



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEWS RELEASE

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**FORTY HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS TO PARTICIPATE IN
THREE-DAY SOLAR-POWERED BOAT COMPETITION
Metropolitan Water District's ninth annual Solar Cup™ is nation's largest
solar-powered boat competition and environmental education program**

On your mark, get set, go!

The nation's largest solar-powered boat competition launches this Friday, May 13 as 40 teams of high school students from throughout Southern California gather in southwest Riverside County for three days of racing as part of Metropolitan Water District's Solar Cup™ program.

Teams from high schools (see accompanying list) in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties are participating in this ninth annual Solar Cup at Metropolitan's Lake Skinner, just north of Temecula.

Friday, teams will be put through a series of qualifying events by Metropolitan and a technical advisory team from Occidental and Harvey Mudd colleges to ensure boats meet rules and are safe and seaworthy. Saturday will feature single-seat, solar-powered 16-foot boats outfitted with solar-collection panels in endurance races around a 1.6-kilometer course.

Sunday is highlighted by 200-meter sprint races—in which the solar panels are removed and the boats are powered by solar energy stored in batteries. The races will be followed by an awards ceremony, with trophies awarded in veteran and rookie divisions for teams with the highest points, as well as to teams honored for "Hottest-Looking Boat," teamwork and sportsmanship.

The races are easily visible from the shore, and the event is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with free admission and parking. Lake Skinner is at 37701 Warren Road, Winchester, in the Temecula Valley of southwest Riverside County—about 10 miles northeast of the Rancho California Road exit off Interstate 15.

"The seven-month Solar Cup program is truly a story of hard work, determination, teamwork and intellect," said Solar Cup coordinator Julie Miller, a state-certified teacher in Metropolitan's education programs. "What also is inspiring is the camaraderie. Even though high school teams are competing against one another, they also will pitch in to help each other."

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Since the inaugural event in 2002, more than 7,500 students have participated in Solar Cup. The program provides a team-based educational competition allowing students to apply their skills in math, physics, engineering and communications, while learning about Southern California's water sources, resource management, and alternative energy development.

“In fact,” Miller said, “we are always pleased to hear that Solar Cup has played a role in students' decisions to go on to college, and to pursue majors and careers in math, engineering, environmental studies and other science-related fields.”

In advance of the three-day event, teams are making final tweaks to their hand-built boats equipped with solar panels, motors, batteries and steering. Anaheim's Canyon High School, two-time defending champions in the Solar Cup veterans division (also victorious in the 2003, '04 and '05 events) returns for this year's competition. In addition to the veterans division, Solar Cup features a rookie division for first-time teams.

Winners are the teams with the highest number of points gained in the competitions, technical inspections, submission of three technical reports and creation of a public information project, which includes a public service announcement and presentation of a water-conservation or water-science activity.

In addition, Solar Cup will include 20-minute hands-on presentations by each team in the Activities Pavilion, focusing on a water conservation or science concept in which the audience can participate. There again will be a continual presentation of the teams' 30-second, self-scripted and produced, conservation videos, audiotapes and/or brochures.

Event videos and photos from past Solar Cup events can be found under Education Programs at Metropolitan's website, mwdh2o.com.

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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.

2011 SOLAR CUP SCHOOLS, SPONSORS

<u>City</u>	<u>Team/School Name</u>	<u>Member Agency Sponsor</u>	<u>Co-Sponsor Agency</u>
Anaheim	Anaheim High School	Anaheim Public Utilities	
Anaheim	Canyon High School	Anaheim Public Utilities	
Anaheim	Savanna High School	Anaheim Public Utilities	
Arcadia	Arcadia High School*	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Calabasas	David Gonzales School Los Angeles County Office of Education*	Las Virgenes MWD	
Carson	California Academy of Math & Science*	West Basin MWD	
Compton	Compton High School	City of Compton	
Corona	Centennial High School	Western MWD	Corona Dept of Water & Power
Covina	Diamond Ranch High School	Three Valleys MWD	Walnut Valley Water District
Downey	Warren High School	Central Basin MWD	
Duarte	Pamela Park / Duarte High School	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Fullerton	Sunny Hills High School	City of Fullerton	
Hacienda Heights	Los Altos High School	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Hemet	West Valley High School*	Eastern MWD	
Huntington Park	Huntington Park High School*	Central Basin MWD	
La Cañada Flintridge	La Cañada High School	Foothill MWD	La Cañada Irrigation District
La Puente	La Puente High School	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
La Verne	Damien High School	Three Valleys MWD	City of LaVerne
Lake Forest	El Toro High School	Municipal Water District of Orange County	Irvine Ranch Water District
Lawndale	Environmental Charter High School	West Basin MWD	
Long Beach	Long Beach Poly High School	Long Beach Water Department	
Los Angeles	Academia Avance	Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power	
Los Angeles	Roosevelt High School	Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power	
Murrieta	Murrieta Mesa High School	Western MWD	Rancho California Water District
Norwalk	Southeast ROP /Norwalk High School	Central Basin MWD	
Nuevo	Nuview Bridge Early College High School	Eastern MWD	
Oak Park	Oak Park High School*	Calleguas MWD	
Paramount	Paramount High School West*	Central Basin MWD	
Pasadena	John Muir High School	Pasadena Water & Power	
Pomona	Ganesha High School*	Three Valleys MWD	City of Pomona
Rancho Cucamonga	Los Osos High School*	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Cucamonga Valley Water District
Riverside	Arlington High School	Western MWD	Riverside Public Utilities
Rolling Hills Estates	Palos Verdes Peninsula High School	West Basin MWD	
San Diego	San Diego High School ~ SciTech	San Diego County Water Authority	
San Jacinto	San Jacinto High School	Eastern MWD	
San Marcos	High Tech High School North County*	San Diego County Water Authority	San Diego Miramar College ATTE Center
Temecula	Great Oak & Chaparral High Schools	Eastern MWD	
Torrance	West High School	West Basin MWD	
Walnut	Walnut High School	Three Valleys MWD	Walnut Valley Water District
Wildomar	Elsinore High School	Western MWD	

* New Team

MWD Municipal Water District

Official List as of 5/10/11