

Trending Tuesday - Current Issue Challenge

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* Required

Take the "Natural Challenge" with this quiz for the Current Issue Station, brought to you by the Pennsylvania Envirothon!



Please enter your name: *

Your answer

Please enter your school name: *

Your answer

Please enter the county you would have represented at this year's Envirothon: *

Your answer



I certify that I will uphold honesty and integrity for this online challenge by not using internet, print, or any other resource to answer these questions. *

I will

1. Many people in Pennsylvania depend on groundwater for their water supply. Which action would most likely provide a greater amount of groundwater? 5 points

- An increase in the amount of infiltration
- A decrease in the amount of condensation
- An increase in the amount of developed land surface
- A decrease in the amount of autumn and winter precipitation

2. How do rural homeowners most frequently cause contamination of their own wells? 5 points

- Pouring used oil on the ground
- Overuse of fertilizer
- Poor construction or maintenance of septic system
- On site disposal of solid waste (garbage)



3. Toilets, showers, and _____ combined represent two-thirds of all indoor water use. 5 points

- Cooking
- Dishwashers
- Faucets
- Washing machines

4. Water is always on the move. From the time the earth was formed, it has been endlessly circulating through which cycle? 5 points

- Carbon Cycle
- Hydrologic Cycle
- Nitrogen Cycle
- Phosphorus Cycle

5. When water from the earth's soil, plants, and water bodies turns into water vapor, the process is called what? 5 points

- Transpiration
- Condensation
- Infiltration
- Evaporation



6. Outside of the home, what is the most commonly known source of groundwater contamination in Pennsylvania? 5 points

- Abandoned wells
- Acid mine drainage
- Older waste disposal sites (landfills)
- Underground storage tanks

7. Which of the following best describes the benefits of riparian buffers on aquatic habitats? 5 points

- Decrease oxygen, cool water, provides food
- Increase oxygen, cool water, provides food
- Increase oxygen, warm water, provides food
- Decrease oxygen, warm water, provides food

8. There are many avenues in which groundwater can become contaminated on the farm. Which practice/avenue rarely leads to groundwater contamination? 5 points

- Over-application of fertilizers or pesticides
- Unrepaired sinkholes
- Feed lots and manure storage
- Cover crops and contour strips



9. Low Impact Development (LID) is a new green technology aimed at reducing a specific source of pollution which the U.S. EPA names as “the greatest contaminant threat to our nation’s water.” What is this source of pollution?

5 points

- Urban runoff
- Nitrates and pesticides
- Brine
- Acid mine drainage

10. During what season of the year will most groundwater recharge occur?

5 points

- Winter
- Spring
- Summer
- Fall

11. What is the largest source of groundwater contamination nationally?

5 points

- Acid mine drainage
- Animal waste
- Septic systems/cesspools
- Municipal landfills
- Industrial waste



12. What document "vests a right to pure water and the values of the natural environment in all Pennsylvanians"?

5 points

- The Constitution of the United States
- The Pennsylvania Constitution
- The Declaration of Independence
- The Clean Water Law

13. Hydrogeologists have identified four principal types of aquifers in Pennsylvania. Which of the following aquifers yields the lowest storage capacity of groundwater?

5 points

- Carbonate rock
- Sand and gravel
- Crystalline rock
- Sandstone and shale

14. Improperly managed livestock can lead to groundwater contamination from animal manure. Which one of the following is not one of those contaminants?

5 points

- Heavy metals
- Nitrates
- Bacteria
- Viruses



15. Aquifers are classified into two categories. Which of the following categories consists of weathered bedrock and rock debris? 5 points

- Consolidated aquifers
- Unconsolidated aquifers

16. What defines a critical water planning area (CWPA) in Pennsylvania? 5 points

- Areas of the Commonwealth where existing or future demands exceed or threaten to exceed the safe yield of available water resources.
- Areas of the Commonwealth where abundant water resources exist and can be used to meet the future needs of large populations.
- Areas of the Commonwealth where only groundwater resources exist and plans need established in order to determine who owns that groundwater.
- Areas of the Commonwealth where fish and other aquatic life are not supported the way they should be.

17. _____, a naturally occurring radioactive gas can dissolve in groundwater and become a health hazard. 5 points

- Uranium
- Radium
- Radon
- Boron



18. What do we call the technologies and practices that can retain and infiltrate rainfall, filter air pollutants, reduce energy demands, mitigate urban heat islands, and sequester carbon?

5 points

- Urban controls
- Green infrastructures
- Environmental development
- Watershed mitigation projects

19. What are some of the common sense approaches and technology used in "low impact development" to help rainfall evaporate back into the atmosphere or soak into the ground?

5 points

- Impervious surfaces, soil tillage, subsurface drains
- Open ponds, swales, sprinkler irrigation
- Rain gardens, pervious (permeable) pavement, green roofs
- Rock lined drainage areas, channelization, storm drains

20. Which soil type has a greater potential for nitrate-nitrogen leaching?

5 points

- Loam
- Silty
- Sandy
- Clay



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