

## School Recycling Help Sheet



### **Recycling Equipment Resources**

Recycling bins can be ordered through the same company that the school is contracted with for janitorial or office supplies.

A small number of bins can be purchased through local stores such as Target, Home Depot or office supply stores.

Simple Labels or Posters for Recycling Bins:

- [Paper Only](#)
- [All Recyclables](#)

Companies that sell recycling and trash bins and systems:

- [www.everythingrubbermaidstore.com](http://www.everythingrubbermaidstore.com) Discounts start on recycle bins orders over \$1,000. You can drive to Wooster for discounted bins in store, but they'd vary in type and quantity.
- [www.rehrgipacific.com](http://www.rehrgipacific.com)
- [www.tmfitzgerald.com](http://www.tmfitzgerald.com)
- [www.tulipproducts.com](http://www.tulipproducts.com) or [www.tulipcorp.com](http://www.tulipcorp.com)
- [www.barcoproducts.com](http://www.barcoproducts.com)
- [www.consolidatedplastics.com](http://www.consolidatedplastics.com) (Ohio company)
- [www.recyclingbin.com](http://www.recyclingbin.com)
- [www.recyclingproducts.com](http://www.recyclingproducts.com)
- [www.ssischaefer.us/schaefer/home/index/index.html](http://www.ssischaefer.us/schaefer/home/index/index.html)
- [www.unitedrecept.com/new%20barclay1.htm](http://www.unitedrecept.com/new%20barclay1.htm)
- [www.windsorbarrel.com](http://www.windsorbarrel.com)
- [www.linkabag.com](http://www.linkabag.com)
- [www.recy-cal.com](http://www.recy-cal.com)

Companies that sell environmental products:

- [www.gaiam.com](http://www.gaiam.com)



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### ***Tips from Past Awardees***

- Get plastic recycling bins for each classroom and other significant location and label them.
- Have a set schedule, so teachers know when to put recycling bins in the hall for collection, especially when students collect the bins and classrooms may be locked.
- Keep reminding students and parents of the importance of recycling.
- Continue recycling over the summer months.
- Talk to other teachers who are in charge of their school's recycling program.
- Try to maintain consistency in recycling efforts.
- Have an all school assembly, public service announcements, student t.v. commercials, recycling fair, make posters and involve students groups, PTA, custodians and administrators, and use announcements regularly.
- Involve your students, staff and families. Keep the Recycle-O-Meter chart in the hallway for students to see rising.
- The elementary students love to be a part of the green team.
- Find ways to get all teachers and staff involved in recycling because a big project for just one teacher. Find other groups besides the environmental club that can help with moving recyclables. Work towards custodians getting involved.
- Use other groups to get the message out. For example, ask if scouting programs will pass out recycling flyers in the neighborhood to increase public's use of paper retriever bin at the school.
- Consult with education specialist and other schools to make decision about what to purchase.
- The administration was resistant, but once program started they became supportive.



## ***Other Comments***

- The money our school earns from recycling paper goes to the outdoor learning laboratory.
- Request matching funding from other environmental organizations or local businesses.
- Lunch time recycling of cans and plastic bottles has been problematic because a group cannot monitor the bins throughout lunch periods. Much contamination is occurring despite signs and announcements.

## ***Ideas for Grant Projects***

- Permanent classroom recycling bins for paper.
- Recycle bins for bottles and cans in the cafeteria, gym and concession areas. Some schools can now recycle empty milk cartons if recycling Waste Management.
- Large bin with wheels to facilitate collection.
- Outdoor bin for storage of recyclables like cardboard or containers.
- A secure outdoor bin for aluminum cans and mini-electronics such as cell phones or printer cartridges.
- Composting and/or vermicompost equipment for food waste recycling with worms or food composting system.



## ***Program Kick-off Ideas***

- School starts a new club.
- Students in the recycling club talked to classrooms and did presentations for the in-house t.v. station.
- Participate in contests sponsored by the Solid Waste District to raise awareness of your recycling program.
- Students sat through an assembly about the recycling program including the Abitibi video. Video also shown to PTA members.
- Recycling letter was sent home and teachers talked to their classes.
- Had a recycling assembly.
- The Student Advisory Team representatives told their classmates about the new recycling process.
- Keep track of how much waste was saved from being landfilled and display it for students and visitors.
- Lined up all lunch waste in cafeteria to show how waste adds up.
- Have a lunch box decoration contest.



## ***Get the Message Out to Students and Community***

- Send home information and instructional flyers with the students.
- Pass out information at PTO meetings.
- Create a recycling report segment for the morning announcements.
- Design a permanent display in the school about the recycling program.
- Have students do a skit during a choir or band concert for parents.
- Do a recycling page on your website such as a what can be recycled at school, recycling benefits, and natural resources saved.
- Connect your webpage to the Solid Waste District's [www.cuyahogaswd.org](http://www.cuyahogaswd.org).
- Print recycling information in school newspaper and school newsletter.
- Do a contest.
- Make public service announcements for local access channels cable.
- Invite the local press to the school to kick off the program.
- Advertised recycling collection on the digital marquis in the the building and during PTA meeting announcements.



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