the allotted time.

Soil Analysis – ½ hour – 50 Points

Each student will be given a scorecard and interpretation guide, will view soil samples and information taken from a soil pit, and will be asked to identify soil horizons, textures, percentage course fragments, pH, horizon colors, slope, geologic origin, soil permeability, irrigation suitability and soil structure types of the soil present in the given example. Using the information from the scorecard and interpretation guide, the student will then identify the most appropriate use for the given area and the erosion control practice that best fits the designated use for the land.

**SCORING:**

Total Possible Individual Points: 200

Total Possible Team Points: 300 + (200 x 4) = 1,100