



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 26, 2025**

## **Middle Schoolers Dazzle with Design and Innovation at 3rd Annual Water Tower Showdown**

Roanoke, VA — Future engineers and creative thinkers made a splash at the third annual Water Tower Showdown held Saturday, July 26, 2025, held at the Green Ridge Recreation Center. Hosted by the Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association (VA AWWA), along with the Bedford Regional Water Authority, Lynchburg Water Resources, Salem Water Department, and the Western Virginia Water Authority, this hands-on STEM competition brought together middle school students from across the Bedford, Lynchburg, Roanoke, and Salem areas.

Teams of students showcased their ingenuity by designing and building model water towers that combined structural strength, functionality, and artistic flair. The contest rewarded both engineering precision and imaginative design, with judges evaluating the towers on performance, aesthetics, and creativity.

"We tested several hypotheses—trying to find one that would work," said Jeffrey Guy, a member of the winning Team Aqua. His teammate, Amber Dodd, added, "we spent so much time in design, that it felt like we had to throw the tower together at the last minute," when referring to the actual construction.

Cash prizes were awarded to the top three teams:

- First Place: Team Aqua — Amber Dodd and Jeffrey Guy
- Second Place: Water-Dillos— Remington Arthur, Jameson, and Elliston
- Third Place: Tower Power— Chase Borloz

The Water Tower Showdown continues to inspire students to explore the world of science, technology, engineering, and math in a way that's both educational and exciting. Organizers hope the event not only nurtures future water professionals, but also sparks a lifelong curiosity about how essential infrastructure systems serve our communities.

For more information about the Water Tower Showdown or future participation, contact any of the partner agencies.



## About the Bedford Regional Water Authority

The Bedford Regional Water Authority (BRWA) provides reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services to the residents and businesses of Bedford County and the Town of Bedford. With a commitment to collaboration, adaptability, results, and enthusiasm, we ensure that our community thrives through sustainable water management.

In partnership with the Western Virginia Water Authority, we also serve the Smith Mountain Lake area, including parts of Bedford and Franklin Counties.

At the BRWA, our vision is clear: *Clean Water. Healthy Environment. Thriving Community.* For more information, visit [www.brwa.com](http://www.brwa.com).



## About Lynchburg Water Resources

Lynchburg Water Resources (LWR) ensures that Lynchburg residents enjoy an uninterrupted supply of quality drinking water and reliable sewer service. Each year, LWR supplies customers with over 3.8 billion gallons of clean drinking water, treats 4.2 billion gallons of wastewater, and offers free PreK-12 education outreach programs and facility tours correlated with Virginia SOLs. Visit <https://www.lyncburgva.gov/waterresources> to learn more.

## About the Salem Water Department

The Salem Water and Sewer Department's mission is to provide a high level of customer satisfaction by providing reliable, high-quality water and sewer service in an efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally sensitive manner to the City of Salem, VA. Visit <https://salemva.gov/439/Water-Sewer> to learn more.

## About the Western Virginia Water Authority

The Western Virginia Water Authority employs over 300 employees to provide drinking water for the City of Roanoke and the Counties of Roanoke, Franklin and Botetourt and the Towns of Boones Mill and Vinton. The Authority also provides sanitary wastewater service for the greater Roanoke Valley. Through events like the Water Tower Showdown and outreach programs in-class and in the field, the Authority is committed to educating our regional community about protecting our water resources. To learn more visit [www.westernvawater.org](http://www.westernvawater.org)

For more information, please contact:

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