



**Ohio Environmental Education Fund
State Science Day 2015 Award Winners
Governor's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Protection
Research**

7th Grade

First Place: Ms. Maanasa Mendu, Mason MS, Mason
Walking Electricity

Second Place: Ms. Adriane E. Thompson, Genoa MS, Westerville
Deadly Waters: The Effects of Water Quality on Artemia salina

Third Place: Ms. Salma M. Fleifil, Schilling School for Gifted, Cincinnati
Green Insulating Materials

Honorable Mention: Mr. Colin Green Gagne, John Sells MS, Dublin
Living Light: Bioluminescence – the “Green” Light Source of the Future?

8th Grade

First Place: Mr. Mukund Anand Seshadri, Village Academy, Powell
Phytoremediation of Copper using Brassica Juncea

Second Place: Mr. Thomas Gregory Deep, St. Luke, Beavercreek
Saltwater Battery

Third Place: Ms. Grace E. Julien, National Inventor's Hall of Fame School, Akron
The Effect of Different Types of Green Roofs on Interior Temperatures



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9th Grade

First Place: Mr. Vinodh K. Erukonda, Beaver Creek HS, Beaver Creek
Building Energy Efficient Green Towers

Second Place: Mr. Akul Rajan, William Mason HS, Mason
The Phytotoxic Effect of Allelochemicals to Help Weed Control in a Natural Approach

Third Place: Mr. Grant S. Lach, Bloom Carroll HS, Carroll
Can You Make a Cost Efficient Photobioreactor?

Honorable Mention: Mr. Michael J. Chmura, St. Vincent St. Mary, Akron
The Effect of Varying pH on Methane Production in Anaerobic Digesters

10th Grade

First Place: Ms. Nikita R. Kesav, William Mason HS, Mason
Resource Recovery and Reuse: Recycled Magnetically Separable Iron-based Catalysts for Arsenic Removal and Phosphate Recovery

Second Place: Ms. Anastasia Axiopoulos, Mansfield Senior HS, Mansfield
Creating and Decomposing Biodegradable Bioplastic

Third Place: Ms. Abigail L. Myers, Big Walnut HS, Sunbury
Oil Spill Clean-up: Sorbent Effectiveness Near Aquatic Shorelines

Honorable Mention: Ms. Martha J. Blatt, Beaumont School, Cleveland Heights
Comparing Electrical Output of Different Soil Types in Microbial Fuel Cells



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11th Grade

First Place: Ms. Emily A. Gootzeit, Tippecanoe HS, Tipp City
Non-standard Substances for Melting Ice

Second Place: Ms. Amanda E. Janecek, Louisville HS, Louisville
The Short-Term Effects of Water Temperature on PET Plastics

Third Place: Mr. Alan Fong, Sylvania Southview HS, Sylvania
Optical and Electrical Characterization of ZnO:Al Transparent Conducting Oxides

Honorable Mention: Mr. Richard B. Jin, Maumee Valley Country Day, Toledo
Sulfurization of Thin-Film Copper Antimony Sulfide for Low Cost and Environmentally Friendly Solar Cells

Honorable Mention: Ms. Pallavi Lanka, Sylvania Southview HS, Sylvania
The Viability of Switchable Hydrophilicity Solvents for Lipid Extraction in Algal Biofuel Production

12th Grade

First Place: Mr. Vishal Reddy Nallanagulagari, Upper Arlington HS, Upper Arlington
Utilization of Plant Roots for the Production of Ethanol Through Fermentation and Isolation of Rubber

Second Place: Ms. Michaela M. Dean, Rutherford B. Hayes HS, Delaware
Plants to Plastics: A Study of Unique Biopolymers

Third Place: Ms. Alyssa P. Armstrong, Canfield HS, Canfield
Using Isotherms to Examine Competitive Sorption of Heavy Metals by Soils, Biochar and Biosolids

Honorable Mention: Mr. Jarrett Willoughby, Miami East HS, Casstown

Predicting the Structure of Biodiesel Fuel via Combustion of Esters

For more information on these awards, contact:

Ohio EPA, Office of Environmental Education
(614) 644-2873 or oeef@epa.state.oh.us