

IWEA
Public Education Committee Report
Annual Meeting
February 29 – March 2, 2016

2015

1. (February) Local Science Fair – Downers Grove and Westmont
Members of the committee judged projects of 7th and 8th graders on environmental topics. The winners would go to the regional fair.
2. (March) South Suburban Regional Science Fair – Aurora
Members of the committee assisted in judging at this regional fair in the Environmental Science category. Students were from 7th thru 12th grade. The winners in each category would be eligible for the state fair.
3. (March) North Suburban Regional Science - Niles
Members of the committee assisted in judging at this regional fair as special judges. We were searching for the best water environment projects from high school students. The regional winners would receive a certificate from WEF and be eligible to be IWEA's state representative for the national Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition.
4. (May) Illinois Junior Academy of Science State Science Fair – SIU Carbondale
Members of our committee, as special judges, reviewed at least 50 projects pertaining to the water environment field. These students represented both middle and high schools. From these projects we selected our Clean Water Award winners. We selected one Senior Grand Prize and one Junior Grand Prizewinner. We also chose two Honorable Mention winners for each category. They all received a cash award. In addition, our committee chose a student as our Stockholm Junior Water Prize representative to the national competition in Washington D.C.

This year the State Science Fair will be held in Decatur at Millikan University. It will be held on Saturday May 14th. Since this location is in central Illinois, we will need volunteers from that area to help out our judging. If you are from that area please see me after this meeting or during the conference if you would like to help. We will also need help in judging various regional fairs around the state.

5. (October) Illinois Science Teachers Annual Conference – Tinley Park
The committee had a table at this year's conference, where we distributed information about the Stockholm Junior Water Prize and the Water Quality Monitoring Challenge.
6. Some of our committee members belong to WEF's Stockholm Junior Water Prize national committee. This year's competition will be at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This will give students a college experience by staying on a college campus for a couple of days.

It is obvious from this report that our committee is very active in promoting careers in the Water Environment field. We always need volunteers for our various activities for this year and next year. So help us out. If you are interested contact any member of the board or Norm Rose.