



# THE GREEN TEAM Newsletter

Winter 2006

Each year, THE GREEN TEAM GROWS! In 2004-2005, nearly 30,000 students from all grade levels at 151 schools participated, making a real difference for their schools, families and communities while learning about reusing, recycling, and reducing waste. A BIG THANKS to every student, teacher and administrator who participated.

We received many positive comments from teachers about their GREEN TEAM experiences and how their students benefited from the activities. Here is what some of our GREEN TEAM teachers had to say:

"Great lesson plan! The students learned so much and it enhanced our science curriculum!"

**Julie Marotta, St. Brendan School, Dorchester**

"All of our students have really benefited from the program. To see a first grader catch the hand of a friend as they are throwing something away and say "Hey, that goes in the blue bin" really makes it all worthwhile!"

**Bruce McBrien, Amesbury Elementary School**

"This has been an awesome experience and we are very proud of our Middle School Students"

**Camille Connick, Pembroke Community Middle School**

"What a big difference a little effort makes. We look forward to doing even more activities next year."

**Michelle Littleton, Carver High School**

"Students were excited and enthused. They took responsibility of maintaining the worm bin very seriously."

**Marie McEachern, Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School**



Sixth grade students at Wood Elementary School, Plainville, display their "Recycling Bag."

"Students are much more aware of what they can do at home as well as at school to RRR".

**Rebecca Warner, Glover Elementary School, Milton**

Congratulations to the thirty-seven GREEN TEAM classes that completed GREEN TEAM activities and submitted their "Teacher Response Forms." All thirty-seven classes, representing 850 students, took the GREEN TEAM pledge this year, pledging to reduce, reuse and recycle at home, school and in their communities. Taking the pledge qualified these students as "Trash Terminators," the first GREEN TEAM level.

Students progressed through the three GREEN TEAM levels as their recycling efforts increased. Every class completed another activity, such as the Slash Trash lesson plan, thus becoming "Conservation Coyotes." Thirty-six classes completed activities at the first two levels plus one from the third, such as setting up recycling or composting at the school. These classes achieved "Environmental Eagle" status, the highest GREEN TEAM level. ●




[www.TheGreenTeam.org](http://www.TheGreenTeam.org)



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## Green Team Highlights

All of the students participating in the Green Team were very creative. Below is a sampling of just some of the Green Team projects undertaken. **Click here**  for descriptions of all the Green Team activities reported.

**Mrs. Rumprik's** kindergarten class at the **James Clark School** in Agawam made bunny baskets out of old milk cartons, while **Ms. DiPace's** kindergarten class made recycled paper out of paper that would have been thrown away. The second graders at the **Sullivan School** in North Adams had their posters hung at a local college, and the third grade students at the **Marion E. Zeh School** in Northboro provided posters for various businesses, hospitals, churches, two local colleges and even the town hall.

The third, fourth and fifth grade students in **Ms. Quigley's** Green Team at the **John D. Philbrick Elementary School** set up a landfill with different kinds of trash in the soil. They wanted to see what kind of trash would still be in the soil two months later. The students also wrote to the editor of the **Roslindale Bulletin** about their recycling program and to encourage its readers to recycle in their homes.


At the **H. R. Donaghue School**, **Ms. Simmons** fourth grade students made figures out of recycled items that held the recycling posters they made and placed throughout the school. At **St. Mary, Star of the Sea School** in East Boston, **Ms. Director's** fifth grade collected clothing and books to donate to **St. Vincent de Paul** and to a local hospital. The fifth grade class at **Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School** became composting experts. Not only did they have a worm bin indoors, they also had an outdoor composting bin. They tracked the amount of compostable waste and planted a vegetable bed with the compost.

**Ms. Hoagland's** sixth grade class at the **Wood School** in Plainville set up and manned a Green Team booth for the Earth Day program at the local Town Park. The students also met with the local Board of Health to request assistance with school

recycling. **Ms. Cellucci's** seventh grade Green Team at **Miscoe Hill School** designed a website, made posters, wrote a skit and prepared a powerpoint presentation. Students at the **Pembroke Community Middle School** wrote letters to their town Board of Selectmen and Board of Health requesting support of their recycling program. The students initiated a schoolwide recycling program and tracked their results.

**Ms. Littleton's** class at **Carver High School** used inkjet recycling for a fundraiser. The recycling efforts of **Ms. Bernier's** class at **Leicester High School** funded their entrance fee to "Envirothon, 2005." At **Westfield Vocational High School**, **Mr. Mullett's** students created a newsletter that occurs two times a month via the school website and is available in print. ●

## Green Team Awards!

All participating teachers who returned their response forms received a Certificate of Recognition to display in the classroom and each student received a special book cover, pencil made from recycled denim or currency, and "Trash Terminator" bookmark. All responding classes were entered into the GREEN TEAM Grand Prize drawing and each class won a prize. Prizes included mini-recycling bin planters, coloring books, and assembly presentations by Peter O'Malley, Jack Golden and Earthtunes. **Click here**  to see descriptions of all the Green Team prize winners and their recycling accomplishments. ●



Pembroke Community Middle School Green Team members manage the recycling.



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# School Recycling Programs

Green Team members at twenty-nine schools initiated, improved and/or ran school recycling programs this year.

## 2004 - 2005 School Recycling Programs Initiated or Expanded:

- Amesbury Elementary School
- Carter School, Boston
- Carver High School, Carver
- McCarthy Middle School, Chelmsford
- Chilmark School
- Dennis Yarmouth Regional High School
- Dedham Middle School
- St. Brendan School, Dorchester
- Searles Middle School, Great Barrington
- 1st Lutheran School, Holyoke
- Memorial Elementary School, Hopedale
- Lee School
- Leicester High School
- Herbert C. Hoover School, Melrose
- H. R. Donaghue School, Merrimac
- Glover Elementary School, Milton
- New Bedford High School
- Newbury Elementary School
- Farmington River School, Otis
- Pembroke Community Middle School
- B. H. Wood School, Plainville
- John D. Philbrick School, Roslindale
- Scituate Public Schools
- Mt. Everett Regional School, Sheffield
- Frontier Regional School, S. Deerfield
- Lake Street School, Spencer
- Alice Beal Elementary School, Springfield
- Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, Upton
- Westfield Vocational School

## Recycling and Composting Equipment Distributed in 2005

Twenty four schools received recycling equipment from the Green Team to initiate or enhance their school recycling programs. Seven hundred set-out bins, 332 desk-side boxes, 22 wheeled carts, 7 compost bins and 12 worm bins were distributed.



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## Schools that received recycling and/or composting equipment from the Green Team in 2004-2005:

J. R. Briggs Elementary School, Ashburnham  
Carter School, Boston  
Carver High School  
Charlestown Boys & Girls Club After School Program  
McCarthy Middle School, Chelmsford  
Chilmark School  
Dennis Yarmouth Regional High School  
Oliver Wendell Holmes School, Dorchester  
St. Brendan School, Dorchester  
Searles Middle School, Great Barrington  
Lee School  
Leicester High School  
Newbury Elementary School  
Farmington River School, Otis  
Pembroke Community Middle School  
John D. Philbrick School, Roslindale  
Scituate Public Schools  
Mt. Everett Regional School, Sheffield  
Frontier Regional School, S. Deerfield  
Stanley School, Swampscott  
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, Upton  
Happy Hollow School, Wayland  
Winchendon Public Schools

## The Green Team Makes the News!

Thanks to some outstanding outreach efforts, several articles featuring school Green Team accomplishments were published in local papers. An article appeared in the February 20, 2005, Attleboro Sun Chronicle highlighting the **Wood School's** Green Team participation. **Amesbury Elementary School's** recycling efforts were featured in the April 4, 2005 issue of The Daily News. On April 29, 2005, the Community Advocate published an article about Green Team activities at the **Marion E. Zeh School** in Northborough, and on July 13, 2005, the Worcester Telegram & Gazette published an article featuring Green Team activities at the **St. Anthony School**, Fitchburg; **Hopedale Memorial School**; **Leicester High School**; **Miscoe Hill School**, Mendon; the **Marion E. Zeh School**, Northborough and the **Lake Street School**, Spencer. Good publicity helps our schools and increases public awareness about the importance of recycling. ●