

January 24, 2025

Good Afternoon and Greetings,

Below will be the materials to use in preparing for the ATMS CDE this year:

Compact tractors - we will continue using the single cylinder Briggs & Stratton engines: OHV participants should be familiar with the parts, operation, and general Troubleshooting with these types of engines along with the operators manual.

Structures - we will be using Mig welding practices includes knowledge of the machine, welding wire, speed and operation to complete welding exercise on mild steel 1/4" in thickness.

Electrical - Students should understand the basic principles of electricity and complete an exercise on basic branch circuits using receptacles including the use of GFCI's as well as switches and light outlet.

Machinery and equipment - This year we will use hay equipment which may include mowers/conditioners, windrowing, or baling. Understanding operation and safe use, parts identification, and maintenance of these will be used to draw skill from in the contest.

Environmental - The use of surveying equipment including parts, readings, and slope as well as soil properties and agricultural practices to maintain the soil including soil erosion protection practices, best cropping practices and nutrient incorporation.

Team activity - We will be using fencing and enclosures to include type of materials, tools, types of enclosures to control livestock and/or poultry as well as practices used to enclose these animals.

As you can see these areas are rather broad and will be determined by some of the items that we can secure as the date of the Spring CDE's gets closer. As more information becomes available, I will be than happy to send it out to you. Persons responsible for regional competition can set up their contest so as to select the representatives from their respective regions.

Some items to go without saying:

25 question exam is required.

Personal Protective equipment should be provided by each participant including safety glasses that are industry approved ie identified by the Z87 label somewhere on the glasses.

Nonprogrammable calculators are allowed, **Cell phones** should be left with advisors or other chaperoning adults including parents. If there is a concern, it should be brought to the attention of the contest coordinator.

Also participants that are required to wear a protective item like a foot boot can not safely participate. Footwear needs to be a sturdy shoe or boot without any openings.

If you have any questions, please contact me and I will try to answer to your satisfaction. I will be happy to attend any regional contest.

Joe Linthicum
Superintendent
ATMS Career Development Event