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NORTHEAST RESOURCE
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION



PRESS RELEASE – 10/03/18

Keene Schools Receive Star Assessment Training

Keene, NH –NRRA School Program Special Project Manager Sarah McGraw traveled to Symonds Elementary in Keene, NH, on September 14, 2018 to present NRRA's proprietary *Star of Sustainability* training to Keene School District staff and teachers. NRRA has partnered with the Keene DPW and School District to provide recycling outreach, training and equipment to enhance their current recycling efforts.

School representatives and members of a local Girl Scout Troop learned how to collect the field data necessary to evaluate a school recycling program. After a brief presentation, attendees did a walk-through of Symonds Elementary to ascertain such information as how, where and when their school is recycling, information about the size and pickup frequency of waste and recycling dumpsters, food waste collection, signage and recycling celebrations, among many other topics.

After the walk-through, attendees gathered for pizza and salad, and had the opportunity to ask further questions about data collection. Each attendee was assigned the task of returning to their schools and collecting their own data with a target deadline of Oct. 31. Once all the data is submitted to NRRA, school-specific reports will be generated and compared to prior Star Assessments completed by NRRA staff.

The *Star of Sustainability* presentation is available to interested teachers and waste management operators on the NRRA and School Recycling CLUB webpages. Please email (theclub@nrra.net) or call if interested in this or any other educational programming offered by NRRA.

Special thanks to Nancy Elliott of Symonds Elementary for offering to host this training. Additional thanks to the Girl Scout Troop at John H. Fuller Elementary for their interest and participation.

In addition to funding through the Keene Dept. of Public Works, the Keene School District recycling outreach program is possible through the generous support of NH the Beautiful and the NH Soft Drink Association.

The School Recycling CLUB (The CLUB) is a program for all schools in New England and is supported by NRRA 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.

Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA): Founded in 1981, NRRA provides a clearinghouse for current, up-to-date information and a source of technical and marketing assistance in the general areas of waste reduction and recycling. The NRRA is a member driven organization made up of over 400 municipalities, individuals, and businesses in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Southern Maine. NRRA is a non-profit 501(c) organization. NRRA's School Club assists schools in implementing, maintaining and improving recycling programs. To learn more visit www.nrra.net. NRRA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

New Hampshire the Beautiful, Inc. (NHtB) has been a longtime supporter of The NRRRA 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.
<http://www.nhthebeautiful.org/>

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PHOTO 1: Girls Scouts from John H. Fuller Elementary attend Star of Sustainability training. (T. Frost photo)



PHOTO 2: NRRRA Educator Sarah McGraw assists Girl Scouts in collecting recycling data from the school copy room. (T. Frost photo)