3rd Grade Forestry (30 Minutes - Based on Team Schedule)
Description: This event tests participants' knowledge of native trees of Virginia. This event requires teams to explore and write about nature, has a written test and may/may not include "hands-on" stations.

Participants per Team: 2

Spirit of the competition:
➢ It is a rules violation if coaches, parents, mentors, or spectators enter the competition area or communicate with the team members at any time during the competition. Violation of this rule will place the team below all other teams.
➢ It is further a rules violation for a parent, mentor, or coach to research this event on behalf of the students.

Teams need to bring: Pencils, the team Field Report, and optionally teams may bring one field guide, a hand lens, and a 4-function calculator.

Safety Requirements: None

The Competition:
There are a possible three parts to this event:

Part 1: Students will submit a field report.
• It can be a visit to a local nature park, their backyard, school garden, or their neighborhood
• They will identify 3 - 5 trees on this trip and submit the details on how they identified the trees - sketches of the features, images.
    o The team at a minimum have three identifications.
    o A list of birds and animals that use each tree for food or shelter.
    o Research and explain how native Virginians used the parts of the trees.
    o With a length of no more than 2 double-sided pages.
    o The team report must include the school, student names, team number, and a declaration by the team that they did not have any help writing the report.

Part 2: Students will take a written test to answer topic questions that may include but not limited to:
• Common identification terminology used in identifying trees.
• Forest types.
• Forest succession.

Part 3: Hands-On Stations (if run): Students will identify trees based on real or images of leaves.

Scoring:
Teams will receive two weighted rankings. These rankings will be added to find the final placements. The team with the lowest sum will place first.
• 75% of team points will be awarded for each correct response on the written test and the hands-on stations.
• 25% of team points will be awarded for the team written report.
• Ties will be broken by the accuracy or quality of answers to select questions on the written test chosen by the event leader prior to the competition.

Scoring Example:

Equation: (written test ranking x 0.75) + (report ranking x 0.25) = final ranking

- Team A ranks 4th on the written test. This scores 3 ranking points. The team also scores 5th on their report. This scores 1.25 ranking points. The team's final ranking score is 4.25.
- Team B ranks 2nd on the written test. This scores 1.5 ranking points. The team also scores 7th on their report. This scores 1.75 ranking points. The team's final ranking score is 3.25.
- Team B places first in the rankings.

Possible Resources:

Division A will not release previous tests, or the exact resources used by the Event Supervisor or test writer for any events. The listed resources are meant as a starting point. It is up to the competitor to research further.

- Virginia Department of Forestry

Competition Tree List:

American Beech	Longleaf Pine
American Chestnut	Northern Red Oak
Atlantic White-Cedar	Pawpaw
Black Cherry	Pin Oak
Black Oak	Pitch Pine
Black Walnut	Pond Pine
Common Persimmon	Red Spruce
Eastern Hemlock	Sassafras
Eastern Redbud	Shortleaf Pine
Eastern Redcedar	Silver Maple
Eastern White Pine	Southern Red Oak
Flowering Dogwood	Swamp Chestnut
Laurel Oak	Oak Sycamore
Live Oak	White Oak
Loblolly Pine	Willow Oak