



# The Green Team News

## March 2014 Newsletter

Happy March!

Please submit your [Teacher Response Form](#) by March 31<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for year-end prizes and a Certificate of Recognition for your class. The Green Team looks forward to acknowledging all the hard work you and your students have put into waste diversion and energy efficiency activities. We want to hear about your experiences and reward your students for their accomplishments!

There are a lot of great resources, opportunities, contests and events coming up over the next few months. See below for dates and descriptions!

We invite you to **become a friend of GreenTeam MA on Facebook**. This private group is for you to share ideas or ask questions to other members. [Friend request us here](#). Make sure to set this group to **send you notifications** so you stay up to date whenever something new is posted.

## School Programs, Resources, Competitions and Professional Development

### March

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** – [Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom](#) will hold their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual [Winter Growing Minds through Massachusetts Agriculture Conference](#). There will be four workshop sessions, with eight concurrent workshops in each session related to agriculture in the classroom, including worm composting and anaerobic digestion! Each will be taught by a teacher or farm educator. \$50; [Paul R. Baird Middle School](#) in Ludlow, MA. [Click here](#) for the conference schedule and registration form.

**March 14<sup>th</sup> Deadline** – The 2014 Massachusetts [Green Building Award](#) and the [Green Innovation of the Year Award](#) are both taking entries for existing green building projects and green initiatives such as recycling, composting, and environmental education or events. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges, with the winner revealed at USGBC MA's Earth Day celebration in April. [Enter Here](#) to win; \$50/entry

**March 15<sup>th</sup> – Deadline** – [National Wildlife Federation's Young Reporters for the Environment USA](#) competition invites students between the ages of 13-21 to investigate an environmental issue in their community and report on it in an article, photo, or short video. Chance to win great prizes plus national and international recognition. Be sure to check out

the [contest requirements](#), then [submit your entry here](#).

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** – [KIDSFEST: Adams Street Public Library](#), 11:00am – 12:30pm. [The Boston Enviro-Film Festival](#) presents [KIDSFEST](#), a free event traveling to 6 different libraries in the Boston area. KIDSFEST brings fun animations about the planet to children and families for *free*.

**March 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>** – [Celebrate Wildlife and Water during National Wildlife Week!](#) [NWF](#) will shed light on the connection between wildlife and water by examining many different species across the country. Be sure to download the National Wildlife Week [poster](#), and discover a variety of [lessons](#) for grades K-12 about the water cycle, watersheds, water quality, aquatic life, and much more! [Sign up to receive email updates](#) as well.

**March 18<sup>th</sup> Deadline** – [The National Environmental Education Foundation](#) and the [US EPA](#) are partnering to bring you the [Climate Change in Focus Video Challenge](#). Middle school students are invited to submit short videos about the effects of climate change answering these two questions; (1) why do you care about climate change? And (2) how are you reducing carbon pollution or preparing for the impacts of climate change? Take the challenge as a class or individually for a chance to win many different prizes! [Enter your video here](#).

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>** – [KIDSFEST: Brighton Public Library](#), 11:00am – 12:30pm. [The Boston Enviro-Film Festival](#) presents [KIDSFEST](#), a free event in the Boston area. KIDSFEST brings fun animations about the planet to children and families for *free*.

**March 28<sup>th</sup> Deadline** – [The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs](#) is accepting nominations for the [2014 Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education Awards](#). Awards will be presented this spring to Massachusetts teachers and students involved in school-based programs that promote environmental and energy education. All public and private MA schools (K-12) are eligible, nominations due by March 28<sup>th</sup>. [Nominate a teacher or student here](#).

**March 29<sup>th</sup>** – [KIDSFEST: Mattapan Public Library](#), 11:00am – 12:30pm. [The Boston Enviro-Film Festival](#) presents [KIDSFEST](#), a free event in the Boston area. KIDSFEST brings fun animations about the planet to children and families for *free*.

**March 31<sup>st</sup> Deadline** – [Teacher Response Forms](#) must be submitted to be eligible for The Green Team's year end prizes and classroom Certificates of Recognition. Response forms can report on lessons already completed or planned to be completed this school year.

April

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** – [KIDSFEST](#): (link) [Codman Branch Library](#), 11:00am – 12:30pm.

**April 8<sup>th</sup>** – [MassRecycle's R3 Organics and Recycling Conference](#) 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough. There will be sessions on school recycling and composting at this annual conference. The Green Team will be there and we hope to see

you there! [Register here.](#)

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** – [KIDSFEST: Jamaica Plain Public Library](#), 11:00am – 12:30pm

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** – [KIDSFEST: Building 114, Charlestown Navy Yard](#), 11:00am – 12:30pm.

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Earth Day - [The Earth Day Network](#) provides an on-line resource for planning and hosting Earth Day events in your school and community. Start planning now!

May

**May 30<sup>th</sup> Deadline** – [Green Living Project's Student Film Project](#) is encouraging students grade 6 and up to submit a unique and compelling short film about local or global sustainability-related projects. Winning films will be screened at [GLP](#) events this year, and winners will receive prize packages valued at \$500. Check out the [rules and guidelines here](#), and [submit your video here](#).

Please share all these great opportunities with your students!

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