



## Local Media Invited to GM Desert Proving Grounds to Observe EcoCAR Competition Driving, Testing and Judging of Green Vehicles

**What:** Student engineers from 16 North American universities will gather in Yuma, Arizona beginning on Monday to participate in the EcoCAR Challenge, a collegiate engineering competition that challenges the next generation of automotive to design and build advanced technology vehicles.

Local GM engineers at GM's Desert Proving Ground will put the student-built vehicles through six days of rigorous testing, ranging from safety and technical inspections to towing, autocross, drive quality and emissions and energy consumption. From before sunrise to after sundown, EcoCAR teams will cycle their vehicles through multiple testing events in hopes of taking home the First Place trophy.

The EcoCAR event will be the first of its kind to visit General Motor's (GM) 2,400-acre Desert Proving Ground located on the U.S. Army military proving ground and artillery range. This is also the first event of the three-year competition program showcasing the EcoCAR vehicles. Now in the second year of the program, teams have turned their virtual designs they engineered in Year One, into reality and the prototype vehicles will debut to the media for the first time this week. Join us for a first-hand look inside each team's EcoCAR and check out how the vehicles handle on the road.

EcoCAR is a three-year competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and GM that challenges 16 teams from universities across North America to re-engineer a GM-donated vehicle using a range of alternative technologies and integrating them together to make their own unique architecture. Participating student teams aim to optimize their vehicles' fuel efficiency and minimize emissions in an effort to build a cleaner energy future.

For more information about EcoCAR, please visit the [EcoCAR website](#) or the [Inside the Green Garage blog](#).

**When:** Friday, May 21, 2010 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. MST

**Where:** General Motors Desert Proving Ground, Yuma, Arizona  
1500 E. GM Drive  
*North on Hwy 95, turn left at mile marker 51½*

**Who:** – 16 collegiate engineering teams competing for top honors in Year Two of the EcoCAR competition  
– Executives including Frank West, Manager, GM Desert Proving Grounds

**Notes:** Photograph opportunities will be available at the event

**Contacts:** If you are able to attend, please contact either Jennifer Eberline or Kimberly DeClark to confirm or for more information.

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### Participating Schools

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Mississippi State University  
Missouri Univ. of Science and Technology  
North Carolina State University  
The Ohio State University  
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