



Melissa Wood
Chief Administrative Officer

Problem-Solving with a Purpose

Engineers solve the world's most complex problems. But what happens when the problem is the shrinking pipeline of engineers, scientists, researchers and others in technical fields that threatens to weaken innovation and economic advancement in the United States?

It's time to step up.

Perhaps it's no surprise that among those working to boost interest in such professions are utilities, manufacturers, professional services firms and others — institutions that rely on ingenuity, dedication and imagination to succeed.

In this issue's cover story, it's encouraging to learn how a municipal government is taking students to summer camp — inside treatment plants for water and wastewater. And to see how a Major League ballpark's colorful fountains can generate interest in electrical and piping systems. In Texas, one mentor already has inspired a team of students to design upgrades for a shelter serving battered women. The personal and community benefits are only just beginning.

Making a commitment to STEM education — programs and projects in science, technology, engineering and math — is about making a difference. We must all accept responsibility to meet this challenge. At Burns & McDonnell, we're proud to share this commitment with many of our clients and partners. And throughout our industries and our communities, we all can look forward to investments in STEM delivering valuable solutions well into the future.



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