



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEWS RELEASE

P. O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, California 90054-0153 • (213) 217-6485 • www.mwdh2o.com

Contact: Bob Muir, (213) 217-6930; (213) 324-5213, mobile

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WEEKEND BOAT-BUILDING SESSION OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES METROPOLITAN'S 13TH ANNUAL SOLAR CUP™ COMPETITION

Forty-one teams of high school students round out lineup for nation's largest solar-powered boat competition

The field for Metropolitan Water District's 13th annual Solar Cup™ starts to take shape this Saturday (Nov. 15) as teams of high school students from six Southern California counties assemble the hulls of the solar-powered boats they will equip and race next spring.

Solar Cup, which Metropolitan began in 2002 with just eight teams and about 80 students, has become the nation's largest solar-powered boat competition. This year, more than 900 students will participate as part of 41 Solar Cup teams (see attached list).

"Solar Cup melds lessons in the science and engineering fields with environmental education about natural resources to provide students a more comprehensive understanding of the need to manage all our resources efficiently," said Metropolitan General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger.

"The residual benefit of the program is that many students leave Solar Cup with a new-found desire to pursue careers in engineering, science, environmental education and communication—all important disciplines in the water industry," Kightlinger said.

Beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday (Nov. 15), 26 teams will gather at Three Valleys Municipal Water District headquarters in Claremont to build identical, canoe-like hulls out of kits of pre-cut, marine-grade plywood. A group of 15 teams built their boats last Saturday.

Once the hulls are completed, the teams take them back to their schools to equip them over the next seven months with motors, batteries, solar-collection panels, rudders and steering systems.

The program will conclude with the Solar Cup competition May 15-17, 2015 at Metropolitan's Lake Skinner near Temecula in southwestern Riverside County, where the teams will compete in endurance and sprint races. The event is open to the public.

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As part of the education program, Metropolitan provides the hull kits and tool boxes and sponsors technical workshops for the teams and their teachers/advisors that represent schools in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

Metropolitan's member public water agencies and, in some cases, local water retailers, sponsor the teams to help equip the boats. In addition to individual schools, this year three teams are comprised of students from multiple schools—boats representing the Lake Elsinore Unified School District, Moreno Valley Unified School District and another joint team from Murietta Valley Unified School District and Perris Union High School District.

The 2015 Solar Cup program includes nine first-time, or rookie teams who will compete with each other. Another 32 returning, or veteran, teams must build a new hull but may re-use motors, batteries, solar panels and other equipment from previous years.

Teams also are required to submit technical reports and create a public service announcement. Winners in the newcomer and veteran divisions will have the highest number of points from the competitions, plus points awarded for attendance at workshops, technical reports and producing public service announcements.

The 2014 Solar Cup program had 40 teams, of which five were newcomers. First place in the rookie division was won by West Covina High School sponsored by the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. Canyon High School, sponsored by Anaheim Public Utilities, and Long Beach Poly High School registered the first tie in Solar Cup history as the two schools shared first place in the veterans' division.

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

2015 Solar Cup™ Team List

Team/School Name	City	Member Agency Sponsor	Co-Sponsor Agency
Academia Avance	Los Angeles	Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power	
Anaheim High School	Anaheim	Anaheim Public Utilities	
Arcadia High School	Arcadia	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Burbank High School*	Burbank	Burbank Water & Power	
Calabasas High School	Calabasas	Las Virgenes MWD	
California Academy of Math & Science	Carson	West Basin MWD	
Chino High School	Chino	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	City of Chino
Chino Hills High School*	Chino Hills	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	City of Chino Hills
Claremont High School	Claremont	Three Valleys MWD	
Coast High School*	Huntington Beach	Municipal Water District of Orange County	City of Huntington Beach
Compton High School	Compton	City of Compton	
David Gonzales School	Calabasas	Las Virgenes MWD	
Del Lago Academy*	Escondido	San Diego County Water Authority	
Downey High School	Downey	Central Basin MWD	
Elsinore HS / Lakeside HS	Wildomar	Western MWD	Elsinore Valley MWD
Environmental Charter HS	Lawndale	West Basin MWD	
Franklin High School	Los Angeles	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	
Fremont Academy of Engineering & Design	Pomona	Three Valleys MWD	
High Tech High North County	San Marcos	San Diego County Water Authority	
John Glenn High School	Norwalk	Central Basin MWD	
John Muir High School	Pasadena	Pasadena Water & Power	
La Cañada High School	La Cañada Flintridge	Foothill MWD	La Cañada Irrigation District
Laguna Beach High School	Laguna Beach	Municipal Water District of Orange County	Laguna Beach County Water District
Lennox Academy*	Lennox	West Basin MWD	
Long Beach Poly High School	Long Beach	Long Beach Water Department	
Los Osos High School	Rancho Cucamonga	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Cucamonga Valley Water District
McBride High School*	Long Beach	Long Beach Water Department	
Moreno Valley USD Team	Moreno Valley	Eastern MWD	Rancho California Water District
Mountain View High School	El Monte	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Murrieta Valley USD /Perris Union High SD Team	Murrieta	Eastern MWD	Rancho California Water District
Norte Vista High School	Riverside	Western MWD	Riverside Public Utilities
Nuview Bridge Early College HS	Nuevo	Eastern MWD	Rancho California Water District
Oak Park High School	Oak Park	Calleguas MWD	
Oxford Academy*	Cypress	Municipal Water District of Orange County	
Paramount High School West	Paramount	Central Basin MWD	
Providence High School	Burbank	Burbank Water & Power	
Riverside Poly High School*	Riverside	Western MWD	Riverside Public Utilities
San Dimas High School	San Dimas	Three Valleys MWD	
Savanna High School	Anaheim	Anaheim Public Utilities	
West Covina High School	West Covina	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Western High School*	Anaheim	Anaheim Public Utilities	

* Rookie Teams