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NORTHEAST RESOURCE
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION



PRESS RELEASE – 11/27/17

Elm Street Middle School Holds Court on Recycling

Nashua, NH –The courtyard of Elm Street Middle School provided the perfect venue for a school waste audit, known as Trash On the Lawn Day (T.O.L.D.), on October 17. Gwen Erley and Sarah McGraw, from NRRRA’s School Recycling CLUB, trained 330 7th graders how to identify and pull recyclables from a sampling of typical school trash. Teacher Barbara Shapiro-Dedousis, arranged to have Green Team students available throughout the day to assist and help monitor the groups. Due to the unique location, many other students were able to observe the event through the windows in the courtyard gallery.

In support of this event, Nashua’s Recycling Coordinator, Sally Hyland, set up a display in the adjacent gallery to educate the students about Nashua’s recycling policies and especially backyard composting. In addition, we had a visit from a local film crew and a reporter from the local paper.

Each group of students was given several bags of trash which were then weighed, sorted, then weighed again. When sorting was completed the students had a visual record of how much waste could have been diverted from the landfill. The students asked lots of questions and learned that diverting recyclables, and especially food waste and compostables, saves energy, natural resources and landfill space.

Many thanks to Ms. Shapiro-Dedousis who spearheaded this event, which was funded in part by a grant from New Hampshire the Beautiful. She set up the schedule, organized the classes and supervised our very enthusiastic Green Team student helpers throughout the day. Special thanks to Elm Street Head Custodian David Nadeau and his staff, 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 Principal Ian Atwell, who was instrumental in overseeing 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 (NRRA) 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: Green Team students and event staff clean up after Elm St. MS Trash On the Lawn Day (Sally Hyland photo)

PHOTO 2: Elm Street students get instructions as they prepare to sort a sample of their school trash. (NRRA photo)



PHOTO 3: Elm Street students carefully weigh all the trash before and after sorting (NRRA photo)



PHOTO 4: Nashua's Recycling Coordinator, Sally Hyland, educates the students about recycling and composting (NRRA photo)