

Contact: Gwen Erley
Programs Coordinator
Phone: (603)736-4401 Ext. 19
gerley@nrra.net

2101 Dover Road
Epsom, NH 03234
www.nrra.net

NORTHEAST RESOURCE
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION



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Oyster River Middle School Starts New Year With Old Trash

Durham, NH –Oyster River Middle School started their year off with a ‘blast of trash’ by hosting a Trash On the Lawn Day (T.O.L.D.) event on September 8. Gwen Erley, Sarah McGraw, Ryan Stewart and Brenna Carriger, from NRRRA’s School Recycling CLUB, trained ORMS students how to identify and pull recyclables from a sampling of typical school trash from their first week. A total of 480 students were able to participate. ORMS teachers were instrumental in helping to organize and supervise the students throughout the day.

Each group of students was given several bags of trash which were then weighed, sorted, then weighed again. When sorting was completed the school received high marks for doing an excellent job with their current recycling and cafeteria composting program. The students asked lots of questions and learned that diverting recyclables, and especially food waste and compostables, saves energy, the environment and landfill space.

ORMS Alumnus Alex Freid, founder of P.L.A.N. (Post-Landfill Action Network), was a special guest speaker who spoke with the students about the importance of recycling.

ORSD Green Team Leader, Jacqueline Bruhn, helped to spearhead this event, which was funded in part by a grant from New Hampshire the Beautiful. Special thanks to the ORMS custodial staff, especially Head Custodian Mike McGuinness, who were very helpful with logistics, set up and especially clean up. This event would not have been possible without the support and assistance of Assistant Principal Bill Sullivan, who was instrumental in coordinating this all-day event.

The School Recycling CLUB (The CLUB) is a program for all schools in New England and is supported by Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA). For students and teachers in grades K-12, the CLUB serves as a centralized organization to become more active in the world of recycling. The CLUB is a fun and innovative way to give kids encouragement, direction and networking possibilities for school recycling programs. For more information visit www.schoolrecycling.net.

The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) is a proactive, non-profit organization that has worked for over 30 years with its membership to make their recycling programs strong, efficient and financially successful. For more information visit www.nrra.net.

New Hampshire the Beautiful, Inc. (NHtB) has been a longtime supporter of the NRRA School Club and environmental education in NH. NHtB is a private non-profit charitable trust founded in 1983 and supported by the soft drink, malt beverage, and grocery industries of New Hampshire. NHtB offers municipal recycling grants, recycling education grants (over \$2.5 million), recycling signs, anti-litter programs, and technical assistance. NHtB is a unique organization that represents a voluntarily-funded alternative to expensive legislation intended to achieve the same end results. For more information visit: www.nhthebeautiful.org .



Photo 1: NRRA Educator, Sarah McGraw (far right) explains the importance of the sorting bins in recovering recyclables to ORMS students. (NRRA Courtesy Photo)



Photo 2: Oyster River Middle School students weigh the trash before and after sorting under the watchful eye of NRRA staffer Ryan Stewart (right). (NRRA Courtesy Photo)



Photo 3: It was a beautiful day for sorting trash! ORMS Teacher explains the duties of sorters, weighers and monitors. (NRRRA Courtesy Photo)