



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DTSC Establishes Green Chemistry Award for 2010 Sacramento Regional Science and Engineering Fair

SACRAMENTO – Sacramento area students will be thinking green as they go for the gold at the Sacramento Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Students will compete for a Green Chemistry Award established this year by Cal/EPA's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

The fair will be held at Rosemont High School in Sacramento on March 26 and 27 and will only be open to the public on Saturday, March 27, from noon until 4:00 p.m., with the awards ceremony at 4:30 p.m.

The students will use the principles of green chemistry as the foundation for their projects. Green chemistry is the design of chemical products and processes that reduce or eliminate the use or generation of hazardous substances.

Never have students been asked to use green chemistry in their projects. "Those students who successfully use green chemistry principles will be awarded the first Green Chemistry Award," said Diana Phelps, a DTSC engineer and a judge in the competition.

For more details visit:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/GCawards.cfm>

Two hundred fifty students from public, private and parochial schools in Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, San Joaquin, Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Solano, and Amador counties will showcase projects that highlight green chemistry.

During the fair, students are invited to think not only outside the box but also outside their classrooms to use green chemistry principles in their research dealing with real-world environmental problems.

Students work independently or in teams to conduct research and tackle tough questions in several categories including Computer Science, Environmental Science, Medicine & Health, Chemistry, and Biology.

Winners will advance to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair and the California State Science Fair. But every student who takes part in the competition is celebrated and encouraged by the hundreds of attending parents, teachers, mentors, sponsors, and members of the public.

Fair sponsors include DTSC, the American Chemical Society, the Green Chemistry Initiative and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. The students will compete in junior (6th-8th grade) and senior (9th-12th grade) divisions for awards and prizes in 21 areas of study.

Location: Rosemont High School, 9454 Kiefer Blvd., Sacramento, CA

Time: Saturday 3/27/10 Noon to 4:30 p.m. Awards presentation at 4:30 p.m.

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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The Mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.