

## Recycling Containers

Desk-side ~ Use these containers for collecting waste paper. Discuss with students the need to save landfill space and how waste paper can be recycled and turned into other products. Have students make their own paper with used paper from the recycling basket.

Shared-space ~ Use these containers in the hall ways, lunch room, and sporting venues to collect plastic and aluminum. Encourage one of the student organizations to “adopt” the containers as a service project. The organization would be responsible for emptying the containers and either taking the materials to a recycling drop-off location or placing them in the appropriate outside receptacle. Purchase Collection Buckets for household batteries to be recycled.



With all of the above containers, discussions about recycling can be tailored to the appropriate age group. Recycling can be a whole school project. The youngest students can make posters promoting recycling and maintain charts showing the progress of recycling. Middle school and high school students can supply the manpower to empty containers, make calculations, and report findings to the student population.

## Environmental Stewardship Education Program

Environmental stewardship refers to responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices. A recycling program, an environmental club or Green Team are examples of programs that meet the above definition. Environmental clubs can make training videos for the student population or the community. They can also address civic organizations about the benefits of good solid waste management practices. Purchase materials to make posters promoting new or existing recycling programs.

A green team can organize activities for America Recycles Day (November 15<sup>th</sup>) or Earth Day (April 22<sup>nd</sup>). They can identify areas where the school can improve its solid waste management practices and challenge other schools in the district to a friendly competition for improvement.

## Composting

Purchase composting bin, leaf box made from recycled material, paper leaf or lawn bags for new or expanding composting program in a school, community, or other non-profit organization. Provide paper bags for participants.



Make individual compost “bins” out of 2-liter soda bottles for classroom education. Begin composting food waste from school meals. Investigate different methods of composting, implement several options and compare results. Purchase Composting Books, pails and supplies. Some give away their final product; others sell the compost to raise funds to support other recycling activities. Donate to a community to enrich it’s flower bed gardens or use on the schools gardens.

## Field Trips

Landfill ~ calculate how much waste the school currently sends to the landfill on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis. Find out the remaining expected lifespan of the landfill. Discuss ways the school can reduce the amount of waste currently sent to the landfill. Formulate a plan to reduce the amount of waste sent to the landfill.

Recycling Center ~ Discuss recycling options the school could implement. Conduct a “waste audit” to determine how much school waste could be recycled. Research “downstream processors” to learn more about the recycling process. Buy t-



shirts or “reusable bags” (see “disposable to durable” project) made out of recycled materials.

Downstream Processor ~ Visit a company that uses recycled items, like paper, aluminum, plastic, glass or cardboard to create new items. Alternately visit a company that processes the same items to prepare them for a manufacturing process elsewhere. Discover how much of the raw material must be processed to complete one finished product.

Manufacturer ~ Observe and discuss waste management practices that are beneficial to the environment and reduce waste going to the landfill. Brainstorm ways the company could be more efficient with waste management.

## Waste Audits

Weigh all of the trash collected from the school for one day. Calculate how many cubic yards of materials were collected. Sort recyclable materials into individual bags. Weigh each category of recyclable material separately. Calculate how many cubic yards of material are recyclable or compostable. Determine how much waste could be/is diverted in one school year. Start a recycling or composting program that addresses one or more of the materials collected. (See “Containers”)

Encourage students to “spread the word” about recycling and composting by filming the waste audit activities and having students talk about the amount of material they saved from the landfill in one day, and how that could impact the landfill over a year’s time.

## Disposables to Durables

Provide refillable water bottles for students and staff with a recycling message and JB Green Team Logo as a part of a recycling awareness project. Have students track how many disposable bottles they use in a week and calculate how much landfill space can be saved with the use of the refillables.

Cloth shopping bags are another example of improving waste management practices. Have students count the number of

plastic shopping bags their families bring home in a week. Calculate the potential reduction for one school term. Have students create a video to share on social media, in fliers with an environmental message encouraging use of the cloth bags with the JB Green Team logo.

**Classroom Educational Materials** ~ Expand common core initiatives, purchase Earth Day Comic Books, DVD's, brochures, etc. for students about recycling, reducing waste or litter prevention.

**Special Cleanup Projects** ~ Organize and purchase supplies (Trash bags, gloves, grabber sticks, flyers, T-Shirts) for a group of volunteers to do a reasonable scale special cleanup event.

**Products made from Recycled materials**

Purchase picnic tables, benches, waste cans made from recycled plastic (with the JBGT logo) for a Community Park, ballfield, or other public location. One community



purchased handicapped accessible picnic



tables for its park shelter. A school purchased a wrestling matt made of recycled material. Fencing, mulch, welcome signs, etc. made from recycled materials for public use locations. Known companies located in

Ohio: <http://www.belson.com/Trash-Cans>  
<http://www.otto-usa.com/index.html>

**Drug Take Back** ~ Purchase a box made from recycled material to be kept in local police departments for their collection program. Special one day collection costs, advertising, brochures and other expenses.

**Revitalization** ~ Projects utilizing reuse or recycled materials to improve parks, playgrounds etc. needing paints, supplies, trees.

**Equipment/Waste Compactor** ~ for recyclables collected for a recycling program.

**Public Service Equipment** ~ such as VFD's purchasing Rescue Cribbing, Blocking & Stabilization Systems made from recycled material.



**Diverter Rain barrel** ~ for demonstrations to children.

**Hazardous material cleanups** ~ Special cleanup/removal of hazardous materials from a non-profit or public property.



*NOTE!! All items/equipment/materials purchased with grant funds must have the "JB Green Team" logo permanently attached/imprinted and visible. This signage is the responsibility of the Grant recipient to arrange, costs may be included in grant application. A copy of the (3) logo options can be provided electronically by request.*

**Grants Funds are limited and competitive.**

**GRANT APPLICATION IDEAS**

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**JB Green Team  
 Jefferson-Belmont Regional Solid  
 Waste Authority**

**www.jbgreenteam.org/grants  
 (740) 266-6899**

These are just a few ideas to start with; you are limited only by the grant criteria, your imagination and the assistance you can obtain to complete your project.

Our Criteria:

- ✓ Develops and implements waste reduction, reuse and recovery systems as alternatives to landfill disposal, reuse of recycled material.
- ✓ Develops an integrated approach to solid waste management, meeting the needs of municipalities and townships in the District
- ✓ Projects that are innovative, cost-effective, will reach a large audience, and will produce actual recycling and solid waste diversion will be given top priority.
- ✓ All grant funds must be applicable to recycling (not for concession stands or foods, water, etc.)
- ✓ All Grant recipients shall "Buy Ohio" for grant projects whenever possible.

**Review the Grant Application Packet for more information.**