

November 2017 Newsletter

[View this email in your browser](#)



"We enjoyed planting flowers in the front of the school with the gift certificate you gave us last spring!"- Ms. Laurie Boosahda, Greenfield Math and Science Academy, Greenfield

Hello GREEN TEAM Teachers!

Last month, we sent out GREEN TEAM kits to over 190 schools that have registered so far this school year. If you registered recently, you'll receive a kit soon!

THE GREEN TEAM provides an assortment of resources to help you plan lessons and activities that engage your students with understanding environmental issues. These educational materials are available in [THE GREEN TEAM kits](#) mailed to all participants.

Some highlights include:

- The [Slash Trash Lesson](#), which encourages students to track recycling, composting, and waste disposal at home as they identify and implement new waste-reduction activities.
- [Climate Change Activities](#) and [Scorecard](#), which ask students to identify and track actions they can take to reduce greenhouse gas pollution.
- [Clean Air Activities](#), which empower students to take actions to improve air quality by reducing vehicle exhaust and creating Idle-Free Zones at their school.

If your school is interested in creating an Idle-Free Zone, THE GREEN TEAM offers [free idling reduction signs and materials](#) for registered schools!

The next distribution day for GREEN TEAM recycling equipment for schools in the Boston area is November 16 in West Roxbury. Submit a [recycling equipment application](#) by November 13 to receive equipment this fall. The next distribution day in the Boston area will be in April.

GREEN TEAM Spotlight

Amesbury Elementary School, in collaboration with their DPW, has been recycling for many years. “The thinking was that if we could help children to learn about recycling early on, and hopefully ingrain it as a life habit, then we would raise up a generation of recycling-conscious children,” says teacher Bruce McBrien.

The students at AES have been part of the Green Team for years, including arriving early once a week to go through the halls gathering up recycling from all of the classroom bins, which they then deliver to the custodial staff for transfer into the large single-stream bins outside. By making recycling an automatic part of their school lives, the hope is that the students’ green behaviors will translate to their lives at home and in their community.



*A fourth grader recycling paper in Cara Ripley's classroom at
Amesbury Elementary School*

Throughout the school year, send us photos and stories about the great work you are doing to share in [THE GREEN TEAM Photo Gallery](#) and [THE GREEN TEAM Spotlight!](#)

GREEN TEAM in the Media

The Lowell Sun featured **Ayer Shirley Middle School's** annual [Recycle Your Reusables](#) event. This annual one-day event focuses on collecting reusable household goods.

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

School Programs, Events, Competitions, and Professional Development

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

November 2-3 - [Annual Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers \(MAST\) Conference](#) in Boxborough. The conference theme is Spotlight on Science, including Climate Change Education, New Teacher Resources, Student Misconceptions, Technology Resources and Dynamic Classrooms. Join MassDEP's Ann McGovern for a hands-on school composting session on Nov. 3 at 9:15 am. [Register today!](#)

November 6 – Submission deadline for the [International Compost Awareness Week Poster Competition](#). The contest is open to anyone who wishes to share their artistic creativity to promote this year's theme: Compost! Building a Better Future.

November 13 – Deadline to submit a [recycling equipment application](#) for the Boston-area equipment distribution on November 16.

November 14 - The Massachusetts Environmental Education Society (MEES) [Listening Session](#) at the Buttonwood Park Zoo in New Bedford. MEES has set up regional meetings throughout Massachusetts to bring the environmental education community together, giving MEES an opportunity to learn how it can better support you!

November 15 - [America Recycles Day](#), a national initiative of Keep America Beautiful. Join a recycling event in your area, or register your own.

November 15 – Application deadline for the [Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grant](#), which provides a \$2,000 monetary grant to support a new or existing edible garden at either a school or non-profit.

November 16 - Distribution day in West Roxbury for GREEN TEAM recycling equipment for schools in the Boston area. [Register](#) for THE GREEN TEAM for the 2017-2018 school year and submit a [recycling equipment application](#) by Nov. 13 to request equipment. In the event of snow, we will reschedule for November 30.

November 17 – Proposal deadline for the Coca-Cola and Keep America Beautiful Public Space [Recycling Bin Grant](#).

December 8 - Application deadline for the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's [Clean Energy Activity Day Program](#). This program funds a special day dedicated to Clean Energy Activities for elementary and middle school students.

December 8 – Application deadline for the [USDA's Farm to School Grant Program](#). Schools and school districts can apply for planning or implementation grants to start or expand a farm to school program.

Other Resources

Keep America Beautiful [offers a toolkit](#) for America Recycles Day that includes event ideas, projects, trainings and customizable templates for posters, media materials, proclamations and activities you can use to promote recycling awareness, commitment, and action in your community. America Recycles Day banners, pencils and other giveaways [can be ordered here](#).

We hope THE GREEN TEAM's resources help with environmental education efforts at your school this year!

Emily Fabel
Green Team Program Administrator

Copyright © 2017 The Green Team, All rights reserved.
You are receiving this e-mail because you are part of The Green Team.

Contact Us:

Tel: (413) 586-7350 ext. 290

Fax: (413) 586-7351
Email: recycle@thegreenteam.org