

Mason County Science & Engineering Fair

PO Box 849

Shelton, WA 98584

January 25, 2010

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY!

The Mason County Science & Engineering Fair invites you to participate in the 23rd annual Fair to be held at **Oakland Bay Junior High School** March 19th and 20th, 2010. *New this year, all applications need to be submitted on line to OysterFest.org and click on the interactive science fair application link by March 13, 2010.*

The Science & Engineering Fair provides the opportunity for you to explore your world through the use of scientific methods. Since projects are developed on an individual basis, you may pursue any math or science topic of special interest to you. Likewise, you can learn as much about the topic as you choose. Then, on the day of the Fair, you will be able to share what you learned with others. You may even do the project with a friend, as a team project.

A competition for best exhibit and knowledge of topic will add some fun, and possibly earn you a trophy or special prize. Additional awards will be given by the South Sound Shellfish Growers for exhibits that cover topics of aquatic life related to water quality or how water quality impacts ecosystems, and by PUD#3 for projects that pertain to electricity.

The Mason County Science & Engineering Fair is sponsored by the **Shelton Skookum Rotary Club**. All students in grades kindergarten through eighth who attend school in Mason County are eligible to participate. ***The schedule for this year's event is as follows: PLEASE NOTE THESE IMPORTANT DATES!***

Saturday, March 13, 2010: Deadline for submitting completed applications to the OysterFest.org website: <http://oysterfest.org/scienceapplication>

**Friday, March 19, 2010:
3:30 PM to 7:00 PM Check In / Set Up at Oakland Bay Junior High School.**

Saturday, March 20, 2010:

9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON.....	Judging of Exhibits
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.....	Public Viewing of Exhibits
12:00 PM to 12:30 PM.....	Lunch Break
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM.....	Science Activities
1:30 PM to 2:15 PM.....	Awards Ceremony
2:15 PM to 3:30 PM.....	Take Down Exhibits / Clean Up

NOTE: YOU MUST CHECK IN WITH YOUR EXHIBIT ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON OR EVENING, AND YOUR EXHIBIT MUST BE FULLY IN PLACE PRIOR TO 8:45 AM ON SATURDAY MORNING TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR JUDGING. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE. PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY!

Because of dramatic increases in the rules and restrictions for the Washington State Science & Engineering Fair, our event is no longer associated with that fair. If you wish to compete in the State Science Fair, you must get a copy of their rules, and comply with their procedures before you start on your project. If you have any questions about the Fair, please contact one of us at the above address, or phone 432-3054 or 426-1687. Please **DO NOT** request a variance from the rules above. Good Luck in the Fair.

Sincerely,
Margo Otto, Dr. Mike Barnard and Teri King

MASON COUNTY SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY !

- ▶ The Science Fair is open to all students K-8 attending school or home study in Mason County.
- ▶ All entries must be completed on line (<http://oysterfest.org/scienceapplication>) by the application deadline (March 13, 2010).
- ▶ **Every Student MUST COMPLETE an application**, even if in a team project. Awards WILL NOT be presented to students who have not completed an application. (Class projects excepted.)

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR A SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT:

1. All work must be done by the student(s); parents / teachers act in an advisory roll only.
2. Science projects eligible for prizes are ones that involve:
 - a. **Experimentation**- A successful science project asks a question, and predicts an answer. Design and perform experiments to prove or disprove your prediction and draw conclusions from your results.
 - b. **Explanation or Demonstration of a Scientific Fact or Principle**, using models, pictures and graphs.
 - c. **Collections** – Students in primary grades may develop collection demonstrating skill in observation.
3. **Notebook.** *Each student must prepare a notebook* telling what was done, how it was done, and when it was done. The notebook should contain references, research data, drawings, charts, pictures, and bibliography. Each notebook must include a *completed Science Fair Work Plan* form (attached). Notebooks or Kindergarten age may use drawings to explain the work done.
NOTE: ENTRANTS WHO DO NOT SUBMIT A NOTEBOOK AND WORK PLAN FORM ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES OR AWARDS. This is only fair to those who have followed all instructions carefully.
4. Your exhibit must explain your project with generous use of pictures, graphs, text or working demonstration. This is your chance to help others learn about what you have done and learned. Your understanding and application of scientific methods will be a major factor in judging, especially in grades 2-8.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Each student may exhibit **only one project**.
2. Class Exhibits are limited to grades K-3. The project must be prepared by the entire class. Three students are allowed at the fair to represent the class during judging.
3. The exhibit **MUST INCLUDE A NOTEBOOK** as described above in BASIC REQUIREMENTS - #4. The exhibitor's name or name of school **may not appear** on the exhibit, the notebook or the student's person. Proper identification will be provided by the Science Fair Committee.
4. Exhibitors **must** check in and complete most of the exhibit during the Set-Up period on Friday, and must be ready by 8:45 AM on Saturday morning, in order to be eligible for judging. The student exhibitor(s) **must be present** during judging. **Both team members must be present** if doing a team project.
5. Exhibitors must supply their own booth (back & sides) that must fit within a space 30" deep, 48" wide, and a total height of no more than 108" from floor level. The Fair provides tables 30" high. Oversized exhibits must be requested prior to setup. **Exhibitors who arrive with oversized exhibits may not be eligible to display their projects or receive awards.**
6. Titles, charts, and information sheets that describe your exhibit may be attached to the tables with **masking tape only**, provided by the exhibitor. *You may not write on the tables, walls or any school property.*
7. Exhibits with liquids or moist materials must use proper waterproof materials (tarps, suitable containers, etc) to prevent spillage or damage to the school property or other exhibits.
8. **Electrical power is available on a limited basis. Exhibit power needs must be noted on the application, or you may not have access to any power.** If you do not request power on your application, there is a good chance none will be available for your exhibit.
9. **The Fair Committee reserves the right to refuse any exhibit it considers unsafe or unsuitable.**
10. Team projects may be done by two students only, and no other projects may be submitted by either student.

THE FOLLOWING IS PROHIBITED AT THE SCIENCE FAIR:

- ▶ All open flames, including matches, and all dangerous chemicals. If your project requires open flame or dangerous chemicals, do the experiment before the Fair and have only the results at the Fair, shown in writing, drawings or photographs.
- ▶ Poisonous or dangerous animals, insects, reptiles, and vegetation. No exhibit may include placing undue stress or injury on any creature.
- ▶ Unfused voltages over 28 volts and uncovered electrical connections that present a safety hazard.
- ▶ Actions unbecoming a lady or gentleman, destruction of another's exhibit or property, or knowingly falsifying an exhibit.
- ▶ No knives, guns, or weapons of any kind are permitted. No operating rockets or missiles of any kind are permitted.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. All exhibits must remain in place until after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday afternoon, and must be removed by 3:30 PM. Remaining exhibits will be destroyed by the Fair Committee.
2. If an exhibitor finds that he/she is unable to attend the Fair after officially entering, please contact the Committee or write Skookum Rotary, PO Box 849, Shelton, WA 98584 to cancel.
3. Most special problems and inquiries can be answered by you school science coordinator. If he / she is unable to answer your question, please contact the Fair Chair.
4. The Mason County Science & Engineering Fair Committee, Skookum Rotary Club, and/or the Shelton School District 309 are not responsible for any loss, damage and/or injury during the Fair.
5. Exhibitors planning to enter the State Competition in Bremerton, WA or the International Competition are subject to the rules of those fairs. Copies of the appropriate rules can be obtained by contacting Olympic College Continuing Education Division at 360-478-4839, in Bremerton.

CHECKLIST FOR SCIENCE FAIR SUCCESS:

- ▶ A carefully planned and completed scientific exhibit
- ▶ A notebook detailing the scientific investigation
- ▶ A properly completed application form, turned in on time, **with all signatures!**
- ▶ A completed Science Fair Work Plan – *before you start the project, not afterwards.*
- ▶ **Read and follow all instructions carefully.** Failure to do so may disqualify your exhibit.

AWARDS:

- Class projects for grades K-3 will be judged by grade. Multiple first, second and third place awards may be given per grade level. Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- Individual projects for grades K-1 will be judged by grade. Multiple first, second, and third place awards may be given per grade. Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- Individual projects in grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and grouped grades 6, 7 and 8 will be separated into judging categories based on the scientific content of each project, as follows:
 - Physical Science- earth sciences, meteorology, chemistry, physics, etc.
 - Biological Sciences- plant or animal projects, medicine, etc.
 - Mathematics – statistics. Computer programming and related fieldsMultiple first, second and third place awards may be given. Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- Special “Best of Category” & “Best of Show” awards will be selected from exhibits receiving First Place Awards. A special “Best of Class” award will be given to the best Class Project. There may be one “Best of Show” award in each of the following grade groupings: K-3, 4-5, 6-8.
- A special trophy will be awarded to the school scoring the highest number of points: Best of Category = 5 pts, 1st=5 pts, 2nd=3 pts, 3rd=2 pts, Best Class= 3 pts, Participation=1pt.

AWARDS cont.:

- All participants in the Saturday exhibit judging receive a Certificate of Participation and exhibit critique (judging opinions).
- “World of Water” awards are the result of separate judging of individual exhibits that receive a “First” place award and cover topics of aquatic life related to water quality / water quality impacts on an ecosystem. The “World of Water” judging and awards are provided by South Sound Shellfish Growers.
- Mason County PUD#3 provides the judging and awards for the Special Category Electricity exhibits.

JUDGING EXHIBITS:

Judging of exhibits is based upon the following criteria. The percentage of the final score for each judging category is shown at the right.

1. Knowledge of Subject	25%
2. Knowledge of Scientific Principles & Techniques	20%
3. Notebook and Experimental Procedures	20%
4. Creativity & Originality	20%
5. Visual Appearance	15%

PARENT INFORMATION:

1. All work on the project must be done by the student. The parent’s role is advisory only.
2. Parents and adult friends of the exhibitor are invited to view the exhibit during the judging period on a “non-interference” basis. Parents may not assist the student in presenting the project.
3. Students must remain at their exhibit until 12:00 noon to explain the project to the judges and public observers.
4. Judging will be explained as to basis and methods. Judging of a specific exhibit will not be discussed. The decision of the judges is final.
5. Exhibits which do not follow the rules and regulations, including those without proper notebooks, work plans, signatures on applications, etc. **will not be eligible for awards.**

HINTS FOR SUCCESS:

- ▶ Do something **original**. Projects that are done every year, or by multiple students, do not tend to win prizes.
- ▶ Do your own work. Don’t copy other people’s work. And never copy books or articles. Put your research in your own words, and show that you understand it.
- ▶ If you are doing a team project, both members of the team must participate and be able to explain their project. One student may not do all the work.
- ▶ Be on time. Remain with your project for all judging. **Exhibits where students are not present at the time the judges come around will not be judged.**

GOOD LUCK ON YOUR PROJECT!

Your Display

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1. The backboard should be a 2 or 3 sided shape within the size limitations stated below.
2. When displayed, the project should not occupy more than 4 feet of length and 30 inches of depth, nor should the total height exceed 9 feet from floor to top. (Tables supplied by the fair are 30 inches tall).
3. Backboards may be made of any suitable material that is able to support its own weight. (Cardboard works fine. Art board is available from most stationary stores).
4. The center panel should contain the project title and your most significant visual materials (photos, drawings, charts) lettering should be clear and large enough for someone to see from a distance.
5. Side panels should have supporting information about your project and more photos, diagrams, graphs, charts, etc. including a brief summary of what you did and what you learned.
6. If you are doing an experiment rather than a collection, demonstration, or invention, it is suggested that you state the **problem** on the center panel and put the **Hypothesis and Procedure** on the left pane, and the **Results and Conclusions** on the right panel.

See diagram on last page

Work Plan

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Title of Project:

What I plan to do

Equipment I'll need and
where to get it.

Date I have this part done

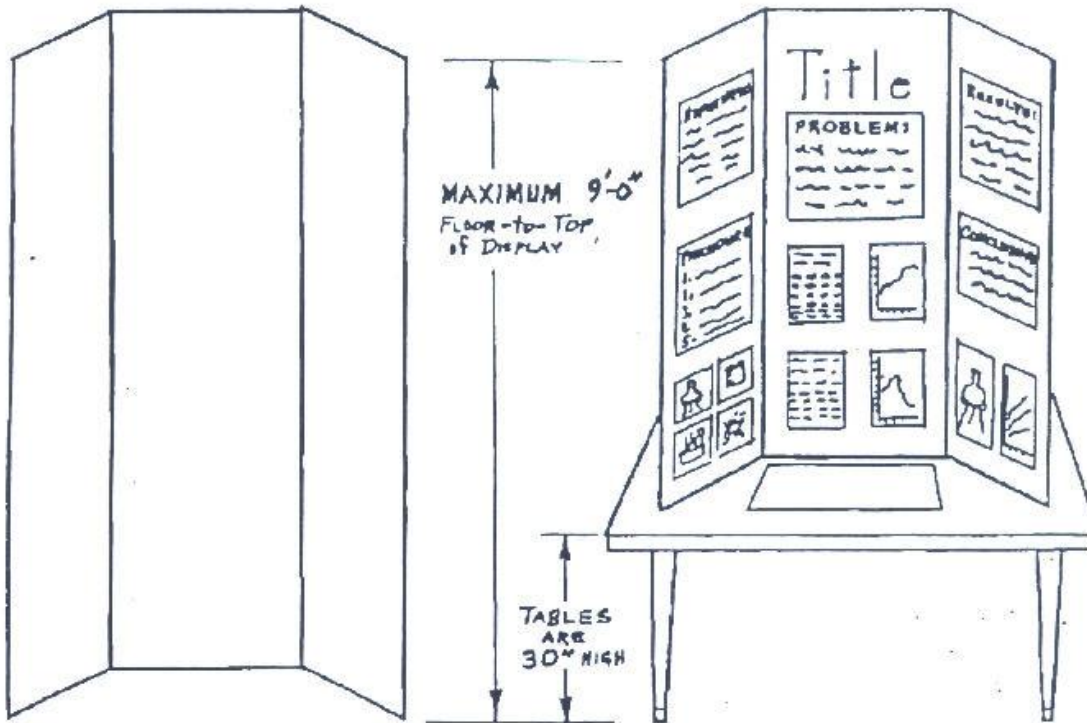
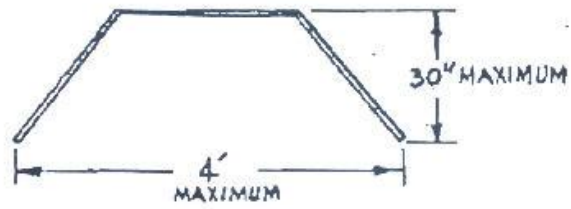
Choose project Topic

Organize everything I plan
to do and fill out this form

Have my project approved
By a teacher and submit form
the application before deadline.

NOTES:

Top View:



Your Oysterfest
Money At Work

