



“As a group, the Green Team received acknowledgement that their passion and efforts were truly important and influencing the greater student body.”

- Peter Afanasiw, Cohasset High School, Cohasset

Hello GREEN TEAM Teachers!

Now that it's summer, we have more time to reflect on the 2018-2019 school year.

We have posted the full list of [GREEN TEAM activities accomplished at schools](#) across the state over the past year. This list is inspiring, and may give you some ideas for next year!

The MassDEP also recently issued [a press release about the 2018-2019 GREEN TEAM prize winners](#). This press release is generally popular with local newspapers, who write stories highlighting GREEN TEAM participants. Please send us links to any media coverage your school receives, so we can share it in the **GREEN TEAM in the Media** section of this newsletter, and on [our website](#).

The GREEN TEAM website now features an updated [map of participating schools](#).

There are many workshops and classes available this summer to learn how to better integrate environmental education into your curriculum. Check out the list of professional development opportunities in the calendar section below.

[Registration for the GREEN TEAM for the 2019-2020 school year is now open!](#) Remember, your registration from 2018-2019 does not carry over to the new school year. Please register now to stay up to date on upcoming events, request equipment, and keep us updated on the work you and your students are doing and receive recognition for it!

GREEN TEAM Spotlight

Mason-Rice Elementary School's Green Team created this informative recycling video educating their classmates about the 3 Rs - Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle, as well as what items can and cannot be recycled at their school. The video was shown at a school-wide assembly, where the students also led a "Recycle Right - Walking Relay Race" for their classmates to further learn about proper recycling. Additionally, the students helped conduct a survey of the school's recycling equipment, which was used to assess whether they needed to update their existing system with the no-cost [recycling equipment](#) provided by the GREEN TEAM. The [Mason-Rice Green Team Kids blog](#) provides a glimpse into all of the wonderful environmental projects the students accomplished this year. Click below to watch the video yourself!



Mason-Rice Elementary School Green Team created sharing tips on how to practice the 3 Rs – Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

Last school year, **Smith Vocational Technical High School** in Northampton started composting food and paper waste from both their cafeteria and culinary arts kitchen, where student chefs prepare food for the school's restaurant. The school also established an onsite compost plant where all of the organic materials are transported and composted. Throughout the course of the year, over five tons of organic materials were diverted from the landfill!



A Smith Vocational Technical High School student sorting paper waste to be included in the compost collection bin.

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

GREEN TEAM in the Media

The [Hampshire Gazette](#) featured a piece about **Sunderland Elementary School's** Massachusetts Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. SRTS supports the accessibility and safety of taking non-vehicular modes of transportation to school, which decreases emissions from commuting and encourages exercise for students. The state Department of Transportation honored 140 SRTS partner schools in an awards ceremony held at the Massachusetts State House on May 30th.

[Wicked Local Westford](#) reported on **Nashoba Valley Technical High School's** participation in the Eco Carpentry Challenge. The challenge is an annual event held by the [Furniture Trust](#), a nonprofit that promotes responsible reuse of unwanted office furniture. Used office furniture donated by local businesses was delivered to the 10 participating high schools, where students had their spring semester to use teamwork, imagination, and carpentry skills to transform these materials into new products, which were later donated back to the community.

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!

July 8-12 - The Wade Institute for Science Education's [Berkshire Region Summer Professional Development Institute](#) will feature a professional learning experience for Grades 3-8 educators entitled: **Thinkers and Tinkerers: Using Biomimicry to Teach Engineering and Life Sciences**. Register online using this [form](#).

July 15-19 - The Wade Institute for Science Education's [Cape Cod Region Summer Professional Development Institute](#) will feature a professional learning experience for middle and high school educators entitled: **Go Under the Sea With STEM: Investigating Marine Life from Open Ocean to Coastal Shores**. Register online using this [form](#).

July 15-19 - The Wade Institute for Science Education's [North Central Region Summer Professional Development Institute](#) will feature a professional learning experience for middle and high school educators entitled: **Exploring Innovative Solutions to Environmental Challenges Through Green Chemistry, Biomimicry, and Real World Technologies**. Register online using this [form](#).

July 15-19 - The Wade Institute for Science Education's [Southeast Region Summer Professional Development Institute](#) will feature a professional learning experience for grades 3-8 educators entitled: **Inquiry and Innovation: How Science Informs Engineering Solutions**. Register online using this [form](#).

August 16-18 – The 12th annual [Boston Greenfest & Tech Expo](#) is a free weekend eco-festival on the Rose F. Kennedy Greenway in Boston with a goal to educate and empower people to create a more sustainable, healthier world. The EcoKids Center is filled with interactive exhibits, robots, music, art, pony rides, fitness, games, and lots of STEM projects!

September 1 – Deadline for [Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom Mini-Grant](#) applications. Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom awards mini-grants up to \$1,500 to Massachusetts educators, after-school programs, farms working with schools, and youth gardening organizations for agriculturally-based educational projects. Click [here](#) to apply.

October 1 – Deadline for [Toshiba America Foundation grants](#). The Toshiba America Foundation awards grants to educators who are passionate about making mathematics and science more engaging for their students. This deadline is for educators of grades K-5, and offers grants up to \$1,000.

Other Resources

The annual [Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle guide](#) developed by the Daily Hampshire Gazette and Springfield Materials Recycling Facility Advisory Board provides up to date recycling information and features a page on the Greenfield Public Schools' green initiatives.

We look forward to your return for the 2019-2020 school year. [It's never too early to register!](#)
Have a lovely summer vacation!

Megan Denardo
Green Team Program Administrator
