



# Where are they

**Julie Abelsky**  
**Georgia State Winner**  
**2011**



## Solution To Run-Off Pollution

### 1) What are you doing now?



I am a rising sophomore at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois as a Statistics Major with minors in Mathematics and Business. Aside from academics, I'm also on the Northwestern NCAA Division 1 Women's Fencing Team. In my first season I placed in the top 4 in the Midwest Region, won the opportunity to compete at NCAA Championships, and was selected as this year's Rookie of the year. Also I'm on the Executive Board of the Northwestern Homecoming Committee as the philanthropy chair and am an active volunteer with "Fuel Up to Play 60" -- a program that teaches elementary and middle school kids about a health lifestyle that includes 60 minutes of exercise a day and a balanced diet. As for this summer, I am interning at Georgia Pacific in Atlanta, GA within their New Venture Development Team and am super excited to apply what I have learned in the classroom to real business cases.

### 2) How did the SJWP competition effect or influence you?

After attending many local and regional competitions, the SJWP competition was my first truly national competition at which I was exposed to the breadth of water related research projects that students my age nationwide had been working on throughout the year. The single element that all exhibited projects had in common was the use of mathematical and/or statistical theory to show a significance in both methods and results. Realizing the power of these concepts to either validate or nullify sets of data, trials, or even the entire experiments sparked my interest in Statistics as well as the history of these widely applied significance tests. Beginning my freshman year of college with extensive laboratory experience has not only propelled me to new opportunities but also has allowed me to keep my eye on the bigger picture when delving into statistical theory classes.

### 3) Would you care to give a testimonial about the SJWP competition?

Attending the SJWP was an absolutely incredible experience, during which I met likeminded passionate students from across the nation and also fell in love with the city of Chicago. This competition is one of the few times that such a large and diverse group of students come together all sharing a single passion for the environment and water quality. This common interest quickly brought the entire group of 2011 delegates into a close knit cohesive friend group that spent the entire weekend learning from each other and bonding both over similarities and differences. The SJWP competition was held in downtown Chicago in 2011 and students and their mentors were given ample opportunities through either programming or on their own to explore the multifaceted city of Chicago which is now my home away from home.

