



19th Annual

Sustainable Design Challenge



For DuPage County High School Students

- Hands-on learning
- Presentations
- Careers
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Sustainability



Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Teacher Info Packet



SCARCE | ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION



Hello Teacher,

Thank you for your interest in getting your students involved in the 19th Annual Sustainable Design Challenge! This impactful STEAM project offers DuPage County High School students the opportunity to flex their creative muscles, hone their research skills, gain experience presenting their work, and interact with professionals from the community.

The Sustainable Design Challenge invites students to:

1. Research, design, and construct a sustainable building model.
2. Present their project to the public and a panel of judges.
3. View models from other teams and schools.
4. Explore sustainability careers through interaction with professionals working in the field.
5. Visit the *Where Is Away? and Wonder About Your Water?* informational exhibits for specifics about protecting natural resources.
6. Tour the DuPage County Administration building with professionals to learn about sustainable design and green infrastructure on the campus (scheduled around their presentation time).
7. Access online resources.

Cash prizes are awarded to the top projects in three categories:

- Best Overall LEED Design: \$500
- Best Stormwater Design: \$250
- Best Energy Design: \$250

Additional details on the project requirements, judging rubrics, and schedule may be found here in the Student Info Packet section: <https://www.scarce.org/sustainable-design-2/>.

Please note, this year's competition will not require relocating for lunch!

Teams are **encouraged to drive by** the East Pond (to be highlighted during the Green Infrastructure Talk and Green Infrastructure Booth) if time allows upon departure for the day.

The pond is located near the Administration building.

Important Reminders

Communication and updates will be sent primarily through email for this event! Encourage students to check their emails often, and to be sure their email addresses are entered correctly during registration.

Let SCARCE know of any timing conflicts **as soon as possible**, such as time of arrival and/or departure based on school schedules. We will try our best to accommodate these conflicts when scheduling judging and tour sessions. If arrival occurs during scheduled judging sessions, students must enter the atrium and set-up their projects QUIETLY so as not to disturb other teams during evaluations!!

Teams and educators will receive the pre-assigned team numbers prior to the competition, via email, so please be sure teams know this number upon arrival to expedite check-in.

Where & When

The 2025 Sustainable Design Challenge competition is on Tuesday, April 15th from 8:00am-11:30am (approximately) at the Jack T. Knuepfer Admin Building, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, in the DuPage County Complex. Students can be dropped off with models and proceed to the main entrance/circle drive of the Admin Building. Bus parking should be available at the Linda A. Kurzawa Community Center, 115 N. County Farm Rd, which is walking distance to the Admin building, but may change due to construction projects. Updates will be sent to teachers if/when available. Team check-in will take place with SCARCE staff in the Atrium wherein students will receive their personalized judging and exploration session schedule, which must be followed for the duration of the event. Project exhibition and judging will take place in the Atrium. Exploration Sessions/tours of Green Infrastructure will take place throughout the Admin Building led by Stormwater Management professionals.

A zero-waste lunch will be provided in the adjacent auditorium in the Administration Building following the competition.

During lunch, students will hear a presentation by a Keynote speaker and have the opportunity for further interaction with industry professionals at Green Career and Green Infrastructure booths. Other activities may be offered for the students. The entire event should conclude by 2:00pm.

Please be sure all name tags and folders are returned to SCARCE staff for reuse by the end of the day, as well as completed activity sheets.

Times and schedules are subject to change based on the final number of registrants, and sufficient notice will be given of any variations.

Awards will be presented at a DuPage County Board meeting in May or June. Date to be determined.

See attached map for detailed information of event locations and parking.

Participation

The challenge is open to any students who attend a high school that serves DuPage County residents. Students may participate in teams of 1-4 individuals; however, it is highly recommended that teams have 2-4 members. Teams of 1 individual need to be pre-approved before registering, see page 1 of the student packet. Participation is free. **Any single DuPage County high school may have up to 10 participating student teams.**

- Student teams may participate independently or as part of a teacher-sponsored activity. All teams are included in the school's 10-team limit.
- Registration opens February 3rd. Teams will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis and be notified within (2) business days of their participation status.*

Team Registration deadline: Monday, April 7th, 2025 by 5:00pm

Register here online: <https://www.scarce.org/sdc-team-registration/>

Be sure to see the Student Info Packet for more specific details.

Please contact Jean if you have any questions.

Contact:

Jean Kent

jean@scarce.org

630-545-9710

*Reach out if you hear a team did not receive a reply within two business days, or if you have any questions. Students can reach out at any time as well.

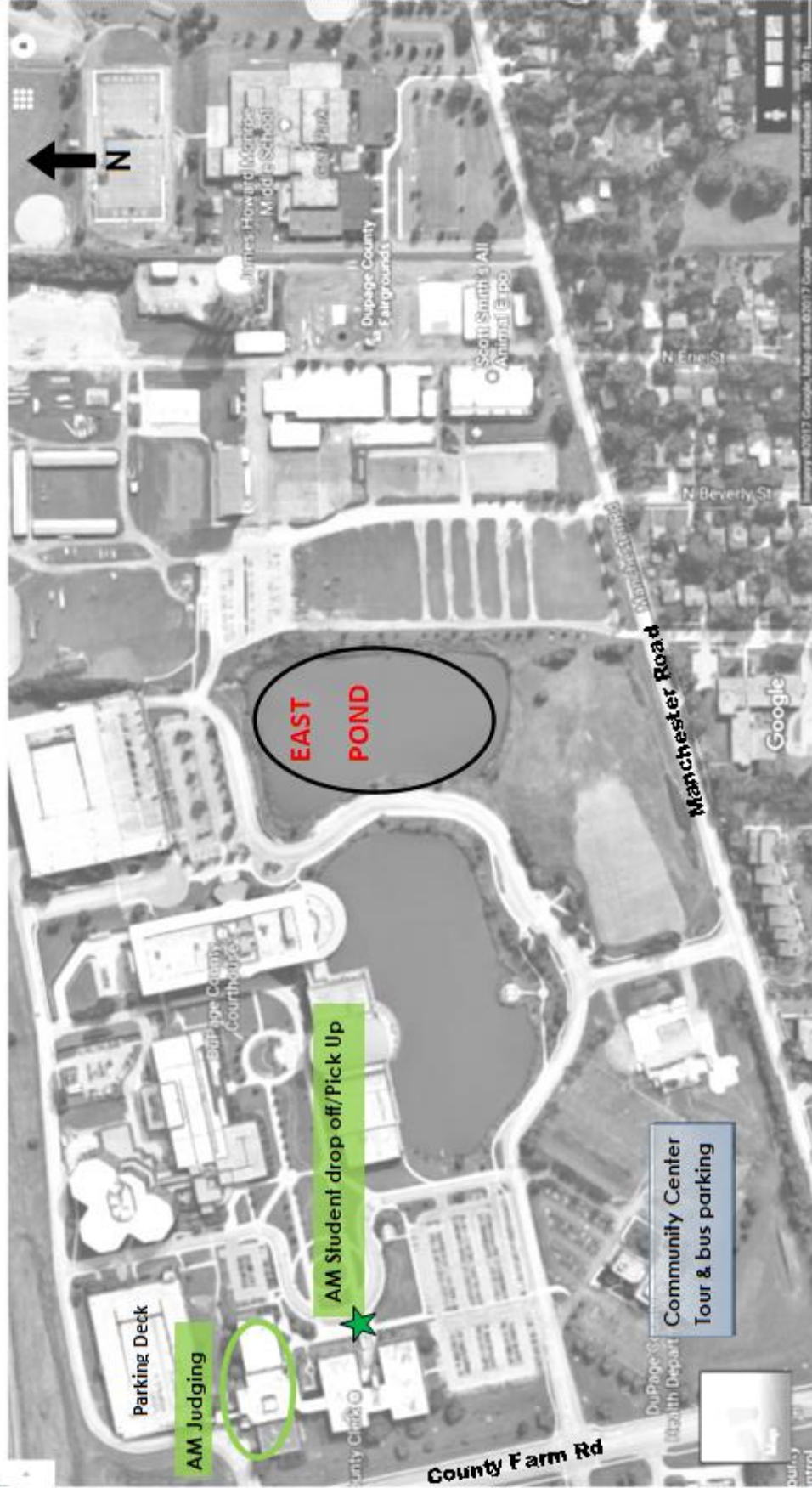
Important Dates

February 3rd	Team Registration Opens <i>Register online: https://www.scarce.org/sdc-team-registration/</i>
April 7th	Team Registration Closes at 5pm
April 15th	19th Annual Sustainable Design Challenge
Late April/Early May	Winners Announced
May or June (Date TBD)	Awards Presentation at a DuPage County Board meeting



Annual Sustainable Design Challenge

Map for Buses & Teachers



AM Student Drop-Off/Pick up: Main entrance circle drive at DuPage County Administration Building 421 N. County Farm Road.

Bus parking is at the Linda A. Kurzawa Community Center, 115 N. County Farm Road (Walking distance to Admin Building).