

# Woodbridge FFA takes first in forestry career development event

CAMDEN, Del. – Woodbridge High School's FFA took the top spot at the 2018 Forestry Career Development Event (CDE) held in Camden, Delaware this week. Middletown took second place, followed by Smyrna and Sussex Central. Woodbridge now goes on to represent Delaware at the [91st Annual FFA Convention & Expo](#) in Indianapolis from October 24 to 27, 2018. For the first time, the 2018 challenge included eight middle and high school teams competing in separate events at the same location. Smyrna Middle School's FFA took first place among middle schools, beating out Alfred G. Waters Middle School (Appoquinimink), Everett Meredith Middle School (Appoquinimink), and Millsboro Middle School. More photos are available (see below) or on [Flickr](#).



Woodbridge High School's winning FFA forestry team: Advisor Scott Haldeman in back with (front row, from left) Carissa Tinsman, Cristina Limon-Gutierrez, Stephanie Vera, and Danny Morales-Rivera. Woodbridge placed first in the forestry career development event (CDE) held at Brecknock County Park in Camden on June 19. Eight Delaware middle and high school teams participated. Woodbridge will now go to the National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis in October.

The forestry event was held at Kent County's Brecknock Park under the direction of [Delaware Forest Service education specialist Ashley Melvin](#), who oversaw the competition for her tenth time. The challenge is designed to measure student knowledge in six separate skill areas: identification of trees, forest pests, and diseases, equipment and mapping,

timber stand improvement, compass and pacing, board-foot volume estimation, and an individual written examination.



Woodbridge FFA students use a Biltmore stick to estimate a tree's height during the forestry career development event at Brecknock Park in Camden. Pictured (from left) are: from left) Carissa Tinsman, Cristina Limon-Gutierrez, Stephanie Vera, and Danny Morales-Rivera. The team placed first and will be in Indianapolis for the National FFA Convention & Expo from October 24 to 27.

The National FFA Organization considers itself the "premier youth organization dedicated to preparing members for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture." According to FFA, members are driven by the organization's foundational motto: "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve." The goal is to prepare students to "support and contribute to future sustainability in farming, science, medicine, and business alike." The National FFA organization provides leadership and personal growth opportunities through agricultural education to more than 650,000 student members belonging to 8,500 local FFA chapters throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands.



Smyrna Middle School's FFA won their event at the 2018 Forestry Career Development Event (CDE) at Brecknock County Park in Camden. From left, Advisor Stefanie Freimuth, Isabella McMullen, Evan Denney, Marissa Dunn, and Sarah Dinsmore.



Middletown FFA team member (from left) Will Thornburg watches as Ryan Freeburg measures a tree during the 2018 Forestry Career Development Event (CDE) at Brecknock County Park in Camden this week.



Middletown FFA team placed second in the forestry career event, led by (from left) advisor Jeffrey Billings, Ryan Freeburg, Will Thornburg, Max Myers, and Alex Nichols.



Smyrna High School's FFA team placed third in the 2018 forestry competition. From left, Smyrna HS FFA Advisor Jay Davis, Rebecca Calderon, Skylar Campanicki, Kasey Euren, and Taylor Davis.



Sussex Central FFA participated in this week's Forestry Career Development Event in Camden. From left, Jason Stoeckel, Kody Lankford, Brandon Greenlee, Will Kenney, Corey Agresta, and Brett Hines.