

December 17, 2013

School Spotlight



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!

Partner Spotlight



GrowNYC provides assistance to the

New Newsletter

We hope you enjoy the new format of the Sustainability Initiative's newsletter. This newsletter is available to everyone responsible for and interested in the DOE's sustainability initiatives, so feel free to forward it to others. To sign up for the newsletter, click [here](#). If you have submissions or ideas for the newsletter, or would like to be highlighted in the "School Spotlight", please email Sharon Jaye at sjaye@schools.nyc.gov

FAQ for Website

Sustainability Coordinators come up with the best ideas! One new concept 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.

Urban Schools Aim for Environmental Revolution

Six big-city school systems are combining their purchasing power to persuade suppliers to sell healthier and more environment-friendly products, like compostable food trays, at low prices. [Click here for article.](#)

For Custodians

Custodian Engineers are encouraged to make use of the diagnostic tools available from CUNY's Building Performance Lab. These tools can be used by CE's to determine problems with various systems in their buildings.

<http://www.cunvbpl.org/resources/technology-lending-library-a-public-resource/>

Organics Collection Expanding

The DOE-DSNY Organics Collection Program is expanding again! An additional 150 schools will be added to the program in January, based on their location along existing DSNY organics routes. To see if your school is on the list, click [here](#).

Earth Day Lunch Poster Contest

Earth Day Network is proud to announce the second annual [National School Lunch Campaign Poster Contest](#) to promote the importance of eating healthy sustainable foods in school! The contest asks students from all over the country to submit posters describing what a healthy school lunch means to them. Click on the link for more details.

Young Reporters for the Environment Competition

DOE in our recycling and organics collection. Click [here](#) to check out their resources!

National Wildlife Federation's [Young Reporters for the Environment USA](#) competition invites students between the ages of 13-21 to investigate an environmental issue in their community and report on it in an article, photo or photo essay, or short video. Submissions to the national competition are due by March 15, 2014. National winners' entries proceed to the international competition, joining those of students from more than 25 countries around the world. Click on the link to learn more about the program and competition.

Call for Submission to the Student Film Project

Green Living Project (GLP) is excited to accept student short films for the Fall 2014 Student Film Project. In five minutes or less, students (6th grade and up) should tell a unique and compelling story about a sustainability-related project. Winning films will be screened at GLP events throughout the year. Winners also receive gear and prizes up to \$1,000 in value! Visit www.glpfilms.com/studentfilmproject to submit by January 17, 2014.

Solar 1 Offers New Programs

Solar One, a New York City nonprofit environmental education organization, offers Green Design Lab (GDL) -- a curriculum and program focused on helping you to "green your school." The GDL program is the only curricular blueprint of its kind that looks at the school building as both a laboratory for learning and a tool for environmental change. The program is delivered using hands-on interactive activities that engage students and teachers around 5 elements: Energy, Air Quality, Water, Materials, and Food. To learn more about new GDL programs, download our Green Design Lab [brochure](#).

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.](#)

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](#). Deadline for submission is January 5, 2014.

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>