

Maryland Engineering Challenges 2021 Wood Bridge Challenge

High School Level - Grades 9-12

Supported By:

American Society of Civil Engineers, Hope Furrer Associates Inc, Wallace Montgomery & Associates, KCI Technologies, STV Inc, Whitney, Bailer, Cox & Magnani, & Michael J Walkley PA.

Engineer Contact:

Michael Newman—conradnewman13@gmail.com





In recognition of the uncertainties resulting from COVID-19, this year's Maryland Engineering Challenge competitions will be held virtually. Competition rules and project requirements are also being adjusted to enable and encourage safe participation for students.

Important Dates

Coaches' Information Session

⇒ Wednesday, October 21, 2020 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

This "drop-in" virtual event hosted on Zoom is designed for adults interested in coaching a team to chat with engineers. Find out if a particular Challenge is a good fit for your student(s). The Coaches' Information Session is not required and there is no cost. Attendance is strongly encouraged. Contact Jessica at jcelmer@thebmi.org

Access the Information Session from the link below:

http://bit.ly/MECInformationSession

Meeting ID: 835 1931 5106

Passcode: 328410

*If interested and attendance is not possible, Mr. Newman will gladly organize a time to talk with you.

Registration

⇒ Friday, January 22, 2021 Prior to 4:00 p.m.

In order to be a registered team, each team must have their adult Coach do the following:

- Register online: http://bit.ly/MEC2021Registration
- AND pay a \$5 Coach's Fee, details at https://48278.blackbaudhosting.com/48278/MEC-Coach-Fee
 - One adult can coach as many teams as desired for one \$5 coaches fee.

Wood Bridge Submission

- ⇒ Friday, January 22, 2021
- Prior to 4:00 p.m.
- Submit your Wood Bridge (by delivery or mailed/shipped) to the Baltimore Museum of Industry at 1415 Key Highway, Baltimore MD 21230
- Wood Bridge must be submitted by this date in order for it to be tested at the virtual competition.

Wood Bridge Competition

⇒ Saturday, January 30, 2021

Will be held virtually

Full details about the Challenge will be emailed to Coaches after the registration deadline. Check out the MEC page on the BMI website for up to date information.

Questions about Challenge specifications or judging should be sent to the **Engineer Contact:**

Michael Newman—conradnewman13@gmail.com

Other questions?

Jessica Celmer icelmer@thebmi.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- Q: What is the overall premise of the competition?
 - o A: Competitors are to construct the most efficient basswood bridge that spans approximately a 1' gap.
- Q: Where can I purchase the materials to construct my bridge for the competition?
 - o A: The wood must be 3/32-inch square cross-section basswood and can be purchase online at Amazon or Walmart.
 - o Materials can also be purchased at Blick Art Materials website: https://www.dickblick.com/
- Q: Is this an individual event or can competitors work in groups?
 - A: Any amount of people may be represented by one bridge entry. However, the bridges that qualify for the international competition must be represented by one person only.
- Q: How many bridges can I test?

- A: Individuals can only submit one official bridge. All others will be tested, but the competitor must select which bridge will be official while registering their bridge during check-in.
- Q: There are barriers preventing me from participating.
 - o If there are any barriers preventing you from participating, please reach out so we can overcome these challenges together. We would love to find solutions to make this program meet your school's needs.