



# MassDEP NEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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## **State Environmental Officials Announce Student and School Recipients of 'Green Team' Awards**

*MassDEP Recognizes Young Environmental Stewardship Educational Activities*

**BOSTON** – State environmental officials today recognized students from 44 schools across the Commonwealth for outstanding environmental actions as members of the “Green Team,” a statewide environmental education program sponsored by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

“The Baker-Polito Administration congratulates all the Green Team teachers and students, who showed outstanding leadership and initiative during the past school year to raise environmental awareness in their schools, homes and communities,” **said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides**. “When schools closed in March, these students continued to work on environmental activities at home, including recycling, composting, gardening, and creating outreach materials to share with their classmates, setting a tremendous example for both their peers and the entire Commonwealth.”

Students of any age can participate in the Green Team program, an initiative composed of students that share the goals of reducing pollution and protecting the environment. More than 111,000 students in 391 classes at 341 schools joined the Green Team this school year, a record level of participation for the program.

Students took part in a range of activities, including expanding school recycling programs, collecting textiles for donation and recycling, starting a compost pile using organic waste from the school cafeteria and using the compost it generates to nourish a garden to grow vegetables, making their school driveways “Idle-Free Zones,” increasing energy efficiency in their schools and communities, and reducing their carbon footprint at school and at home.

These activities incorporated classroom disciplines from the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), reading, writing, art, and other non-classroom, interrelated projects.

“Each year, Green Team students take the concept of environmental stewardship right into their own schools and communities with practical approaches to energy conservation, recycling,



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composting and pollution prevention projects,” **said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.** “Participants in the Green Teams each year put into practice ideas that create a positive impact on our environment, and take steps to expand recycling and energy efficiency efforts.”

Participating teachers received a Green Team Kit containing classroom posters, lesson plans, recycling tips and access to a library of other resources. In addition, 33 schools received recycling equipment from the Green Team to initiate or expand school recycling programs. Eighteen schools received signs reading “Idle-Free Zone” from the Green Team that serve as a visual reminder to drivers to turn off their engines while waiting in the schoolyard.

Participating classes entered in a drawing for prizes, and 44 classes received prizes for their efforts (see list below). Thirteen schools won grand prizes for schoolwide participation, and will receive remote interactive performances by environmental “edu-tainer” Jack Golden, or gift cards to local garden centers for trees and gardening supplies to further “green” their schools. The other 31 classes will be invited to participate in the remote environmental shows.

To learn more or to participate in the 2020-2021 school year, the 19<sup>th</sup> year for the Green Team, teachers may sign up online [here](#).

The following are Green Team prize winners:

School Name	Community	Teacher	Grade	Prize
Abington Middle School	Abington	Lauren Peruzzi	7	Recycling Show
Paul P. Gates, M.D. Elementary School	Acton	Becky Acheson	4-6	Recycling Show
Youth Center Inc.	Adams	Monica Carpenter	K-7	Recycling Show
James Clark Elementary School	Agawam	Tammy Rumprik	K-4	Recycling Show
Amesbury Elementary School	Amesbury	Bruce McBrien	K-4	Recycling Show
Gibbs School	Arlington	Rachel Cilley	6	Recycling Show
Ottoson Middle School	Arlington	Rachel Oliveri	7-8	Recycling Show
Thompson Elementary School	Arlington	Elizabeth Rocco	K-5	Garden Supplies



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Lt. Job Lane Elementary School	Bedford	Jean Mickle	3-5	Garden Supplies
Swift River Elementary School	Belchertown	Bianca Schliemann	1	Recycling Show
Swift River Elementary School	Belchertown	Cindy Fournier	1	Recycling Show
Bernardston Elementary School	Bernardston	Jennifer Comiskey	3	Recycling Show
German International School Boston	Boston	Julia Holt	1-12	Recycling Show
The Advent School	Boston	Judean Patten-Clark	2-5	Recycling Show
Brighton High School	Boston - Brighton	Timothy Harrison	9-12	Recycling Show
Saint Brendan School	Boston - Dorchester	Carola Tabela	5	Recycling Show
Dante Alighieri Montessori School	Boston - East Boston	Teresa Strong	K-6	Garden Supplies
Hoosac Valley Middle and High School	Cheshire	Lindsay McGinnis	4	Garden Supplies
Mount Alvernia Academy	Chestnut Hill	Maria Lyons	PreK-6	Garden Supplies
Cohasset High School	Cohasset	Peter Afanasiw	9-12	Recycling Show
Newton Elementary School	Greenfield	Miriam Robinson	K-4	Recycling Show
Marigold Montessori School	Haverhill	Linda Malbon	Preschool	Recycling Show
Hingham Middle School	Hingham	Shayna Miller	6-8	Recycling Show
Maurice A. Donahue Elementary School	Holyoke	Christine Burns	4-8	Recycling Show
Winthrop Elementary School	Ipswich	Nicole Whitten	4-5	Recycling Show
Robert Frost Middle School	Lawrence	Paul Flanigan	5-7	Recycling Show
Johnny Appleseed School	Leominster	Brigid Gilchrist	5	Recycling Show



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Bridge Elementary School	Lexington	Natalie Cohen	K-5	Garden Supplies
St. Mary's High School	Lynn	Stacy Director	6-12	Garden Supplies
Underwood Elementary School	Newton	Andy Gluck	K-5	Recycling Show
Mason-Rice Elementary School	Newton Centre	Heather Friedman	K-5	Recycling Show
Atkinson Elementary School	North Andover	Susan Baylies	1-5	Recycling Show
Kittredge Elementary School	North Andover	Cheryl Means	4-5	Recycling Show
North Andover Middle School	North Andover	Jorge Goncalves	6-8	Recycling Show
Pvt. Albert E. Thomson Elementary School	North Andover	Christopher Raymond	1-5	Recycling Show
Norwood Montessori School	Norwood	Tamiko Porter	PreK-12	Garden Supplies
Captain Samuel Brown School	Peabody	Diane Bugler	K-5	Recycling Show
Witchcraft Heights Elementary School	Salem	Kelly Cronin	K-5	Garden Supplies
Oak Ridge School	Sandwich - E. Sandwich	Doreen Chagnon	5-6	Recycling Show
Innovation Academy Charter School	Tyngsboro	Anna Cynar	5-12	Recycling Show
Loker Elementary School	Wayland	Anne Johnson	3-5	Recycling Show
West Brookfield Elementary School	West Brookfield	Karen Oliveira	1	Recycling Show
Bancroft School	Worcester	Mason Hendershott	5	Recycling Show
Dr. Arthur F. Sullivan Middle School	Worcester	Jill Thibodeau	6-8	Recycling Show

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.