



*“My students have learned about the importance of recycling while practicing valuable prevocational, communication, and collaborative skills.”*

*– Alice Daly, Joseph Lee School, Dorchester*

Hello GREEN TEAM Teachers!

Summer is at its peak, and here at THE GREEN TEAM we are busy preparing for another exciting school year! [GREEN TEAM registration for the 2019-2020 school year](#) is now open, and [GREEN TEAM Classroom Kits](#) will be mailed in September! Remember, GREEN TEAM registrations do not carry over into the new school year, so please register now to enroll for 2019-2020.

We have recycling equipment in stock at three locations throughout the state. To request [free recycling and composting equipment](#), please [register for the 2019-2020 school year](#) and submit a [recycling equipment application form](#). The Boston-area location will have three scheduled distribution dates during the 2019-2020 school year. The first will be **Wednesday, September 25, so be sure to submit your equipment request by September 20<sup>th</sup>**. There will be two other distribution dates, one in November and one in April.

Equipment distributions from the Amherst and Pittsfield locations are scheduled by appointment. You will be provided with additional information upon approval of your equipment request.



*Students at Mt. Alvernia Academy in Chestnut Hill display their recycling bins. This recycling equipment was provided by THE GREEN TEAM. Request recycling bins by submitting a [Recycling Equipment Application](#).*

### **GREEN TEAM Spotlight**

In Arlington, **Thompson Elementary School's** Green Team organized a series of classroom 'Podcast for the Planet' workshops where the students brainstormed, researched, wrote scripts, recorded, and edited podcasts. The students produced podcast episodes on a variety of environmental concerns related to clean water. All of the podcasts can be found on the [Arlington Community Media, Inc.'s Green Team](#) webpage. Since 2016, Thompson students have been using art, editorials, and environmental action to speak out about the harms of plastic and Styrofoam pollution.



*Thompson Elementary School students recording an episode of their environmental podcast*

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**

[Sentinel & Enterprise](#) featured a story on Fitchburg's **Crocker Elementary School's** Green Team and the various recycling activities the students undertook this year. This Green Team has helped double the recycling rate at the school.

[Wicked Local](#) reported on **Sharon Public School District's** pursuit of sustainability. During a June 5 meeting, school committee members discussed issues of contamination in their recycling stream as well as the cost/benefit analysis of moving to reusable trays and silverware. The [Food Waste Reduction](#) page on the GREEN TEAM website has useful resources detailing the benefits of using reusable products.

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

**August 5-9** – Mass Audubon's Summer Professional Development course, [Earth and Human Activity: Climate Change Science & Community-based Solutions](#), at Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary in Plymouth. Discover simple lessons involving real datasets collected in Massachusetts and beyond to help your students practice science skills from asking questions to data analysis and communication.

**September 1** – Deadline for [Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom Mini-Grant](#) applications. Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom awards mini-grants of 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.

**September 20** – Deadline to submit THE GREEN TEAM [recycling equipment application](#) for the September 25<sup>th</sup> distribution day to be held in West Roxbury. (Equipment requests for the Amherst and Pittsfield equipment locations may be submitted at any time).

**September 20** – The [Green Careers Conference](#) at the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife in Westborough. This event showcases careers in sustainability, with stakeholders from the government, business, education, and non-profit sectors.

**September 25** – Distribution day for GREEN TEAM recycling equipment for schools in the Boston area. [Register](#) for THE GREEN TEAM for the 2019-2020 school year and submit a [recycling equipment application](#) by September 20<sup>th</sup> to request equipment. There will also be distribution dates in November and April.

**October 1** – Deadline for [Toshiba America Foundation grants](#) (grades K-5, \$1000). 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.

**November 15** – Keep America Beautiful's [America Recycles Day](#). Take action in your community by getting involved with a local event on this nationally-recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States. [Find a local event](#) or register your own!

## Other Resources

The Center for Green Schools, which runs the annual [Green Apple Day of Service](#), compiled a list of [99 green project ideas](#) that teachers, parents, volunteers, and students can do at their schools.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency's [Teacher's Classroom Checklist](#) for Indoor Air Quality can help ensure that a healthy learning environment is present in the classroom.

We look forward to your return for the 2019-2020 school year. [It's never too early to register!](#) And it's not too early to request [idling reduction signs and materials](#) to kick off the school year with cleaner air!

Enjoy your summer vacation!

**Megan Denardo**  
**Green Team Program Administrator**