



School Recycling CLUB

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School News You Can Use!!!

April 18th, 2011

Happy Earth Day Week!

Oh my have we been busy here at the School Recycling CLUB!! We've been on the road non-stop and finally have a second to take a little breather! Between Jackie, Kelly, Charen and Norm we've gone to more than 130 schools in the Northeast! And, guess what's around the corner ... EARTH DAY! Make Friday, April 22nd a fun day for your schools and staff by giving old items a new life!

By my past craft projects, you probably can tell that my house loves cereal. Even more because I know I can repurpose the boxes into fun business card holders, bookmarks and more! For instructions, go to <http://www.schoolrecycling.net/>.



But, my new project is inspired by Michele and Jenny from Salem High School. I first met these two gals when I started here at NRRA three years ago. They were freshmen in a big school and wanted to make some big changes. And did they ever! They jumpstarted the school's recycling program!

Just a few months ago I got to check in with them again!! Now a couple years older their passion for recycling is still there. And, look what they showed me- Manila folders given a new sparkly life with foil candy wrappers! Those are beautiful!



So Jenny and Michele—This one's for you. I recently decided that I wanted to make a wallet out of "recyclables". First, I started with my beloved cereal boxes, but it just didn't work out. So, I moved on to a pile of magazines I had laying around ... nah ... too thin. Finally, I decided that old picture books where perfect for this project.



Sadly, most books are recycled after there's torn or ripped pages. But give them a purpose and use them as origami paper. I folded them into a wallet and tah dah ... look how cool these are! Here is one made out of old *Where's Waldo* books! And yes, Waldo is on the wallet! Make sure to sign up for the conference to see some of the other things I've been working on!

It's Time to Apply for School Recycling Awards

Once again, we are hosting the School Recycling Awards at the School Recycling Conference on Tuesday, June 7th. The awards will be presented during the lunch break in the ballroom. Make sure to apply for an award (or two) so your school can be honored for all your recycling success.

Here are the categories:

School Recycler of the Year
Outstanding Community Involvement
Outstanding Recycling Fundraiser
Outstanding Recycling Innovation in a School
Facilities Staff Recycler of the Year
Cafeteria Staff Recycler of the Year

Rookie Recycler of the Year
Most Profitable Recycling Program
2011 Student Recycler of the Year
Best Composter
Teacher Recycler of the Year
Best Earth Day 2011 Event

*The deadline is May 13th, 2011 so make sure to get your application in today!
Download it at www.schoolrecycling.net .*

School Recycling Conference Workshops

Come to the second annual School Recycling Conference on Tuesday, June 7th. This one-day event will be jammed packed with need-to-know tips and tricks to making recycling strong at your school. There will be workshops for both beginners and advanced school recycling programs, so nobody will be left out.

Check out our workshop schedule and download a registration form at www.schoolrecycling.net or register online at <http://www.nrra.net/conference/registration/attendee-registration/>. Make sure to choose the school rate of \$60/day when registering.

Calling All High Schoolers!



High school students from around the nation will attend the 13th Youth Environmental Summit (YES!), July 29, 30, and 31 on the campus of Keene State College in New Hampshire. YES! is an opportunity to reward, challenge, and encourage student recyclers and activists and will incorporate an intensive 2 day program filled with state-of-the art recycling and sustainability workshops specifically designed for tomorrow's environmental leaders.

YES! is organized by a steering committee of high school students, AVR, and the Youth Environmental Coalition, a grassroots network of high school environmental and recycling clubs, Earth Groups, and involved students. YES! is co-sponsored by the Northeast Resource Recovery Association, The Presidents Council for Sustainable Future at Keene State College, the Environmental Science Department of Antioch New England, and the National Recycling Coalition.

Unlike the concerts, games, skate parks, and shopping trips more commonly associated with teens, this event is planned by and for teens to rally committed student-activists and teen-environmental organizers to an action-planning event. High school students from across the nation are invited.

The Youth Environmental Summit brings together high school student-activists for three days of training, planning, networking, and celebration of student-led direct action environmental campaigns. Afterwards, participants will return to their home schools and communities to organize and lead their own environmental campaigns.

The YES! curriculum is specifically designed to give student-leaders the tools needed to organize their own pro-environmental campaigns in their schools and communities. The Association of Vermont Recyclers, an environmental non-profit, began in 1982 as grassroots effort to support recycling programs in Vermont.

Today, AVR is Vermont's leader in education and technical assistance on solid and hazardous waste prevention and reduction, resource conservation, responsible consumerism, and environmental health. AVR programs reach over 30,000 Vermonters annually through partnerships with waste managers, state agencies, schools, businesses, events, and coalitions.

Students interested in participating in the planning process are encouraged to contact AVR Executive Director Norm Staunton at director@vtrecyclers.org Students interested in attending the Youth Environmental Summit will be able to register online in the coming weeks. Interested attendees should check www.vtrecyclers.org for registration materials and be sure to follow the YES! Facebook page.

Attendance at the three-day event is limited to 175 student-activists with a demonstrated interest in planning and leading environmental action campaigns in their schools and communities. Tuition for the event is only \$225, which includes two nights lodging at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire, all meals from a menu of local and sustainable producers, world-renowned trainers and speakers, and supervision by AVR staff and volunteers.

Tuition is subsidized by AVR, its members, and the co-sponsors. The theme of this year's Summit weekend is "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" and will incorporate expert presenters, training sessions, outdoor adventures, local foods, hands-on learning, and a number of other YES! traditions. While waste prevention and responsible consumerism are key focuses of the event, all aspects of environmental activism will be addressed, from forums on specific issues to trainings on running campaigns.

"YES is an intense weekend" says AVR Executive Director Norm Staunton. "But while the goal is to prepare teens to lead their own campaigns, you can't neglect the need to network, socialize, and celebrate the success of past campaigns. The Steering Committee does a great job of balancing those needs." If you would like more information on AVR or the YES! 2011 event, please visit www.vtreyclers.org or call (800) 223-0150 or email director@vtrecyclers.org

Thank you to our Trusty Intern

Thank you, thank you, thank you Jackie Albanese for all of your hard work over the past couple months. She worked with The Club to help us reach out to schools and complete the STAR Assessment. And, did she ever! Going to over 40 schools during her internship, she reached out to schools in New Hampshire and even Mass. The winter was full of delay and cancellations but she didn't let that get in her way!

Thank you Jackie, and we wish you all the best in the rest of your Master's education at Antioch University.

New Boston Central School Partnering with Transfer Station



A big KUDOS goes out to Gerry and Rick from the New Boston Transfer Facility and New Boston Central School for partnering to make the school's recycling program a huge success. They are shown with the keys to the new Recycling truck purchased with help from a NH the Beautiful grant.

Once or twice a week Gerry drives to the school from the facility or stops there on his way to work, picks up the recycling truck, delivers the material (MSW stored in the rear partition, recyclables in the front) and then returns the truck to the school. The recyclable material is weighed out and processed and then given credit when shipped with the rest of the New Boston Recyclables. To date, in a few short months, the school has received revenue of \$486.30. In addition, the New Boston School will be proudly displaying a sign in their lobby courtesy of the transfer station and NH the Beautiful that will indicate the cornerstone of the school culture that recycling has become, and the student, administration and staff representatives to contact will be listed so the program will be ongoing and sustainable.

NRRA thanks the NH the Beautiful Board for their outstanding support of the grant and the school outreach program, and congratulates Rick and Gerry for their leadership, and the students and staff of the New Boston Central School and the New Boston Transfer Facility staff for their dedication to increasing recycling.

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Free Webinar for Small Town/Rural School Waste Reduction & Recycling



May 4, 3 – 4:15 p.m. EDT

Space is limited.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/879229910>

While there are many successful school waste reduction efforts, schools in rural areas and small towns often lack the resources to know how to start tackling the issue. This Webinar will assist schools to get started implementing waste reduction,

Presenters:

Norm Staunton, Executive Director of [Association of Vermont Recyclers](#), and Grants Manager for the [Northeast Resource Recovery Association](#) (NRRA), will provide an overview of the NRRA's [School Recycling Club](#), including:

- How to get started,
- Different collection logistics and options,
- Education and marketing, and
- Strategies for success and tips for replication.

Eric Magers and Scott Morrison from Manchester Essex Regional Middle School (Manchester, Massachusetts) will present on the school's [Green Team](#). Their presentation will cover:

- Funding and cost effectiveness of the program, including cost savings,
- Green Team – business model, mission statement, and branding,
- Getting students to participate,
- Collection logistics—who, what, where, and single-stream recycling,
- Greening the kitchen, cleaning supplies, and other green initiatives,
- Composting and switching to biodegradable trays in the cafeteria, and
- Strategies for success: building community partners.

Moderator: Mary Ann Remolador, Assistant Director, [Northeast Recycling Council, Inc.](#)

Who should participate in the Webinar?

Teachers, school administrators, school staff, custodians, parents, students, recycling coordinators, and anyone that works with schools and wants to help them reduce their waste.

Why participate?

Much of the school waste stream is recyclable and compostable. As a part of its Rural School Waste Reduction, Reuse,

Recycling, and Composting project, NERC staff conducted waste sorts at schools in Connecticut, Delaware, and New

York and found that between 60-85 percent of the school waste included materials that could be recycled or composted. These amounts are supported by waste audits conducted in schools around the country. Waste reduction, recycling, and composting reduces the school waste stream and potential saves schools money. After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar. For more information on the Webinars or on NERC's school project, contact [Athena Lee Bradley \(athena@nerc.org\)](mailto:athena@nerc.org), Projects Manager.