

Greater San Diego:

Science & Engineering Fair

The City of San Diego Environmental Services Department is pleased to recognize the following students whose Science Fair projects were selected as outstanding examples of environmental science and research. The department's panel of environmental professionals judged more than 80 projects and these students were selected as winners because of their clear, concise presentation, thorough research and the value of their projects to the preservation of San Diego's environment.



Senior Division

First Place Eliot Ross, High Tech High School

Common Fertilizer's Effect on California Native Flowers.

Eliot's project studied the effects of weed and feed on seed germination of poppies, cosmos, and alyssums. Weed and feed caused fewer seeds to germinate and slowed growth in the ones that did germinate.

Second Place Kevin Cheng, High Tech High School

Effects of New and Used Motor Oil on Plants.

Kevin examined how new and used motor oil affected the germination and growth of poppy sprouts when compared to the control which had no oil. Both new and used motor oil limited growth of the sprouts, with new motor oil having the most deleterious effects.

Junior Division

First Place Bryce Caputo, Marshall Middle School

What Goes Around Comes Around: Turning Trash into Fuel

Bryce created ethyl alcohol in a homemade still from food waste and yeast. He concluded that enough alcohol could be created from an average family's food waste in one week to power a house for 8 days.

Second Place Kareem Salem, Muirlands Middle School

Toxic Commercial vs. Non-toxic Homemade Cleaners: Which Will Make Your Tile Shine?

Kareem compared the results of a homemade non-toxic cleaner with a commercial cleaner on tile that was stained with coffee. Results showed that the homemade cleaner worked better at removing the stains.

Honorable Mention

Thomas Logsdon

Bonita Vista High School
Chef Boyardiesel (biodiesel).

Matthew Bruder

Oak Grove Middle School
Photovoltaics.

Katherine Humphus

IDEA@Crawford Complex
Effects of Diazinon on the Digestive System
of Mature Daphnia Magna.

Benjamin Wagner

Oak Grove Middle School
Does Soil Matter? Worms in their World.

***Congratulations to All Students for their
Outstanding Scientific Achievements!***