

Ecostation Format

I. The eco-stations generally incorporate questions that are:

- **Written** - multiple choice/true & false/fill in the blank
- **Practical** -This may include species identification (mammals, reptiles, invertebrates, plants, fish, amphibians, insects, and trees), questions that are site specific relating to the soils or habitat surrounding the station, and hands on.

ALL QUESTIONS WILL PERTAIN TO MASSACHUSETTS

II. When students arrive at each ecostation the examiners will instruct them to get into their distinct teams. They will need to listen to examiners for a brief time to become familiar with that station, its questions and any other special instructions. They will be instructed to leave their personal belongings in a designated area until after the time is up. The team name must be put on every page of the exam. It is then up to the team to determine what strategy they will use in taking the exam. They can break up and utilize individual strengths (one or two people focus on species I.D, the others do the written section), or go through the exam as a team one question at a time. It would be a good idea not to crowd around a given resource, and remember **there is no need to all start at question one**. If there is a crowd around a particular resource, do another part and come back when those students move on. If there is a question you get hung up on, skip it, and come back to it later. Also remember to double check all answers before turning in the exam.

III. There will be field guides (Peterson) & other resources available for use by all students. It is imperative that students become familiar with field guides and how to use them.

allowed during the exam

- questions directed at the examiners
- writing implements
- team work & positive attitude!

not allowed during the exam

- team coaches or alternates at or near the eco-stations while the exam is underway
- textbooks or notebooks of any kind
- notes of any kind
- interaction between different teams while taking the exam
- field guides other than those provided at the ecostation
- cell phones or other electronic devices