

March 2015 Newsletter

Dear Green Team Teacher,

Please submit your <u>Teacher Response Form</u> by March 31st 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!

It's not too late to get your fellow teachers registered! Encourage them to <u>register</u> today!

March and April are both chock full of environmental events and conferences! As Earth Day approaches, THE GREEN TEAM encourages you to take advantage of these great opportunities to educate your students, your peers, and yourself on all sorts of environmental issues.

School Programs, Resources, Competitions and Professional Development:

March

March 7, 2015 – Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom's 14th Annual Winter Conference, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, Palmer, MA. Massachusetts "Growing Minds Through Massachusetts Agriculture" Conference will include two worm composting sessions, among the many offerings. Register online today.

March 11, 2015 – <u>MEES Conference 2015</u> "Common Wealth: Environmental Education is for Everyone", College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. Join The Green Team in the Exhibit Area!

The annual Massachusetts Environmental Education Society (MEES) will explore Environmental Education principles for all ages, spaces and places. Register by March 4th.

March 13, 2015 – Deadline – MassRecycle's 20th Annual Recycling Awards Finalists. Cast your vote to select the most outstanding recycling programs from these categories: individual, municipal, K-12, institution/university, and business. We even have a GREEN TEAM school in the race! Congrats to Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers in Boston!

March 13, 2015 – DEADLINE – National Wildlife Federation <u>Young Reporters</u> <u>for the Environment Competition</u> invites youth between the ages of 13 and 21 to investigate an environmental issue and report on it in writing, photography, or video. First place winners in each category will continue to the international competition.

March 14-Apr 11 <u>Saturday Science Classes</u> on "Our New England Habitat," Charlestown Navy Yard, sponsored by "e" inc.

March 21, 2015 – Project Learning Tree – <u>Early Childhood Experiences</u>, Brookwood Community Farm, Canton, MA. Learn about Project Learning Tree's (PLT) Early Childhood module, written for PreK-K educators, to provide experiences that build a bridge to the natural world by starting with what's most familiar to young learners. Register by March 14.

March 27, 2015 - DEADLINE -- The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education Awards. Awards Ceremony will be at the State House this spring. All public and private MA schools (K-12) are eligible. Nominate a teacher or student here.

March 30, 2015 – <u>MassRecycle R3 Conference</u>, Quincy Marriott. Join THE GREEN TEAM at the 2015 R3 Recycling & Organics Conference & Trade Show and attend the K-12 school track on recycling, composting and waste reduction. <u>Register</u> by March 20th for best rate.

March 31, 2015 – DEADLINE – THE GREEN TEAM <u>Teacher Response Forms</u> are due! Submit yours to receive recognition and awards for your students!

April

April 8, 2015 – The Furniture Trust's Eco-Carpentry Challenge Showcase, Boston, MA. The Furniture Trust showcases participants and winners of the 5th Annual Eco-Carpentry Challenge! Check their website for more information.

April 16, 2015 – <u>Fifth Massachusetts Sustainable Communities Conference + Fourth Massachusetts Sustainable Campuses Conference</u>, Devens Common Center, Devens, MA. Join the communities and campuses leading the sustainability movement in Massachusetts. <u>Register</u> before Mar. 19th for best rate.

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, session oriented toward upper elementary and middle school educators. Register by April 15th.

April 22, 2015 – Springfield Science Museum <u>Earth Day Festival</u>, **Springfield, MA.** Earth Day Celebration with free activities and performances, including free ice cream and plant seedlings!

THE GREEN TEAM Resource of the Month:

Our <u>Climate Change Activities</u> provide students with actions they can take to slow climate change, and a Scorecard to track their impacts individually and as a class. Actions include conserving energy, minimizing vehicle use, recycling, composting and gardening. Additional resources on climate change are included. Here's what teachers are saying about the Climate Change Activities:

"The Climate Change Activities have given our students a broader scope of scientific and worldly knowledge. For the climate change scorecard, we totaled 57 points counting the number of actions done by the class. Our class has become more aware of how our actions impact our world." – Lynda Slocomb, The Evergreen Center

Stay warm, and stay GREEN!

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