

**36th Annual Student Career Days**  
**March 22 – 25, 2012**  
**Kansas State University**

## **LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS**

**Description:** A two-person team (maximum of one team per school) will take a written exam (individually) on Friday, with the top scoring teams advancing to Saturday's field exercise. The written exam will measure the participants' knowledge of surface area calculations, sprayer calibrations, fertilizer application rates, and chemical dilution rates.

Teams that advance to the field exercise on Saturday will be required to choose the proper and most efficient equipment, and perform necessary maintenance tasks for an area laid out to represent a partial residential landscape.

**Time:** Students will have one hour to complete the written exam on Friday. Teams participating in the field exercise will be allotted 20 minutes to complete the field portion of the event. Time-slots for Saturday's field exercise will be assigned Friday evening (see schedule for specific time and location), with the selection order determined by team scores on the written exam (i.e. - highest scoring team receives first choice of time slots).

**Limits:** There is no limit to the number of teams that may participate in the written exam. The number of teams participating in the field exercise will be limited due to time constraints.

Written exam scores for all participants will be included in individual and team scores regardless of whether the team participates in the field exercise portion of the event.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

**Points:** 100 possible points per team member; 200 possible points towards the team score. Each team member will receive his/her own written exam points, plus half of the team points for the field exercise.

Points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

1. Written exam (20%)
2. Choice and preparation of equipment for operation (20%)
3. Safe operation of equipment and personal safety (15%)
4. Maintenance operations (20%)
5. Preparation and proper application of chemical mixture (20%)
6. Professionalism (5%)

Time will only be used as a tiebreaker.

**Students are required to bring the following materials to the event:** Pen or pencil for the written exam on Friday (*note: calculators are not permitted*). Safety glasses, gloves, hearing protection, and a rag for the field event on Saturday. Students are required to wear long pants and hard-soled shoes during the field exercise.

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### **Sponsor is required to supply the following materials for the event:**

- 130 copies of written exam
- Final solution for written exam ready for scoring the students' tests
- All equipment and materials needed for the field exercise for two competition stations: mowers, string trimmers, blowers, trash receptacles, rakes, buckets, backpack sprayers, water and simulated chemical concentrate, copy of chemical label showing mixture rates, measuring cups, and rain suits.
- Marking paint
- Stopwatches
- Sufficient number of judges and event monitors
- Any other items deemed necessary for this event