



The Green Team News

September 2014 Newsletter

Dear Green Team Teacher,

We are very excited with the start of the new school year to invite you to join [The Green Team](#) to engage students in making a positive impact on our environment. Please [register with the Green Team](#) for the 2014-2015 school year, and be sure to update any information that has changed.

Once we receive your registration, we will mail you a [Green Team kit](#), which contains a classroom poster, activities for your students, lesson plans, and other educational resources to help convey the importance of recycling, waste reduction and pollution prevention.

Green Team members are eligible to request free [Recycling/Composting](#) equipment and [Idling Reduction](#) materials for their schools. We have equipment in stock, and we will respond to requests as they are received. These forms must be signed by the principal, scanned and emailed to recycle@thegreenteam.org or faxed to The Green Team at (413) 586-7351.

Green Team [Teacher Response Forms](#) will be due by March 31, 2015. Use this form to report on your students' activities, and your class will receive certificates of recognition and a variety of prizes in May! Some of last year's grand prizes included school-wide performances and gift cards to local garden supply stores for school gardens.

This year, we will be adding some great instructional videos to the website to assist your composting efforts. The [Food Waste Reduction web page](#) will be updated to include new school guidelines on implementing diversion programs. Please keep sending your great photos and notes about the great work you have been doing. We would be happy to post photos and stories to [THE GREEN TEAM Photo Gallery](#) and [GREEN TEAM Spotlight](#).

School Programs, Resources and Professional Development

- Learn the basics and think like a scientist. [Use EPA's Student Guide to Climate Change](#) to see the impacts and be a part of the solution.
- Working on an environmental project in your school or community? [Apply for the President's Environmental Youth Award](#). Applications are due December 31, 2014. Apply and learn about the 2013 winners.
- [Green Ribbon Schools Award Program](#)-Massachusetts will again be participating in the U.S. Department of Education's (USED) Green Ribbon Schools recognition

program, which honors schools that are exemplary in reducing environmental impact and costs, improving the health and wellness of students and staff, and delivering effective environmental and sustainability education. [Click here](#) for the 2014-2015 Green Ribbon Schools Awards application, resources and notices of upcoming webinars.

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

September

Sept. 16th – Greenovate Boston is hosting an upcoming event to help Bostonians learn more about upcycling and reuse. At the District Hall, 75 Northern Ave., Boston, from 6-7:30pm, Greenovate Boston is hosting a panel of Boston entrepreneurs and upcycling experts. [Click here](#) for tickets and information.

Sept. 20th, 22nd and Nov. 5th-[Massachusetts Envirothon](#), a statewide environmental education program for high school age youth and their advisors, has several upcoming events for coaches and team members to assist educators with the development of environmental curriculum. Email massenvirothon@gmail.com for more information.

- Sept. 20th-[Forestry Intensive Workshop](#) with an overnight option in the Miles Standish State Forest, Plymouth MA
- Sept. 22nd-[Webinar for New Coaches](#), 5-6pm
- Nov. 5th-[MA Envirothon Workshop for Teams](#) at the University Massachusetts, Amherst.

Sept 27th – The [2014 Green Apple Day of Service](#) gives parents, teachers, students, companies and local organizations the opportunity to transform all schools into healthy, safe and productive learning environments through local service projects. Check out project ideas and helpful event resources [here](#) and [register](#) your 2014 project today.

October

Oct. 15th-Deadline to sign up to participate in the [Keep America Beautiful Recycle-Bowl School Competition](#), which runs from Oct. 21st through Nov. 15th, 2014. Recycle-Bowl is a free national competition and benchmarking tool for K-12 school recycling programs. There are lots of tools and resources for top performers. Click [here](#) to register.

Looking forward to a fantastic year with our new and returning Green Team members!

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