

**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**



# PRESS RELEASE

## **Burke Town School Provides Recycling Training to Students & Staff**

West Burke, VT –Burke Town School hosted Educators from Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) who presented a Garbage Guerillas Workshop to 24 sixth-graders on March 30. In addition, staff and teachers of Burke Town School were the first to view updated recycling curriculum made possible through a grant from USDA Rural Development to NRRA.

Garbage Guerillas is a workshop designed to raise awareness of recycling possibilities by examining the current waste stream. NRRA's School CLUB Educator Charen Fegard, coached the students on the importance of recycling, reviewed Act 148-Universal Recycling requirements and offered ideas on how they can each help protect their environment at school and at home. She reviewed the types of recycling and how to properly and safely sort through a sample of school trash. Ms. Fegard then labeled student volunteers by recycling categories, such as metal, paper, compost, etc. Armed with gloves, the remaining students sorted several bags of typical school waste. At the end of the presentation, the students had a visual record of how much material could have been recycled and diverted from the landfill.

In addition to the workshop, a STAR Assessment was done of the entire school. Facilities Manager, Marc Brown guided the NRRA team on a school-wide tour. The STAR is NRRA's proprietary school recycling inventory and review which identifies the five key areas of recycling. The report produced from this data offers clear, unbiased suggestions for future improvements as well as a baseline for examination of the positive effects of change. Overall, the school scored high marks for their functional, sustainable and green policies.

A second presentation was made by NRRA Educator and USDA Grant Manager Cindy Sterling to BTS staffers. They provided valuable feedback and insights on how best to conduct outreach to other schools. The USDA grant funded a complete overhaul of the recycling curriculum, bringing it up-to-date and in line with Common Core Standards. USDA's goal is to make recycling education accessible to schools in areas that might not otherwise have access. The BTS staffers were offered the new curriculum and encouraged to train their peers as well as staff from area schools, thereby bringing recycling education to a wider audience.

Special thanks to the Burke Town School staff and especially Facilities Manager, Marc Brown, for making this event a success.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The School Recycling Club (The CLUB)** is a program for all schools in New England and is supported by NRRRA and NH the Beautiful. 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](http://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](http://www.nrra.net).

**The United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development** has generously provided grant money to support the revision and presentation of recycling curriculum to divert materials away from landfills and reduce water contamination through leachate. Their goal is to make these educational materials available to schools in rural areas of NH & VT who have limited access to this programming.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write, USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

\*\*\*\*\*