



The Green Team News

April 2015 Newsletter

Happy Earth Month!

April 22 is Earth Day, and we consider the month of April Earth Month! [The Earth Day Network](#) is an online resource to help you plan Earth Day events for your school and community. If you would like to publicize an Earth Day event planned at your school on MassDEP's website, please fill in the event details [here](#).

Thank you for submitting your Teacher Response Form! We will be sending your Certificate of Recognition and student prizes in May. We are very impressed with the incredible environmental stewardship actions your students have accomplished! All your collective actions add up to a better planet Earth!

The class is always amazed at how much trash can be saved from landfills with just a few simple steps.

-Denise Porcello, Brookside Elementary School, Dracut

We also look forward to adding your photos to THE GREEN TEAM [Photo Gallery](#). Have a look and send in your photos to share with other GREEN TEAM members!

April and May are filled with environmental events and conferences and we hope you will take advantage of them.

School Programs, Resources, Competitions and Professional Development

April 7, 2015 –[Farm to School Forum](#) at the [Farm to Institution Summit](#), UMASS Amherst. Help increase the amount of local and regional food served in schools and institutions. GREEN TEAM member Danielle

Crescione, from Tri-County Schools in Easthampton, will lead a field trip on the [C.A.R.E.S. program](#) (Composting, Agriculture in the Classroom, Recycling, Eating Well, and Sustainability), which includes a student-run recycling program. THE GREEN TEAM will have an exhibit and we hope to see you there! [Online registration](#) ends **April 1 at midnight, but walk-in registrations will be allowed.**

April 8, 2015 – [Green Schools Summit](#), Boston University, for government, education, business, community, nonprofit organizations and leaders of all ages interested in green schools and communities. K-12 students and staff are welcome. [Register](#) before **April 8.**

April 11, 2015 – [Science and Conservation Day 2015](#), Franklin Park Zoo, Boston. Learn how Zoos support conservation locally and globally, and how research done at Zoos can help animals around the world. **Register by April 7.**

April 12, 2015 – Deadline for [Green Difference Awards nominations](#). Schools, administrators, students, clubs, organizations and leaders of all ages are eligible for environmental awards from [Project Green Schools](#).

April 21, 2015 – Entry Deadline, [PlanetAid Earth Day Art Contest](#) for Grades 1-5.

April 22, 2015 – Project Learning Tree's [What's in a Forest? PreK-8 Curriculum for Grades 3-8 Educators](#), Pittsfield, MA. Learn more about Project Learning Tree's (PLT) PreK-8 Curriculum in this session oriented toward Grades 3-8 educators. [Register](#) by **April 15.**

April 22, 2015 – Springfield Science Museum [Earth Day Festival](#), Springfield, MA. Earth Day Celebration with free activities and performances, including free ice cream and planting of seedlings!

April 25, 2015 – Project Learning Tree's [PreK-8 Curriculum](#), Borderland State Park, Easton, MA. Learn more about Project Learning Tree (PLT) PreK-8 Curriculum. [Register](#) by **April 19.**

May

May 1, 2015 - Deadline - Team registrations due for [Mass Envirothon 2015](#). Mass Envirothon is a statewide environmental education program for high school age students and their advisors. The theme for 2015 is *Climate*

Crisis: Taking Action in Massachusetts Communities.

May 3-9, 2015 – [International Compost Awareness Week!](#) Get involved in this multi-media publicity and education event that showcases composting and compost products, from composting in your backyard to large-scale composting. This year's theme is: *Be Loyal to Your Soil: Compost!* Sponsored by the [U.S. Composting Council](#).

May 14, 2015 - [Mass Envirothon](#), Quabbin Reservoir, Belchertown. Join other high schools in this wonderful annual statewide competition. [Learn more here.](#)

THE GREEN TEAM Resource of the Month:

Empower your students to have a role in saving the monarch butterfly. The National Wildlife Federation's [Butterfly Heroes project](#) offers free [Butterfly Garden Starter Kits](#) (while supplies last) to classes who take their [Monarch Butterfly pledge](#).

Happy Spring!

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