

## 2012 BECC Conference: Poster Presenter Abstracts

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### ***Residence Hall Water Battle Competition***

Water and energy efficiency are closely intertwined. Students involved in our multi-campus energy efficiency education program actively support water efficiency projects that directly lead to both energy and water savings. The 'Residence Hall Water Battle Competition' poster showcases one such case study, featuring the results of a month long water conservation competition amongst nine residence halls using cutting edge real-time water measuring and monitoring technology. Student project coordinators integrated support from academic departments and creative outreach elements for greater breadth and depth to develop a highly successful water conservation campaign. Additionally, the student project coordinators were able to forge working partnerships with various stakeholders on their campus including full-time sustainability staff, various faculty members, student government representatives and other student groups on campus. The poster also demonstrates how the students leveraged internet based 'dashboard' technology that presented water meter data in real-time (15 minute intervals), thus eliminating the need for labor to manually read meters. The technology has been implemented campus wide to produce long-term cost savings through easy tracking of water use data. Results over the course of the month long competition included: 89,436 gallons of water saved, 14% average reduction across residence halls, more than 15 water leaks detected, and the campaign reached over 600 students in a mere 31 days. As a result, student project coordinators were able to introduce a water conservation culture to their campus community that their peers will continue daily on campus and share with their peers once they move to off-campus housing.