



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2005 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Mary T. Rizk	Project Number J0928
Project Title Venice Canals: Picturesque or Contaminated?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals Study of coliform bacteria contamination in the Venice Beach canals. Hypothesis: If coliform is present in the Venice Beach canals, then coliform levels will be the highest in the canal area the furthest away from the canal system water inlet. Methods/Materials Materials: Water sampling containers, SimPlate Single Test Medium Kit, Incubator, UV light (366 nm) Method: Collect water from each Venice Beach canal location, fill individual test containers, shake well to blend water sample with test medium, remove the lid from the SimPlate device and pour the sample/medium mixture onto the center of the test plate and distribute evenly, incubate in the dark for 24 to 28 h at $35 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$. observe color change of the liquid in the wells, count the number of wells showing a color change showing fluorescence under UV light. Results Sampling points A through C can be considered to be the furthest away from the entrance at sampling point J. Sampling points G through I can be considered to be the least distance from the entrance at sampling point J. The total colonies found in points A through C is 2213 while the total colonies found in points G through I is 4824. These data indicate a much higher level of coliform at the entrance locations than at the far reaches of the canal system. Conclusions/Discussion From the results of my experiment, I reject my hypothesis. Coliform levels are actually the highest in the canal area closest to the canal system water inlet. The hypothesis should be restated to: If coliform is present in the Venice Beach canals, then coliform levels will be the highest in the canal area closest to the canal system water inlet.	
Summary Statement This project studied and compared the levels of coliform at various locations in the Venice, CA canal system.	
Help Received Mother took me to Venice, CA to take samples, helped type report.	