

Model Water Tower Competition 2018

General Information

The 1st Annual Model Water Tower Competition (MWTC) in Prince William County will be held as follows:

- *What:* The challenge is to build a **structurally efficient model water tower that holds water** and can be filled and drained quickly, while also being aesthetically pleasing.
- *When:* **Saturday, November 3rd, 2018** from **9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Check-in between 9:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
- *Where:* Prince William County Service Authority, 4 County Complex Ct. Woodbridge, VA 22192
- *Who:* The MWTC is for **middle school students (individuals or teams of up to 4)** from public, private, and home schools in Prince William County.
- *Registration deadline:* **October 19, 2018.** To register, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c44afae2ea0fa7-model5>
- There is no cost to enter. To participate you must register by **October 19, 2018** and arrive at the check-in on November 3rd with the following materials (one set of forms for each team):
 - Bring your completed **Registration**, a blank form is attached.
 - Bring your completed **Participant Release Forms (one for each student)**, a blank form is attached.
 - Bring your completed **Materials List**, a blank form is attached.
 - Bring your completed **Model Water Tower**.
- We suggest bringing a **brown-bag lunch**, as lunch will **NOT** be provided
- Model water towers may be of any design and constructed from any materials. In fact, you will be awarded for using **creative designs** and **innovative materials**. Creative designs mean the water tower will function even though it does not look like any other tower. Innovative materials may have been used for something else at one time – an old broom handle used for support, for instance. Due to facility constraints, **we cannot supply electricity to towers**.

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Objective

The objective of the competition is to make participants aware of the importance of **reliable drinking water** and the rewarding opportunities available in the **water profession**. The competition does this by having students develop an idea into a functioning water tower, just like water professionals do in the real world!

Prizes will be awarded to the top three scoring teams or individuals, with a top prize of a **\$75 Visa gift card for each member of the first place team, \$50 gift card for the second place team, and \$25 gift card for the third place team**. The lowest scores win. Judges' decision is final.

Judging

Judging will be based on **four criteria**:

- **Structural Efficiency**
- **Hydraulic Efficiency**
- **Cost Efficiency**
- **Design Ingenuity**

Understand and achieve these criteria to do well! They are explained below.

Structural Efficiency

Structural efficiency is calculated by **dividing** the weight of the model when it is empty by the average height of the tank **times** the amount of water it holds. The lower this number, the better.

This is shown with the following formula:

$$\text{Structural Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Weight of the tower when empty (pounds)}}{\text{Average tank height (ft)} \times \text{Amount of water the model holds (gal)}}$$

This criterion is similar to what engineers use in the real world! Remember, the tank must be between 1.5 feet and 2.5 feet high.

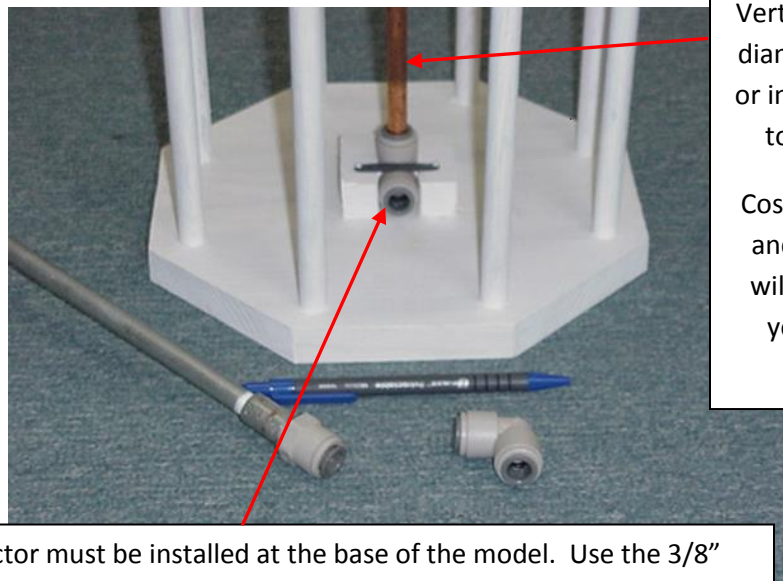
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Hydraulic Efficiency

Hydraulic efficiency is the amount of **time it takes** the judges to fill the model with 1 gallon of water and drain it back out again. The judges will fill the tank through the **3/8" diameter connector**. The less time it takes to fill and drain the tank through the connector, the better.

Model Water Tower Connector

A proper 3/8" diameter push-on connector must be used by all registered contestants. Connectors must be 3/8" O.D. on the pump connection side. Three brands of connectors are allowed; Watts 3/8" OD by 3/8" OD quick connect union elbows (Model No. PL-3022), BrassCraft 3/8-in x 3/8-in dia 90-Degree Standard Elbow Push Fitting (Model No. PC65-6P P), or SharkBite 3/8 in. O.D. x 3/8 in. O.D. Quick Connect Elbow (Model No. 802869). Connectors are available at both Lowes and Home Depot for approximately \$3.50. The cost of the connector and the riser pipe will be deducted from the total cost to construct so it will not affect your "Cost Efficiency" score. You must use one of the connectors specified to avoid a penalty. Contact Mark Titcomb or Shirley Luu (information provided below) if you need additional information about the connector.



Vertical tube may be any diameter - use a reducer or increaser as necessary to change tube size.

Cost of the vertical tube and increaser/reducer will not count towards your Cost Efficiency score.

Connector must be installed at the base of the model. Use the 3/8" diameter connector.

Connectors are available at Home Depot or Lowes.

Ask for the WATTS Model No. PL-3022 Quick Connect 3/8" OD by 3/8" OD Union Elbow or

BrassCraft 3/8-in x 3/8-in dia 90-Degree Standard Elbow Push Fitting or

SharkBite 3/8 in. O.D. x 3/8 in. O.D. Quick Connect Elbow. Any of the three are acceptable.

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Cost Efficiency

Cost efficiency measures your ability to save money while building your model. **Bring receipts** for all items purchased for your model. Points will be assigned as follows (the lower the score the better):

\$0.00 - \$5.00	1 pt
\$5.01 - \$10.00	2 pt
\$10.01 - \$15.00	3 pt
\$15.01 - \$20.00	4 pt
More than \$20.00	5 pt

List all items used in your model and their costs on the **Materials List Form**. Where recycled items are used, put the letter "R" in the cost column. You may use as many recycled materials as you wish. A penalty of 1 pt will be given for each missing receipt for items purchased new. No receipt is necessary for recycled items.

Design Ingenuity

Ingenuity (in · ge · nu · i · ty) is how much **imagination and skill** were used in your model. Water professional must often use ingenuity; they use skill and imagination to solve difficult problems. The judges will look at several items:

- Craftsmanship (is the model sturdy, do the parts fit together nicely)?
- Imagination (are the design or materials unique)?
- Artistic merit (does the model have creative ideas, colors or themes)?

Penalties

Keep to the following standards when designing and constructing your model:

- The base of the model must fit in a square **1 foot on each side**.
- The tank must be **between 1.5 and 2.5 feet high**.
- The tank must have a **vent or removable lid large enough to place a funnel through** so the judges can fill the tank and tell when it is full.
- When full, the tank must **hold between 1 and 2.5 gallons** of water and it **should not leak**. (Hint: test your model to make sure.)
- The model must use one of the **3/8" diameter connectors** as specified.
- **Bring receipts** for all materials purchased for your model. A one point penalty will be given for each item not having a receipt. (Reminder: recycled items have no cost associated with them and do not require a receipt.)
- **Electricity will not be supplied to your tower.**

Penalties will be assessed for not following the above standards. These standards are demonstrated in the diagram attached at the end of this hand-out.



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Additional Information

For more information please contact the event organizers as follows:

Michelle Bouchard

mbouchard@pwcsa.org



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Registration

Team Name:

Individual or Middle School:

School:

Teacher or Advisor:

Complete this form and bring with it you to the check-in.

List the name of your team members below. Teams may have from 1 to 4 members.

Name*	Grade	Telephone #
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
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***Each team member must bring a signed Participant Release Form.**

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Participant Release Form

INSTRUCTIONS: Each team member must bring a copy of this form signed by their parent or guardian.

I AM THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF _____.

I HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE MEMBERS OF THE MODEL WATER TOWER COMPETITION COMMITTEE, A SPECIAL PROJECT OF THE VIRGINIA AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION-STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE TO:

1. PREPARE ANY PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL SUCH AS PRESENTATIONS, SLIDE SHOWS, VIDEO TAPES, PHOTOGRAPHS AND MOVIE FILMS IN WHICH MY CHILD WILL SPEAK AND/OR APPEAR.
2. USE, REUSE, PUBLISH AND REPUBLISH THE SAME IN THE WHOLE OR IN PART INDIVIDUALLY OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS , VIDEO OR FILM IN ANY MEDIUM FOR ANY PURPOSES WHOSOEVER, INCLUDING (BUT NOT BY WAY OF LIMITATION) ILLUSTRATION, PROMOTION AND ADVERTISING BY THE COMMITTEE.

I HEREBY WAIVE ANY MONETARY RIGHTS OR OTHER RIGHTS THAT I MAY HAVE TO INSPECT AND/OR TO APPROVE THE FINISHED PRODUCT OR THE ADVERTISING COPY THAT MAY BE USED IN CONNECTION THEREWITH OR THE USE TO WHICH IT MAY BE APPLIED. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT ALL RIGHTS, ROYALTIES AND MATERIALS WILL BELONG TO THE COMMITTEE.

Parent/Guardian (Print Full Name) _____

Parent/Guardian (Signature) _____

Date _____ Phone # _____

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Materials List Form

Team Name: _____

Participants: _____

Complete and bring this form and all receipts on the day of the contest. List the materials and costs used to construct your model water tower. Put an 'R' in the cost column where recycled materials are used. Use additional sheets if necessary to list all materials. A penalty will be given for not bringing this form and required receipts.

MATERIAL	COST
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
	TOTAL _____

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MWTC Requirements

