



Successful School Green Teams

May 19, 2015

Presented by:

Donna Drewes, Co-Director & Veronique Lambert, Program Coordinator



Overview

- What is a Green Team?
- Green Team action requirements
- Forming and Running your Green Team
- Attributes of a Successful Green Team
- Green Team Resources
- Questions



What is a Green Team?

- A group of teachers, students, board members, administrators, parents and/or school community members that works together to plan and implement sustainability initiatives at their school



Why Form a Green Team?

- Provides leadership and vision for sustainability efforts
- Coordinates efforts and access to resources and expertise
- Facilitates communication among different departments and groups



Green Team Action Requirements



- Only mandatory action in program
- Can be established at school or district level
 - Superintendent appoints District Green Team
 - Principal appoints School Green Team
- Must meet at least 4 times
- Submit annual report of activity and accomplishments



Forming Your Green Team

Green Team action standards for certification:

- **District Green Team:** Formed by district Superintendent and must include a representative from each school registered in program.
 - District Union leadership shall appoint 2 Green Team members to serve as the official Union representatives on the Green Team
- **School Green Team:** Formed by the Principal
 - School Building Union leadership shall appoint 2 Green Team members to serve as the official school Union representatives on the Green Team.



Forming Your Green Team

DISTRICT



- Some actions can be completed only by the District and will automatically generate points for each participating school



Who Should Be on The Green Team?

- Best if team is representative of the school community
- School Board, administration, teachers, education support professionals, school nurse, facilities, food service, student clubs, PTA, Booster Clubs and other Parent-led organizations
- Include students or engage students via a student green team
- Reach out to community groups, businesses, municipal green team members



Attributes of a Successful Green

- Members attend regular meetings and stay connected
- Team includes stakeholders/representatives from the school community
- Members network with other school teams or the district green team to share information, resources and inspiration



Attributes of a Successful Green

- Projects are chosen by identifying the lowest hanging fruit.
- Emphasis is on building large successes on the momentum of small ones.
- Leading and coordinating the green team is shared between several dedicated champions.
- Team keeps momentum moving forward, and knows when to pivot if a project hits a wall.



Attributes of a Successful Green

- Members are well-informed and recognize the different dimensions of the issue they are addressing
- Members diplomatically create alliances with the institution(s) and people with whom they are working
- Team checks in with their goals and yearly work plan regularly to make sure their efforts are on target.



Growing Your Green Team

- Tips for finding out who wants to contribute
 - Post a notice in your common areas
 - Generate interest with a kick-off event
 - Add the Green Team formation and updates to staff and PTA agendas
 - Put an announcement in the school or PTA newsletter
 - Reach out to Recycling Coordinator
 - Reach out to municipal green team members – find contact information on www.sustainablejersey.com



Green Team Parent Survey

1. The Belmont Day School Green Team is a group of faculty, staff, and parents who are committed to developing and maintaining sustainable practices at the Belmont Day School, at our

We not only engage students in these activities through partnerships with their teachers and participation in our numerous programs, but also help students see connections to our natural world around us.

We meet once a month to discuss and strategize about maintaining existing programs and to develop new ones that involve the whole school community. Our programs include:

- * all school recycling and composting
- * the Belmont Day School organic garden
- * the annual Earth Week Celebration and week of action in April

For the 2012-2013 school year, we are working on the following initiatives:

- * developing guidelines for "green" events
- * adding biweekly "green" tips to the BDS Scoop
- * scheduling a fall family hike and a spring family community service day
- * investigating alternative energy use at Belmont Day School
- * joining in the NAIS Green Cup Recycle challenge and the Green School Alliance
- * creating classroom challenges that include catalog canceling, food waste (ORT), and classroom light savings!

Our first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 25th at 7:45 a.m. in the conference room.

Your Name

Your Email

Next

Powered by **SurveyMonkey**
Check out our [sample surveys](#) and create your own now!

Maintaining Your Green Team

- Meet on a regular schedule and at least 4 times in the school year
- Manage volunteers effectively
 - Provide logistical information well in advance
 - Send out email reminders of important dates
 - Be organized – use volunteers' time wisely and show them appreciation
 - Encourage project ownership
 - Ask for feedback



Tips on Conducting Your Meeting

- First Meeting
 - Identify leadership and introduce members
 - Introduce SJS program
 - Decide on meeting dates for the school year
 - Set up communications / sign-up for accounts on SJS website
 - Brainstorm – review program brochure or action tracking spreadsheet for low-hanging fruit
- Subsequent Meetings
 - Use action tracking spreadsheet to assign tasks and track progress on action completion
 - Utilize members' skills when deciding who takes on what projects
 - Keep a record of proceedings for annual report



Choosing Projects

- Review action list and identify low-hanging fruit
 - Ask all team members to help identify ongoing efforts that could meet action requirements
- Identify projects that may need funding
 - Explore funding opportunities with school leadership
- Begin with projects that everyone can stand behind
- SJS Small grants / Creative financing for projects



Publicizing Your Green Efforts

- Hold public events
- Join other regional networking opportunities, workshops, conferences and informational forums
- Reach out to the school's or district's communications department
- Utilize local media, social media, and word of mouth




Keeping Track of Progress

- Use the Action Tracking Spreadsheet to track progress towards completion of actions and points for bronze or silver certification
- Document meetings, events, and project milestones with notes, photographs and copies of articles, fliers



Green Team Resources

 [Sign in or sign up.](#)  

A BRIGHTER FUTURE  *one school at a time*

ABOUT **ACTIONS & CERTIFICATION** **EVENTS & TRAININGS** **GRANTS & RESOURCES** **MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS** **SUPPORT US** **REGISTER**

Home > Grants & Resources > Green Team Resources

Green Team Resources

Ready, Set, Go! Quick Start Resources to Get You Moving

- [Certification Overview](#)
- [Application User Guide](#): Detailed guide providing guidance on how to manage users, navigate, and submit your application
- [Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet](#) (Updated April 2015)



Program Overview

- [Certification Overview](#): Including steps and application cycle
- [Ready, Set Go! Getting Started with Sustainable Jersey for Schools](#) webinar and presentation

Green Team Strengthening

- [Create Your Green Team Action](#): Read through this action to understand what the purpose of the Green Team is, why it is important, and how to get it started.
- [Secrets to a Successful Green Team](#)
- [Rubric for Assessing your Green Team](#)
 - [Description and Directions](#)
 - [Example Rubric Results – Stratford, NJ](#)

Certification

- [Action Description & Submission Requirements](#)

GRANTS & RESOURCES

- [Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program](#)
- [Grants Portal](#)
- **Green Team Resources**



A Brighter Future, One School at a Time

Questions?

Call: 609-771-3427

Email: schools@sustainablejersey.com

