

November 22, 2013



Zero Waste!!

PS34M and Cafeteria Culture organized a Zero Waste Lunch Challenge Day. The students reduced the entire school's landfill-bound cafeteria garbage to just 13 ounces!

We are very proud of their excellent work!

News

We hope you enjoy the new format of the Sustainability Initiative's newsletter. This newsletter is open to everyone responsible for and interested in the DOE's sustainability initiatives, so feel free to forward it to others.

FAQ for Website

Sustainability Coordinators come up with the best ideas! One idea we'd like to work on immediately is a "Frequently Asked Questions" page for the website. If you have a burning question to include in the FAQ, please e-mail Sharon at sjaye@schools.nyc.gov.

Make Art Not Trash

Trashion Fashion Show is an annual community-driven event that promotes environmental awareness through art. This May 2014 extravaganza will feature live music, eco-friendly vendors, and a Trashion runway show. Past designers have used clean waste from the community such as newspaper, shower curtains, plastic bags, coffee filters, tin cans, paper bags, magazines and parking tickets.

There are two ways your students can participate: enter a submission into the fashion show, or create decorations for the venue.

Design concepts must be submitted by February 1st. Please read over the designer guidelines and FAQs at <http://www.amymerli.com/trashion/NYCDesigner>

Green Roof Guidance

The Office of Sustainability, in conjunction with the Division of School Facilities, School Construction Authority, and the NYC Department of Environmental Protection's Green Infrastructure program, offers guidance to schools that wish to pursue a green roof project.

[Click here to download the guide.](#)

Coordinator Online Forum now available!

The Green Schools Alliance is hosting an online discussion forum for NYC DOE Sustainability Coordinators. This online forum is for coordinators to exchange ideas, network with each other, and ask questions from others that do the same work.

Click [here](#) to check it out. If you do not have a GSA login, just click "create a new account" to sign up for free!

Step it Up! with LaGuardia High School

LaGuardia High School students and alumni produced a video promoting organics collection in NYC schools, sponsored by the Department of Sanitation. Check it out [here!](#)

For more info on the DOE/DSNY organics collection program, please visit DSNY's resource page [here](#).

NYC Outdoors! An Environmental Education Expo

Learn about in-class programs and field trips. Composting. Growing oysters. Overnight field trips. Fishing and seining. Gardening. Using the City's parks as a classroom. Harvesting solar power. Citizen science programs. And much, much more!

Tuesday, November 26th at the Kimmel Center @ NYU
60 Washington Square South, Rosenthal Pavilion.

Please RSVP to Hana at ht692@nyu.edu or call 212-992-9362.

Powering Down: A Toolkit for Energy Conservation

The Center for Green Schools at USGBC released "Powering Down: Behavior-Based Energy Conservation in K-12 Schools," a toolkit that follows the experiences of five public schools that have reduced electricity use by an astonishing 20-37 percent through behavior-based strategies alone. The toolkit looks to these schools as models for others and examines common strategies for every school to reduce its energy usage.

Click [here](#) to download the toolkit and learn about ways to maximize your school's energy efficiency.

EcoHouse in Manhattan Nov. 8 - Jan. 1

The Community Environmental Center's [EcoHouse](#) is a free, traveling environmental exhibit that teaches the importance of conservation and energy efficiency. Come inside the EcoHouse to learn how you can save money, save energy, and live more sustainably.

Fun and free for the whole family!
Schools, classes, and groups welcome!

509 W. 129th Street, Manhattan

Open to Scheduled Classes/Tours Weekdays 9-3

Open to the Public Weekdays 3-5

Co-Hosted by Civic Association Serving Harlem

To schedule a group tour/class field trip,
contact [Katherine Gloede](#).

2014 Maathai Award Application Open!

This \$10,000 scholarship is awarded annually to two environmentally-minded NYC high school seniors. The winners will have demonstrated evidence of their academic and extracurricular commitment to environmental stewardship in an urban setting through their development and execution of sustainability-themed projects: recycling, energy monitoring, parks stewardship, greening, etc. The scholarship is intended for the student's for first year of college.

The application process for the 2014 Wangari Maathai Award for Civic Participation in Sustainability is now available. The application is now online via the Million Trees website [here](#).

Share Your School Story!

Through the Green Schools Alliance [Member Profile Pages](#), you can record your progress in sustainability and learn what other schools are doing. Lead by example! You can become a global leader in your own community by demonstrating that sustainable, energy-smart solutions are practical.

We encourage *ALL* schools to share greening progress through the global Peer-to-Peer network.

sustainability@schools.nyc.gov | <http://schools.nyc.gov/sustainability>