



**Media Release**  
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### **Local WaterReuse Association Awards Prizes to Young Scientists**

**San Diego** - The San Diego Regional Chapter of the WaterReuse Association presented a cash prize to a local middle school student at their July 19 meeting. The Grand Prize winner in the Association's science fair judging was Taylor Nutter, who completed eighth grade at Rincon Middle School (Escondido) in May. Taylor's project "Reduction of Fertilizer Contaminates in Agricultural Runoff," had been entered the 52nd Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair, which was held on March 29 in San Diego.

While accepting his award and cash prize money, Taylor explained to the meeting audience the impacts of storm water pollution and how his project analyzed potential solutions. Chapter president Mike Thornton said, "It's critical that the science community support and encourage these young scientists." Thornton added that he was impressed with the thought and effort that Taylor gave to his project and that it has real-world application.

Several members of the Association reviewed 35 exhibits at the Science and Engineering Fair last March. The judging team reviewed exhibits related to water recycling, desalination, and water quality and asked each student to explain their project to the team. The local Chapter has been judging science fair exhibits and awarding prizes to students for several years as a way to promote an interest in water recycling among students with an interest in science.

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Other prize winners from the students 52nd Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair were honored at the Association's May 17 meeting.

Second Place: Celena Derderian, Grade 8, San Pasqual Union School (Escondido), "Terminators of Turbidity"

Third Place: Howard Nguyen, Grade 7, Pershing Middle School (San Carlos area), "Water Purification through Filtration"

Honorable Mention: Devin Dahlberg, Grade 8, Wangenheim Middle School (Miramar area), "Differences in Total Dissolved Solids from Houses"

Honorable Mention: Steven Goellnitz, Grade 8, Marshall Middle School (Scripps Ranch area), "Water Quality in Lakes, Rivers and Creeks"

Honorable Mention: Bryan Truitt, Grade 8, Marshall Middle School (Scripps Ranch area), "Effects of Nitrogen and Phosphorus on Eutrophication and Primary Productivity"

Photo caption:

Local WaterReuse Association Chapter President Mike Thornton (left) and Taylor Nutter at the July 19 meeting.

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