

## June 2017 Newsletter

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*"The students are wonderful ambassadors for the Earth!  
They are so much more aware of what we ALL need to do to help the Earth!"*  
- Johanna Korpita, Anne T. Dunphy School, Williamsburg

Hello GREEN TEAM Teachers!

Congratulations on all the wonderful environmental activities you and your students completed this year!  
Check out the new photos in the [Green Team Photo Gallery!](#)

We received sixty-two Teacher Response Forms, describing an impressive array of activities across Massachusetts. Many schools collected textiles for donation and recycling, started collecting food scraps in their cafeterias for composting, expanded recycling programs, built school gardens, and started compost bins! Students are learning about climate change, energy sources, air quality, endangered species, reducing waste, and more.

Thanks to schools who participated in our Textile Recovery Challenge: Barnstable High School, Brackett Elementary School (Arlington), Bridgewater - Raynham Regional High School, Brookside Elementary School (Dracut), Samuel Brown School, Norwood High School, Rockland Senior High School, Stoklosa Middle School (Lowell), and Sharon Public School. These schools collected thousands of pounds of textiles for reuse and recycling.

Certificates and prizes have been awarded and were mailed last week to all schools that submitted a

Teacher Response Form. A total of 18 GREEN TEAM Grand Prize winners were selected and will receive either a school assembly or garden supplies for their school. [Click here](#) for the complete list of all GREEN TEAM prize winners. Watch for the press release MassDEP will soon issue highlighting your accomplishments!

2016 - 2017 GREEN TEAM Grand Prize Winners				
School Name	Community	Teacher	Grade	GREEN TEAM Prize
Mount Alvernia Academy	Chestnut Hill	Maria Lyons	Nursery-6	Earthtunes Concert
East Boston Early Education Center	East Boston	Amanda Miraldi	K-1	Recycling Show
Monument Valley Regional Middle School	Great Barrington	Mary Stucklen	7	Garden Supplies
John G. Whittier School	Haverhill	Jen Rubera	5-7	Garden Supplies
Robert F Kennedy Childrens Action Corps EWT School	Holyoke	Joanna Heron-Forge't	9-12	Garden Supplies
NEARI School	Holyoke	Danielle Crescione	K-12	Garden Supplies
Edward Parthum Middle School	Lawrence	Julia Perlowski	3-8	Paint Supplies
Johnny Appleseed School	Leominster	Brigid Gilchrist	5	Recycling Show
Bartlett Community Partnership School	Lowell	JoAnne Downing	Pre K-8	Recycling Show
Marion E. Zeh School	Northborough	Selvi Oyola	3-5	Garden Supplies
South Shore Natural Science Center Preschool	Norwell	Diane Thureson	Pre K	Garden Supplies
Norwood Montessori School	Norwood	Tamiko Porter	Pre K-6	Recycling Show

North Pembroke Elementary School	Pembroke	Michelle Byrne	K-6	Earthtunes Concert
Sprague Elementary School	Wellesley	Ellen Banthin	5	Earthtunes Concert
Rose L. Macdonald School	West Bridgewater	Jeremy Dempsey	1-3	Recycling Show
West Brookfield Elementary School	West Brookfield	Karen Oliveira	5	Garden Supplies
Anne T Dunphy Elementary School	Williamsburg	Johanna Korpita	2	Recycling Show
St. Charles Elementary School	Woburn	Stacy Drector	Pre K-8	Garden Supplies



*A behind-the-scenes glimpse of Green Team prize packing!*

### **GREEN TEAM Spotlight**

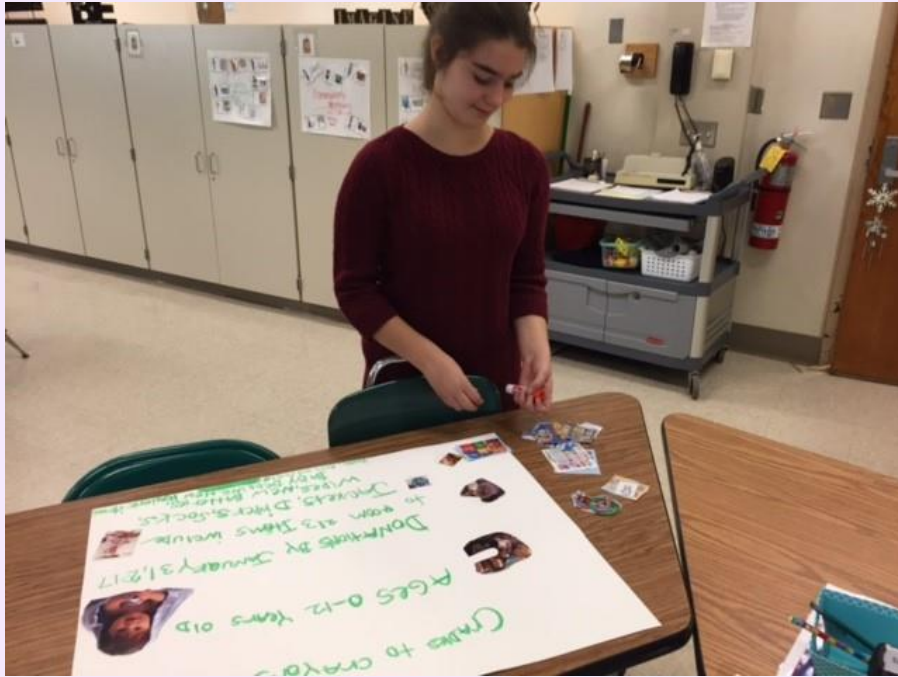
As part of their effort to improve recycling at their school, students at **Sharon Middle School** created a display of all the items thrown in the trash one week that should have been in the recycling. The display

was eye-catching and made an impact on students who paid more attention to how they disposed of their trash and recycling in the weeks that followed.



*The display at Sharon Middle School, showing a week's worth of items from the trash that could have been recycled.*

Students at **Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School** in South Yarmouth made posters and collected items for [Cradles to Crayons](#). The school collected winter clothes, books, and arts and crafts supplies. This activity connected unused items with people in need rather than sending those items to the trash.



*A student at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School making a poster for their Cradles to Crayons collection.*

Students at **Leroy L. Wood Elementary School** in Fairhaven repurposed pinecones to create bird feeders. Students sold these birdfeeders as a fundraiser and donated the funds they collected to the Fairhaven Community Trail Network. This funding can be used to build bridges on the trail right near their school.





*The Leroy L. Wood Elementary School Green Team  
decorating pinecone birdfeeders.*

Students at the **Greenfield Math & Science Academy** in Greenfield created a [film](#) about recycling and composting for the Greenfield Schools Film Fest.



Congratulations to the **23rd Annual Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education winners!** The award honors 33 energy and environmental education programs at Massachusetts schools and nonprofits. More details and a full list of the winning programs [can be found here](#).

The winners of the **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Massachusetts Envirothon** were announced on May 18. Teams in this outdoor field competition rotate through four "ecostations" where they answer written questions, and engage in hands-on activities such as soil analysis, wildlife habitat assessment, tree identification, and water quality measures. Teams also give presentations on a current issue, which was "Agricultural Soil and Water Conservation." The Overall Score winners for the event were Lexington High School, Newtown South High School, and Newton North High School. The complete list of winners is available [on the MassEnvirothon site](#).

#### **GREEN TEAM in the Media**

If your school is covered in the local media, let us know and we'll add it to [THE GREEN TEAM in the media!](#)

## **School Programs, Events, Competitions, and Professional Development**

Mark your calendars with these grant opportunities, workshops, conferences and more!

**June 10-14** – Framingham State University is hosting a one-week institute for middle and high school educators, [New Visions for a Changing World: Towards a Pedagogy of Climate Change](#). The experience includes field and laboratory work at the recently-opened state-of-the-art Framingham State University Hemenway Laboratories.

**June 14** – Deadline for the [Funds for Fuel Up to Play 60](#) Grant. Up to \$4,000 per year is available to qualified K-12 schools enrolled in Fuel Up to Play 60 to jumpstart healthy changes in food and physical activity.

**June 14** – Submission deadline for the MassDEP [Sustainable Materials Recovery Program](#)(SMRP) Municipal Grants. These grants offer funding to cities, towns and regional entities for recycling, composting, reuse, and source reduction activities, including district-wide school recycling and food waste diversion programs.

**June 19** – Entry deadline for the [Marine Debris](#) and [Ocean Pollution: Challenges & Solutions](#) students contests. These contests challenge students to design, implement, and assess a creative advocacy project in their school or community.

**June 19 - July 2** - [Sustainable Development & Social Entrepreneurship](#) session at Yale Young Global Scholars Program. The session is designed for students who are interested in exploring innovative solutions to the greatest challenges facing our species and the planet.

**June 20-26** - [National Pollinator Week](#), a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what we can do to protect them. Join the international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats, and beetles by writing to the governor or hosting or attending a pollinator event.

**June 25 - July 1** - [Student Conservation Corps & Congress](#) in Shepherdstown, WV, which empowers student environmental leaders with the skills, knowledge, and tools to address climate change and natural resource conservation challenges. The registration deadline was May 15.

**June 27** - [Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom Day of Dairy](#) at Cooper's Hilltop Farm in

Rochdale. Learn about something your students drink every day: milk! Follow milk from cow to processing and learn ways to use this information in your classroom.

### **Other Resources**

The Green Schools National Network shared a *Green Teacher Magazine* [article on best practices for school gardening](#). The article gives schools the tools to get started developing a sustainable school garden program.

[Re-Stream](#) is cleaning out dormitories and has dozens of **wooden desks** available for free (including delivery). If your school is interested in receiving free desks, please contact John Fantasia at Re-Stream: (781)-417-0552 or [jfantasia@re-stream.com](mailto:jfantasia@re-stream.com).



*Re-purpose these free wooden desks at your school*

We wish you and your students a great end to the school year and a wonderful summer. We hope you register again for THE GREEN TEAM when you return in the fall!

Don't forget to water your compost bins before you leave for summer vacation!

**Emily Fabel**

**Green Team Program Administrator**



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