



Eastern Connecticut State
University

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KID'S CREATE COOL CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

17 Teams of High School and Middle School Students

Compete for the Cool It Challenge Awards

Willimantic, Conn. – On May 17, 2008, 170 Connecticut students faced the judges for the 2008 Cool It Climate Change Challenge Awards in the atrium of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. 16 Prizes from \$1,000 to \$10,000 were awarded for the students' climate change solutions. The top prize winner was St. Gregory the Great School from Danbury, whose middle school students initiated energy savings at their school, including changing lights, adding motion sensors, and tuning up their boiler.

Teams have been working for one to two years on projects in their schools and communities, ranging from transportation solutions, clean energy purchasing, and recycling, to energy conservation. Each team also completed a greenhouse gas inventory of their school or home. Teams of 1 to 15 students represent towns across the state, including: Bristol, Coventry, Danbury, East Lyme, Fairfield, Farmington, Hartford, Mansfield, Meriden, Monroe, New

Canaan, Stafford Springs, Stamford, and Trumbull. The teams come from middle schools and high schools, home schools and parochial schools. The complete list of winners includes:

Phase One Middle School

Each category is a \$1000 prize. (Split prizes mean that each school wins \$500)

Innovation Hillcrest Middle School, Trumbull and Thomas Edison Middle School, Meriden

Teamwork Scofield Magnet Middle School, Stamford and Thomas Edison Middle School

Collaboration Scofield Magnet Middle School and Hillcrest Middle School

Greenhouse Gas Consequence Scofield Magnet MS and Robbins Middle School, Farmington, Team #4

Presentation to the Judges Robbins MS Team #6 and Robbins MS Team #7

Phase One High School

Each category is a \$1000 prize

Innovation Stafford High School, Stafford Springs

Teamwork Stafford High School, Stafford Springs

Collaboration Stafford High School, Stafford Springs

Greenhouse Gas Consequence Danbury High School, Danbury

Presentation to the Judges Danbury High School, Danbury

Phase Two

Each category is a \$1000 prize

Innovation Hartford Home School, Hartford

Teamwork E.O. Smith High School, Mansfield

Collaboration Nutmeg Home School, Coventry

Greenhouse Gas Consequence E.O. Smith High School, Mansfield

Presentation to the Judges E.O. Smith High School, Mansfield

Phase Two Grand Prize (\$10,000)

Best Overall St. Gregory the Great School, Danbury

Name Change Contest

\$250 Gift Certificate to Educational Innovations

“Keep Connecticut Cool—the Climate Change Challenge” Submitted by Colin Carlson, Nutmeg Home School, Coventry

The Cool It Climate Change Challenge is in its second year. 7 teams continued on from the first year to complete the plans they started in 2007. 10 new teams joined this year, initiating their school and community climate change plans. The contest is funded by the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, and administered by the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University.

About the Institute for Sustainable Energy

The Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University was established in 2001 to identify, develop, and implement the means for achieving a sustainable energy future. The Institute focuses on matters relating to energy education, energy policy, efficiency conservation and load management, renewable energy, distributed generation, protection of environmental resources, and the dissemination of useful information on energy alternatives and sustainability to users and providers of energy. The Institute adds an unbiased focus on practical applications and dissemination of information about how to improve the energy profile and sustainability of Connecticut and the region.

The Institute is funded and supported by the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund through the Energy Conservation Management Board and the Department of Public Utility Control. The

Institute also receives grants, conference sponsorships, donations, contracts, and payments for services from organizations, including the US EPA, US DOE, CT Office of Policy and Management, CT Department of Environmental Protection, the CT Clean Energy Fund, and the CT Green Building Council. Website: www.sustainenergy.org

About the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation

The Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation funds innovative projects which advance solutions to basic and enduring problems. With an overall emphasis on education, principally in the United States, it will take an active role in three major areas: Art, Environment and Learning Disabilities. For more information about the foundation, visit www.tremainefoundation.org

For more information about the Cool It Challenge Awards, call Laurel Kohl, education coordinator for the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University at (860) 465-0256 or visit www.coolitchallenge.org

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

It is the policy of Eastern Connecticut State University to ensure equal access to its events. If you are an individual with a disability and will need accommodations for this event, please contact the Office of University Relations at (860) 465-5735.