

Sustainability Initiative Newsletter



The NYC DOE
Sustainability Initiative



We will be putting together a special edition of the newsletter, highlighting Earth Week activities in the schools. Keep that in mind while planning your event, so you can get the necessary media releases for photos. Stories with at least one photo must be submitted to sustainability@schools.nyc.gov by **May 6** to be included.

May 3, 2016

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News

Sustainability Advanced Training

We understand that sustainability efforts in your school take a team of people, all working toward meaningful change. Therefore, all sustainability trainings are open to anyone in your school community that is on your green team! It doesn't matter if it's the principal, a teacher, a parent volunteer or custodial engineer. Put together a team and bring them to training to learn about the DOE's Sustainability Initiative and how to affect change with your school!

* Save the Date*

Advanced Training - Friday, May 27, 2016 - [REGISTER NOW!](#)
8am - 3pm—Lunch will be provided



On May 13 & 14 join over 140 young environmentalists at the International Young Environmentalists Youth Summit (IYEYS). Powered by Greening Forward, the IYEYS is a conference by the youth for the youth who aspire to start global organizations. This conference will equip students with the leadership skills necessary for them to create campaigns that will reduce waste, address climate change, advocate for green and wild spaces, and more. Adults who are looking to learn more about how to implement youth leadership and engagement strategies into their classrooms and/or organizations are welcomed! Want to know more? [Click here](#)

Friday, May 13, 2016

Hyder Leadership Charter School
830 Hunts Point Avenue, Bronx, NY 10474

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Urban Assembly School for Green Careers
145 W 84th St, New York, NY 10024



Con Edison's Smart Kids Energy Education Program

Sign Up for an Easy, Fun Way to Educate 5th Graders About Energy Efficiency

This innovative program is open to a limited number of 5th graders in NYC in 2016. It is:

- Is free for you, your district, and your students
- Easily integrates into your curriculum
- Supports New York State learning standards
- Engages the whole family in the child's education

Students receive a Smart Kids kit full of energy-saving products to take home and install with their families, workbook with fun activities, and program guide. Teachers receive workbooks and lesson plans to teach in class. Each participating teacher may be eligible to receive a \$50 grant. Interested? [Enroll today](#)



TURN IT OFF to Clear the Air – Stop Idling

Did you know that NYC has a law that states drivers may not permit their vehicles to idle longer than one minute when they are adjacent to a school?

Please help us remind parents and other drivers who visit your school to turn off their engines when they are near school buildings. Reducing idling makes the air cleaner for children, especially those travelling to and from schools. For more information and flyers that you can post and distribute to your school community, visit the DEP [website](#).

Updates

Career Opportunities

DOE Office of Sustainability

[Zero Waste Coordinator](#)

The Office of Sustainability is seeking 2 Zero Waste Coordinators. Each will provide technical support and guidance on program implementation and operation to DOE staff including custodians, district/central headquarters staff and school administrators in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-850 and Local Law 40/41 (Recycling Law.)

Children's Environmental Literacy Fund (CELF)

[Educator](#)

CELF is seeking an Educator with 4 or more years of secondary science or contemporary issues classroom experience to join their team of professional development trainers. The part-time position will initially involve learning CELF's PD methodology (largely based in place/problem/project-based learning), co-facilitating Education for Sustainability professional development workshops and ongoing consulting projects and will progress into program design and potential for full time position. For more info contact Alan Cass - alan@celfeducation.org

Annual Sustainability Survey is due June 10!

As part of Local Law 41 (2010) and Chancellor's Regulation A-850 (2013), each school's Sustainability Coordinator is required to complete the annual sustainability survey. The survey is due by the end of the day on **June 10**. The results of this survey will be included in the Department of Education's Annual Sustainability Report. Please let your Principal know when you have submitted the survey as the completion of the survey is part of the principal's compliance checklist. For questions, email sustainability@schools.nyc.gov.

Resources



The [Keep America Beautiful \(KAB\) National Youth Advisory Council](#), supported of the Wrigley Co. Foundation, is an opportunity for ten high school students (15-18 years old) to participate in a service-learning and leadership development program. YAC members will participate in the KAB 2017 National Conference in Washington, DC. Visit [KAB](#) here for more details. [Application](#) must be submitted on-line by **May 6, 2016**.

[Brover Youth Awards for Environmental Leadership](#)

Honors youth leadership in conservation, preservation and restoration. Six young people in North America (age 13-22) are recognized annually with prizes including \$3,000. **Apply by May 16, 2016**.

[Google Science Fair Competition](#)

A global science and engineering competition open to students ages 13-18. Students may enter as individuals or in teams. Finalists will compete for internships, scholarships and prizes. **Deadline May 18, 2016**.

[Ocean Awareness Student Contest](#)

For Middle and high school students. This year's theme is "Making Meaning out of Ocean Pollution," and it challenges you to research and say something meaningful about the connections between human activities and the health of our oceans. **Submissions due June 13, 2016**.

[National Weather Association Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grant](#)

The National Weather Association awards grants up to \$750 to K-12 teachers/educators to improve the education of their students, school and/or community in the science of meteorology. **Deadline June 3, 2016**.

[YSA Everyday Young Hero Award & Grant](#)

For students ages 5-25, who exemplifies an extraordinary commitment to service. This year, YSA will also select 12 winners to receive \$250 grants to continue and expand their project. **On going process**.

[Best Buy Teach@15 Awards](#)

The Teach@15 Award program helps schools serving any grades 7-12 meet their technology needs. Every 15 days, Best Buy will award three schools with Best Buy gift cards based on votes. The school with the most votes will win \$1,500, second most votes wins \$1,000 and third most votes wins \$500.

Events

May 4 - Bike to School Day

Plan for your school to participate in National Bike to School Day. [Walk-biketoschool.org](#) encourages schools to register your event — you may receive incentives.

May 4 - The Energy Gang Live: A Candid Take On The Clean Energy Transition - 6:30-9:30pm

In this live episode, the gang will be joined by two prominent energy journalists — Yuliya Chernova of the Wall Street Journal and Chris Martin of Bloomberg — who will talk about the hottest stories in energy. Come listen to a lively conversation and debate with some of the top thinkers and writers in clean energy. To learn more and register [click here](#).

May 7 - I Love My Park Day

Volunteer by pitching in to help get your favorite state park ready for the summer season. Visit the [Park & Trails website](#) for the list of parks near you and to register!

May 10 - Feeding the 5000 in Union Square - 11am - 4pm

A free feast for thousands, made entirely from fresh, top quality produce that would have otherwise been wasted. Find out more @ [www.feedbackglobal.org](#)

May 13 -14 - 4th Annual International Young Environmentalist Youth Summit (IYEYS)

Join over 140 young environmentalists at the IYEYS. Powered by Greening Forward, the IYEYS is a conference by the youth for the youth who aspire to start global organizations. This conference will equip students with the leadership skills necessary for them to create campaigns that will reduce waste, address climate change, advocate for green and wild spaces, and more. Want to know more? [Click here](#)

May 14 - It's My Estuary Day - 9am - 4pm

[It's My Estuary Day](#) event at Coney Island Creek at Kaiser Park in Brooklyn. You're invited to a day of service, learning and celebration! Events will include a coastal clean-up, tables representing environmental organizations, demonstrations of water chemistry techniques, oyster monitoring projects, underwater robotics, diving demonstrations, and eco-chats with scientists and much.

May 18 - Bed-Stuy Garden Tour - 4:30 - 6:30pm

School gardens are blooming all across the city! Join GTL on a walking tour of school gardens in the Bedford Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn. We will be visiting UA Unison's indoor hydroponics farm and P.S. 616 and P.S. 373's outdoor gardens. Come see and (possibly!) taste the early spring harvest, talk curriculum connections, meet veteran school gardeners and get connected to resources.

[Register here](#)

May 25 - Manhattan Sustainability Coordinator Gathering - 4-6pm

Join NYC Eco-Schools at The Earth School and the Fifth Street Farm to discover how students learn about sustainability through hands-on gardening and cooking programs. Coffee and snacks will be served. This event is free and open to both formal and non-formal educators. RSVP [online](#) by **May 23, 2016**

May 27 - Advanced Sustainability Training - 8am - 3pm @ UFT Headquarters [Register NOW!](#)

June 10 - 4th Annual STEM Matters [NYC Elementary Science Expo](#) - 9:30am - 12:30pm

Don't miss out! Science projects from elementary schools across New York City will be on display. Come share the excitement and explore science through the eyes of young scientists! Click [here](#) to **reserve a bus now** through the Office of Pupil Transportation online field trip system to bring your class to the Expo.

June 26 - July 2 – [Student Climate & Conservation Congress](#)

Students (and a limited number of faculty or staff) are invited to apply to become U.S. Green School Fellows and participate in the 2016 Sc3 Congress. Sc3 empowers outstanding high school students, entering 9th to 12th grade next fall, with the skills, knowledge and tools necessary to address climate and con-

Opportunities

STEM Summer in the City 2016

[Apply now](#) to STEM Summer in the City, a free program designed to provide current 2nd - 10th graders the opportunity for an innovative, engaging, and fun summer learning program designed specifically around science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). [Applications](#) are now open and will close on **May 20, 2016**

NYC Eco-Schools is partnering with [Seedles](#) to give away over 100 FREE "Classroom Superhero Kits" to teachers who want to create pollinator gardens in their schools and communities. Register [here](#) to receive your classroom's kit.

Oysters, Alewife and Eels... Oh My! Contest
The Bronx River Alliance is looking for creative students to illustrate the cover artwork for the new Bronx River Aquatic Wildlife Monitoring How-To-Guide created by NYC Parks Natural Resources Group. Deadline **May 24, 2016**. Check out more of the Contest details [here!](#)

Grow to Learn Spring 2016 Workshops
Want to attract bees, butterflies and other beneficial insects to your garden? Sign up for the [Perennial Plant Giveaway](#) with the Butterfly Project to take home pollinator plants that will grow in your garden year after year.

The 4th Annual STEM Matters NYC Elementary Science Expo
On **June 10th** STEM will hold its Annual STEM matter Expo. All DOE elementary schools are invited to participate. **Schools may submit up to 4 projects**. There are three project categories: **Observational Study, Experimental Investigation, and Engineering Design Project**. To learn more about participating, visit the expo's [website](#).

Watershed Forestry Institute for Teachers
The Watershed Forestry Institute for Teachers (WFIT) is a **FREE** 5-day, 4-night professional development educational program that immerses teachers in a hands-on study of New York City Watershed forestry, water quality science, and drinking water supply systems. To apply [click here](#).

Join the largest K-12 sustainability education annual event by signing up for [National Green Week 2016!](#) Green Week lasts through April 30, 2016. You can choose any week during this timeframe to be your Green Week. It's free, and the Green Education Foundation will be raffling a variety of prizes through Earth Day – so don't, wait [sign up](#) today!



Host a Clothing and Shoe Drive

The Office of Sustainability and [Wearable Collections](#) are teaming up to bring NYC schools a citywide Spring Cleaning event for Earth Month. On top of all the eco-goodness a clothing and shoe drive brings, Wearable Collections will dedicate **10 cents per pound collected to your school**. A great cause and a great fundraiser! [Sign up](#) today!

Introduce "Education for Sustainability" to your classroom: On July 18-21, CELF is hosting a [3-day Summer Institute](#) that will enable K-12 educators to integrate the concepts of sustainability into their existing curricula. Deadline to apply is **June 18**.

Exciting Science and STEM Summer Camps: The NYC DOE Environmental Study Center (ESC) is offering summer enrichment programs for High School students. Students will learn about gardening, animal care, cooking, art and forensics. Open to all students in the NYCDOE. Click here for more details

Bring Bike Safety Assembly to your school!
Help students at your school enjoy cycling safely and the ropes of cycling etiquette. Bike Safety Assembly, a free program, is designed to teach students how to ride safely and confidently on bikes. It consists of a short, kid-friendly video, and an interactive quiz game with prizes; intended to teach kids that cycling is a fun and healthy activity that also has rules that kids should follow. [Click here](#) to learn more and request an assembly!

Partnerships Academy Workshops
Would you like to have more support for your community group? Partnerships for Parks runs workshops that give participants the skills to build strong relationships with businesses, government, and other organizations. The workshops include how to identify the best potential new partners for your group and a pitch activity to craft and practice what you will say to sign on a new partner. Partnerships for Parks run workshops in all five boroughs throughout Spring. Visit their [website](#) for more information or to sign up!

Trash Talk

Want a quick fix to your school's recycling better? Set up a **LIQUIDS BUCKET!**

Dumping Liquids has many benefits:

- Helps keep the cafeteria clean: no more spills or dripping bags!
- Makes storage easier: reduces leaks and smells!
- Engages students: a fun activity that supports recycling behavior!

Set one up today!

Hang this poster above the liquids collection bucket in the cafeteria.
Need more? Order [here](#).

Liquids

Pour liquids here, then recycle empty containers.



nyc.gov/recycle
NYC Recycles