

11 WAYS TO GREEN YOUR SCHOOL



GREEN
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Ready, set — wait, where do we start?

1

MEASURE WHAT YOU MANAGE

Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools | Resources for Waste Education | US EPA

http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/education/toolkit.htm

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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools

EPA's *Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools* helps your school and school district reduce the amount of waste you generate. You'll learn how to start a waste reduction program or expand an existing one. The guide will show you how your program can benefit your school, your community, and the environment by reducing, reusing, and recycling your waste.

[Download Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools \(PDF\)](#) (44 pp, 933K)

The appendices provide you with forms to track your results, lists of recyclable materials, links to additional resources, and questions to ask potential waste and recycling haulers. These materials used in conjunction with the *Tools to Reduce Waste in Schools* guide will help you get your program off the ground and keep it running for years.

[Appendix A: Conducting a Waste Assessment \(PDF\)](#) (13 pp, 248K)

Learn how to determine the type and amount of waste your school or school district produces so that you can develop an appropriate waste reduction program.

[Appendix B: Common Recyclable Materials \(PDF\)](#) (2 pp, 31K)

Use this list to determine which materials would be most appropriate for your school or school district to recycle.

[Appendix C: Screening Criteria \(PDF\)](#) (1 pg, 17K)

Determine the best waste reduction plan for your school by using this criteria to screen out program options that do not meet your waste reduction needs.

[Appendix D: Operational Feasibility \(PDF\)](#) (1 pg, 15K)

Decide if the waste reduction program you would like to implement in your school or school district is feasible given several factors specific to your locale.

[Appendix E: Tracking \(PDF\)](#) (6 pp, 84K)

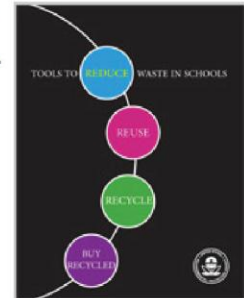
Learn how to track the results of your waste assessments so that you can determine the best waste reduction program to meet your needs, and view tracking sheet samples.

[Appendix F: Waste Reduction Ideas and Goals \(PDF\)](#) (3 pp, 33K)

Choose any or all of these suggested waste reduction activities to implement in your waste reduction program.

[Appendix G: Questions to Ask Potential Buyers of Recyclables \(PDF\)](#) (2 pp, 19K)

Learn what questions to ask potential buyers of recycled material if you need to set up recycling collection in your school or school district.



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Educational Materials Home

Kids (K-5)

Students (6-8)

Teens (9-12)

Teachers

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Go behind the scenes

2

TALK TO YOUR CUSTODIANS

Green Clean Schools | Healthy Schools Campaign National Partnership to Green America's Schools

http://www.healthyschoolscampaign.org/programs/gcs/



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GREEN CLEAN SCHOOLS

A national partnership to green America's schools

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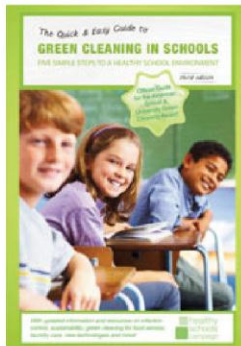
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Access the Guide Online

You can access the complete guide online at no cost! Click here to sign up and begin using the guide.



Order the Guide

Click here to order your copy of the guide! The guide is available free of charge to schools and non-profits.

NEW GREEN CLEANING WEBINAR SERIES!

HSC is pleased to announce the summer 2011 Green Cleaning Webinar Series! This series of online seminars, offered free of charge, features national leaders and on-the-ground experts on green cleaning in schools.

[Learn more and register today »](#)

CONGRATULATIONS, GREEN CLEANING AWARD WINNERS

HSC congratulates the most recent winners of the Green Cleaning Award for Schools & Universities! We're thrilled to honor the schools and districts that are making green cleaning a priority, creating a healthier learning and working environment for students, teachers and staff.

[Click here to see the winners and more »](#)

FUNDS FOR THE FUTURE

Learn more about this national effort to ensure that all schoolchildren and staff have

3 GREEN YOUR SCHOOL



Put the kids in charge

3

SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION CURRICULUM


SE Clearinghouse Home

http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_sobi2&Itemid=567

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day, June 09, 2011

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TOP RATED


- Catch the Pollution (4.6) ★★★★★
- Humans and the Environment: A Story of Change (4.5) ★★★★★
- Make a Solar Oven (4.3) ★★★★★
- This Mine of Mine (3.7) ★★★★★
- Sort the Compost Bin (2.3) ★★★★★


This Clearinghouse is brought to you in partnership with


THE CENTER FOR GREEN SCHOOLS 


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Welcome to the *GEF Sustainability Education Clearinghouse*.
Upload your green-themed lessons and activities to share with educators from around the world!

 **Pre K-2**

 **Grades 3-5**

 **MIDDLE**

 **HIGH**



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“Hey, what’s this thing do?”

4

SIGNS!

**MANASSAS PARK ELEMENTARY**

Manassas Park, Virginia



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You are what you eat...
and throw away, recycle and compost...

5

CONSIDER YOUR SCHOOL LUNCH

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1/3 of our children suffer from childhood obesity

Text GARDEN to 77177
FOR TEACHING GARDEN UPDATES

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American Heart Association
Learn and Live

TEACHING GARDEN



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Let the sun shine in

6

INCREASE DAYLIGHTING



STODDERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Washington, DC



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You know it's dust, but what **IS** it?

7

CLEAR THE AIR

IAQ Tools for Schools | Indoor Air | US Environmental Protection Agency

http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/

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United States Environmental Protection Agency

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Programs](#)You are here: [EPA Home](#) » [Air](#) » [Indoor Air](#) » [IAQ Tools for Schools](#)**IAQ Tools for Schools Program**

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

The *IAQ Tools for Schools* Program is a comprehensive resource to help schools maintain a healthy environment in school buildings by identifying, correcting, and preventing IAQ problems. Poor indoor air quality can impact the comfort and health of students and staff, which, in turn, can affect concentration, attendance, and student performance. In addition, if schools fail to respond promptly to poor IAQ, students and staff are at an increased risk of short-term health problems, such as fatigue and nausea, as well as long-term problems like asthma.

Action Kit

Since its release in 1995, the *IAQ Tools for Schools* Action Kit has been implemented in hundreds of schools across



the country. School districts that have implemented the *IAQ Tools for Schools* Program find that there are common elements to successfully implementing the

If you are ...

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...we have information designed specifically for you.

Rosemont Elementary in Montgomery County, MD Hosts National Healthy Schools Day Event

U.S. EPA Administrator **Lisa Jackson** joined MCPS officials and the Healthy Schools Network at Rosemont ES to highlight the importance of good indoor air quality in schools. MCPS has several initiatives to improve indoor air quality and overall environmental health in schools.

[Watch the Video](#) [EXIT Disclaimer](#)
IAQ Tools for Schools Framework for Effective School IAQ Management

The Framework for Effective School IAQ Management provides a common language to describe the drivers of IAQ program success; detailed guidance on the proven strategies, organizational approaches and leadership styles that are fundamental to program success; and a clear vision of the pathway to IAQ excellence in schools.

The Framework for Effective School IAQ Management.

8 GREEN YOUR SCHOOL



No, really. What is that smell?

8

NON-TOXIC AIRSPRAYS

Action & Resource Guide for IAQ – Healthy Schools Campaign

http://www.healthyschoolscampaign.org/publications/actionguide/ Reader

healthy schools campaign | clean environment, healthy children, better education

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- Healthy & High Performing Schools
- Q&E Guide to Green Cleaning
- Q&E Guide to School Wellness

Action & Resource Guide for IAQ

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Action & Resource Guide for IAQ

Includes NIOSH/CDC Safety Checklist on CD-ROM

Get your copy of the essential Illinois handbook on school environmental hazards and strategies for improving school environmental health. Available in the following three formats:

- Printed & Bound**
includes Safety Checklist CD-ROM
- Interactive CD**
will ship May 2005, includes Safety Checklist CD-ROM
- Electronic Download**
available for Free Download now

The guide includes up-to-date Illinois laws and regulations, comprehensive resources and organizing information, and practical application suggestions for your community schools. The printed guide and the Interactive CD guide come with a Safety Checklist from the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

All Illinois residents will receive the guide free of charge. All out-of-state orders will cost \$25 for the printed guide and \$10 for the Interactive CD guide packet. The electronic download version of the guide is available free of charge. If you live outside of Illinois, we will contact you via email or phone with payment instructions for

Free for Illinois Residents
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Lights out!

9

REDUCE THE LIGHT BILL

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Energy Saving Tips for Schools

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Resource Type: Lesson Plan

Lighting

1. Turn off lights when not in use—lighting accounts for nearly 50% of the electric bill in most schools. There's no reason to leave lights on if a room is empty for more than one minute. (And, yes, this applies to the new energy-efficient fluorescent lights.)
 - ▶ Form a student energy patrol to ensure lights are out when rooms are empty (check classrooms, the cafeteria, the auditorium, etc.).
 - ▶ Have students make signs and stickers to remind people to turn off the lights when they leave a room.
 - ▶ Put light switches where people can find and operate them.
2. Remove unneeded light fixtures near windows, especially in unused corners or along banks of windows.
 - ▶ Have students conduct an experiment in classrooms by turning off selected banks of lights and surveying occupancy comfort at different lighting levels (often, occupants prefer working under natural light).
3. Use energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs.
 - ▶ Have students calculate the energy savings achieved by:
 - ▶ Replacing incandescent light bulbs with CFLs

Related News

- ▶ Tips to Save Energy at School During the Holidays
- ▶ EE Global Forum Attracts International Energy Efficiency Leaders
- ▶ Energy Efficiency Global Forum 2011: In Brussels in April

Related Resources

- ▶ Energy Hog Print PSAs
- ▶ Energy Saving Activities for Schools
- ▶ Pollution Calculators

10 GREEN YOUR SCHOOL



Carpooling—jump in, the water's fine!

10

CARPOOLING

Program Tools | National Center for Safe Routes to School

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SafeRoutes
National Center for Safe Routes to School

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PROGRAM TOOLS



Go to the Guide

Start with a step-by-step guide to Safe Routes success

- 1 Bring together the right people
- 2 Hold a kick off meeting and set a vision
- 3 Gather information and identify issues
- 4 Identify solutions
- 5 Make a plan
- 6 Get the plan and people moving
- 7 Evaluate, adjust and keep moving

Looking for something specific?
Search our Program Tools.

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Most popular tools

- Evaluation: Parent Survey
- Safe Routes to School Noteworthy Practices Guide: A Compendium of State SRTS Program Practices
- Evaluation: Student In-Class Travel Tally
- Education: Tip Sheets
- Great Ways to Include Bicycling in Your SRTS Program
- Evaluation: Instructions
- How to Build a Walking School Bus Program from Grass Roots Up: Best



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Stand up on your (fragrance free)
soapbox!



THE CENTER FOR GREEN SCHOOLS K-12 EDUCATION

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United Technologies

The Coalition for Green Schools

This alliance of the nation's leading educational and environmental associations is in pursuit of a common mission: provide every child in America with a green school within a generation.



A letter from Charles Saylor

President, National PTA

I'm asking you to join the Coalition for Green Schools not just as the President of the National PTA, but also as a parent, school board trustee and construction professional. In each of these roles I continue to see all sides of the ongoing debate about the need for better school buildings. Our children deserve a safe, secure, healthy and technologically equal learning environment.

When the National PTA joined the Executive Committee of the Coalition for Green Schools, I was excited to join a forum with some of the leading national educational and environmental organizations around such an important topic. In the year and a half since the Coalition first convened, I've worked alongside leaders from teachers' unions, school boards, administrators and experts in design and education, and I've confirmed that while we all have much at stake on this critical issue, we also all have much to add. In order for all of our children to experience the benefits of green schools, all of our organizations must work together.

And that's why I'm writing today. I'm pleased to invite your organization to join the general membership of the Coalition for Green Schools. Right now, the Coalition Executive Committee collectively represents more than 10 million members. By opening general membership we hope this new pathway for engagement will increase this number and collectively bring our important message to every American. Membership is free, and open to any organization, company or school. In joining, your group will receive regular updates about the national green schools movement, as well as information about networking opportunities and ways to collaborate to advance the vision of green schools for everyone within this generation.

Ron Bogle from the American Architectural Foundation

from U.S. Green Building Council

APPLY NOW

Submit an electronic application to apply for membership in the Coalition for Green Schools.

"The Obama Administration has three domestic priorities: education, health care and energy and in working to create healthy, efficient and environmentally conscious green schools, [the Coalition for Green Schools] is making progress on all three initiatives."

Martha Kanter
Under Secretary
U.S. Department of Education

Executive Committee

- AIA Committee on Architecture for Education
- American Architectural Foundation
- American Association of School Administrators
- American Federation of Teachers
- Association of School Business Officials International
- Council of Chief State School Officials
- Council of Educational Facility Planners International
- Healthy Schools Campaign
- National Association of State Boards of Education
- National Clearinghouse for

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