



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# NEWS RELEASE

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## METROPOLITAN LAUNCHES NINTH ANNUAL SOLAR CUP; NATION'S LARGEST SOLAR-POWERED BOAT PROGRAM **Up to 700 students from 42 Southland high schools participating**

Nearly 700 students from 42 high schools in six Southern California counties will launch Metropolitan Water District's ninth annual Solar Cup program Saturday, Nov. 6, as they build hulls for the solar-powered boats they will equip and race.

The seven-month program, which began in 2002 with just eight teams and about 80 students, has become the nation's largest solar-powered boat competition. Along the way, Solar Cup has encouraged many participants to attend college and to pursue careers in engineering, science, environmental issues and communication.

"Solar Cup is one of the most successful education programs of Metropolitan, its member agencies and local water agencies," said Metropolitan General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger.

"It gives Southland high school students hands-on lessons in engineering, math, science, renewable resources and environmental education and communication, and informs them and their families about the sources of California's drinking water and the continuing need for conservation," Kightlinger said.

"We also hope it encourages them to eventually seek careers with Southern California's water utilities," he added.

Beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, about half of the 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. The remaining teams will gather at Three Valleys Nov. 13. *[See attached list.]*

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. Often, they add an eye-catching paint or varnish job.

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The program concludes with the Solar Cup competition May 13-15 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.

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 their boats.

The 2011 Solar Cup program includes 12 first-time, or rookie, teams, who will compete with each other. Another 30 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 three technical reports, a work journal, create a water conservation public service announcement and present a water-conservation activity at the event. 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, work journals, producing public service announcements and the water-conservation activities.

For the third year, Solar Cup's technical advisor is Dr. Adrian Hightower, assistant professor of engineering in the Department of Engineering at Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, assisted by engineering students at Harvey Mudd and Occidental colleges.

The 2010 Solar Cup program had 36 teams, of which 10 were newcomers. First place in the rookie division was won by Scripps Ranch High School sponsored by the San Diego County Water Authority. First place in the veterans' division went to Canyon High School of Anaheim, sponsored by Anaheim Public Utilities.

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*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving 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>
Los Angeles	Academia Avance	LADWP	
Anaheim	Anaheim High School	Anaheim Public Utilities	
Arcadia	Arcadia High School*	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Riverside	Arlington High School	Western MWD	
Carson	California Academy of Math & Science*	West Basin	
Calabasas	David Gonzales School*	Las Virgenes MWD	
Anaheim	Canyon High School	Anaheim Public Utilities	
Corona	Centennial High School	Western MWD	Elsinore Valley MWD
Compton	Compton High School	City of Compton	
Claremont	Damien High School	Three Valleys MWD	City of LaVerne
Covina	Diamond Ranch High School	Three Valleys MWD	Walnut Valley Water District
Lake Forest	El Toro High School	MWDOC	Irvine Ranch Water District
Lawndale	Environmental Charter High School	West Basin	
Pomona	Ganesha High School*	Three Valleys MWD	City of Pomona
Temecula	Great Oak & Chaparral High Schools	Eastern MWD	
San Marcos	High Tech High North County*	San Diego County Water Authority	
Huntington Park	Huntington Park High School*	Central Basin MWD	
Pasadena	John Muir High School	City of Pasadena	
La Cañada Flintridge	La Cañada High School	Foothill MWD	La Cañada Irrigation District
La Puente	La Puente High School	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Long Beach	Long Beach Poly High School	Long Beach Water Department	
Hacienda Heights	Los Altos High School	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Rancho Cucamonga	Los Osos High School*	Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Cucamonga Valley Water District
Los Angeles	Marshall High School*	LADWP	
Murrieta	Murrieta Mesa High School	Western MWD	Jurupa Community Service District
Nuevo	Nuview Bridge Early College High School	Eastern MWD	
Oak Park	Oak Park High School*	Calleguas MWD	
Rolling Hills Estates	Palos Verdes Peninsula High School	West Basin	
Duarte	Pamela Park / Duarte High School	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	
Paramount	Paramount High School West*	Central Basin MWD	
Los Angeles	Roosevelt High School	LADWP	
San Diego	San Diego High School ~ SciTech	San Diego County Water Authority	
San Jacinto	San Jacinto High School	Eastern MWD	
Anaheim	Savanna High School	Anaheim Public Utilities	
San Diego	Scripps Ranch High School	San Diego County Water Authority	
Norwalk	Southeast ROP /Norwalk High School	Central Basin MWD	
Fullerton	Sunny Hills High School	City of Fullerton	
Walnut	Walnut High School	Three Valleys MWD	Walnut Valley Water District
Downey	Warren High School	Central Basin MWD	
Torrance	West High School	West Basin	
Hemet	West Valley High School*	Eastern MWD	
Long Beach	Wilson High School*	Long Beach Water Department	

\* New Team

MWD Municipal Water District

MW Municipal Water

Official List as of 11/4/10