

JOHN HOUSEHOLDER

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www.urbanplanningresearch.org

Aspiring researcher, inventor, and leader passionate about Urban Planning and improving Urban Infrastructure.
Also a national-level competitive volleyball player.

Education

St. Mark's School of Texas – Class of 2025

Dallas, TX

GPA: 4.4/4.0 weighted (4.0 unweighted)

ACT: 35 composite

Leadership & Extracurricular Activities

Community Revive

Founder & President (11, 12)

- Founded school club of 50 students to improve community with initial focus on rescuing stray dogs and rejuvenating city parks
- Continued partnership with Duck team 6 to provide loving homes for stray pets in Dallas. Initial event vaccinated over 500 dogs and provided needed collars and leashes
- Collaborated with City of Dallas on the Adopt-A-Park program to clean and maintain the Northaven Trail throughout the year

Boy Scouts of America, St. Mark's Troop

Scout (9), Eagle Scout (10, 11, 12)

- Led 18-month effort to raise over \$10,000 in monetary donations and over \$2,000 in goods and supplies for Duck Team 6, a non-profit organization that helps rescue stray dogs in Dallas, including a \$500 donation from President George W. Bush
- Appointed to Den Chief for 2 consecutive years; adopted 2 Webelo Cub Scout Dens and helped scouts achieve over 10 long-form rank requirements; helped recruit both Webelos Cub Scout Dens to join St. Mark's Boy Scout Troop with 12 scouts recruited, representing approximately 20% of the Troop's current membership
- Held other leadership positions including Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader

Scientific Marksmen

Section Editor (10), Graphic Designer (10), Contributing Author (10), Contributing Author (12)

- Section Editor (1 of 3); Oversaw 10 articles written, integrated articles into magazine theme, and helped with overall flow
- Wrote multiple articles on Dallas' water and diminishing ecosystem
- Chief Graphic Designer: designed articles and section graphics, and helped link them together thematically

Volleyball

Year-Round Sport, including Summers

St. Mark's Varsity Volleyball

Setter (9), Starting Setter (10, 11, 12)

- Co-Captain (2024) and starting setter (2022-2024); 1 of only 2 freshman to make varsity team (2021)
- SPC Conference (Champs 2021, Runner Up 2023); North Zone Champs (2022 & 2023)

Excel Volleyball Club (National Team)

Starting Setter & Captain (9, 10, 11)

- Starting setter and captain for top club team in 14-17s age group; helped team win bid for Boys Junior National Championship tournament (each year from 14u-17u); helped team place top 20 in the nation (2020-2024)
- Qualified for and finished top 10 at USAV National Beach Tour Junior Championship (2020-2021)

Intellectual Interests & Summer Work

Urban Planning & Renewable Energy Research and Projects: www.urbanplanningresearch.org

Renewable Energy Research Project

Independent Researcher, Innovator & Creator (11, 12)

- Conducting research on renewable energy possibilities—particularly converting trash into energy and hydrogen into energy
- Over five months, built and tested a wood gasifier exploring ways to use trash to power a house. Completed report and blog
- **Website:** <https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/urban-renewable-energy-project> (includes links to blog and report)
- **Blog:** <https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/post/turning-trash-into-treasure>
- **Report:** https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/files/ugd/2f8b06_86b39a0426094848b99d4d380e16f868.pdf

Urban Planning Research Project

Researcher (10)

- 8-week online class with former Columbia University Urban Planning Professor, Stefan Al, learning about Urban Planning
- Completed project that redesigned the space around Reunion Tower in downtown Dallas into a vibrant park
- Earned Top 10% grade for report & SketchUp model by Dr. Al
- **Website:** <https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/urban-park-proposal> (includes links to blog and report)
- **Blog:** <https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/post/what-i-learned-from-architecture-in-the-city-sustainable-urban-design-that-inspires>
- **Report:** https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/files/ugd/2f8b06_55b13ad054564c85bfe7c8eead093c58.pdf

Water Research

Independent Researcher (9)

- Conducted research on City of Dallas water quality and sustainability; findings confirm water quality in Dallas earns one of the safest ratings in the nation with work underway to extend water supply through 2070 for rapidly expanding population
- Interviewed over 4 City of Dallas Water Utility Officials to confirm safety and sustainability of Dallas' water supply given continuing threats climate change and pollutants, including forever chemicals
- Completed 50-page research paper and many blog postings. <https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/urban-water-research>

EdX and MIT OpenCourseWare Courses on Urban Planning and City Development

Student (9, 10, 11)

- Due to competitive volleyball schedule, including in the summers, was unable to take longer, in-person classes during the summers. Instead, audited the following courses:

HarvardX

- CitiesX: The Past, Present, and Future Life
- Introduction to Urban Design and Development

MIT OpenCourseWare

Drexel Materials Science and Engineering Summer Institute

Student (11)

- Attended one-week in person class at Drexel University to explore materials science and engineering

Website: <https://www.urbanplanningresearch.org/>

Creator and Blogger (11, 12)

- Created website to capture Urban Planning & Renewable Energy Research and Projects, including initial water research

Blog: <https://www.isyourwatersafe.com>

Blogger (9, 10)

- Wrote and published multiple blogs on intellectually curious topics, including global water crisis and independent research

Community Service

Over 200 hours volunteered with multiple organizations to find different ways to help the community

Boys Scouts of America, St. Mark's Troop

9, 10, 11, 12

- Cleared land and trails, picked up trash: For the Love of the Lake, Groundwork, Trinity River Audubon Center

Independent Service Work

9, 10, 11, 12

- Sorted and packed food / gifts: BCW Milling & Distribution, North Dallas Shared Ministries, Dallas Children's Hunger Fund

St. Mark's School of Texas

9, 10, 11, 12

- Supervised and played with special needs children to give parents a night off: Rays of Light
- Sorted and packed food and gifts: North Texas Food Bank, Feed My Starving Children, Salvation Army

Honors & Awards

Environmental Science Award 2024

Recipient (11)

- Awarded to one student across the entire school (usually to a senior)

National Merit Commended

Recipient (11)

AP Scholar Award

AP Scholar with Distinction (11)

St Mark's Varsity Volleyball

All SPC Conference Team (10, 11), MVP (10)

Excel Volleyball Club

USAV Indoor Nationals & Top 20 Finish (9, 10, 11), USAV Beach Nationals Top 10 Finish (9)

Boy Scouts of America

Eagle Scout District Project of the Year (10), Order of the Arrow (9, 10, 11, 12)

Spanish National Honor Society and Spanish Exam Medalist

Inductee (10), Member (11, 12); Silver (9), Gold (10), Gold (11)