

Recycling Champions Program



Program Description

The NYC Public School Recycling Champions Program (RCP) is a program of GrowNYC (a nonprofit organization in the Mayor’s Office), conducted in partnership with the NYC Department of Education Division of School Facilities and Office of Sustainability, and the NYC Department of Sanitation. RCP develops model and lasting recycling programs at schools in all five NYC boroughs by working hands-on with administration, faculty, students, custodians, and parents. RCP aims to empower schools to comply with, and exceed, NYC’s recycling laws, and in the process students create school wide projects and campaigns, and learn environmental leadership skills that place their schools on the forefront of NYC’s Mayoral directive to double the City’s diversion rate by 2017. The best practices developed at RCP schools will be collated into resources made available to every NYC school at, www.grownyc.org/recyclingchampions. ***Is your school a recycling champion?***

2012-2013 School Application

Recycling Champions is a free educational, hands-on program available to any NYC public school, grades K-12, that is struggling with school-wide recycling participation and presence in classrooms, offices, and cafeteria. If selected to be a Recycling Champions school, your school will be provided with a dedicated Recycling Champions Coordinator who will work collaboratively with administration and faculty to bolster your school’s recycling program through faculty professional development, classroom lessons and activities for students, a school-wide contest or event, free recycling signs and posters, and more.

Contingent upon demand and uptake, your school will be eligible to become a Recycling Champions school during one of two program terms – beginning September, 2012 or February, 2013. If necessary, schools will be added to a waitlist for the 2013-2014 school year.

To become a Recycling Champions school, please fill out the application (pages 3-5), then scan and return the application to SchoolRecycling@grownyc.org or fax it to 212.788.7913, **by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 15, 2012**. Campus buildings must fill out a separate application for each school.

If you have questions, please contact the RCP Director, Robbie Lock: rlock@grownyc.org | 212.341.0169

Recycling Champions Program – Timeline

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • RCP Application Due | 5:00pm on Friday, June 15, 2012 |
| • Schools selected and notified | on or before June 29, 2012 |
| • Organizational Meeting | early to mid September 2012 |
| • RCP First Term | September 2012 – January 2013 |
| • RCP Second Term | February 2013 – June 2013 |



Recycling Champions Program

Recycling Champions Programming

- *Time Commitment*

The RCP coordinator's primary contact will be your school's sustainability coordinator. The RCP coordinator will need to meet with the principal, sustainability coordinator, custodian engineer, and SchoolFood manager in early to mid September, 2012 (Term 1) or early February, 2013 (Term 2), to outline areas of concentration and goals. It's expected that RCP coordinator will spend 1-4 hours each week on campus, planning with staff, working in classrooms, or facilitating projects or activities. This is dependent on the recycling needs and goals of each school. All initiatives will be incorporated into a school's schedule with ease and accommodation.

- *Waste Audit & Walkthrough*

The RCP Coordinator will conduct a comprehensive waste audit and walk through to assess the recycling setup needs of the school, and establish clearly defined goals for the school.

- *Faculty Professional Development*

The Recycling Champions coordinator will work with a school's faculty and staff during a scheduled meeting or professional development opportunity. Faculty PD will be hands-on and will have a focus on curriculum integration.

- *Student Outreach & Engagement*

Student outreach will be tailored to the strengths of a school's academic structure, all classroom work will align with the common core standards and STEM scope and sequence. In certain cases, additional organizations and programs will be brought into the school to amplify the efforts of Recycling Champions.

- *Cafeteria Recycling*

Introducing recycling and waste reduction practices in the cafeteria is a great way to empower students to take a leadership role and foster a school community pride across grades. The Recycling Champions coordinator will outline a number of different ways in which your school can reach recycling compliance in the cafeteria.

- *School-Wide, Community Event or Contest*

Schools will be able to choose from a variety of events and contests that serve to engage the surrounding community, parents, or galvanize students and staff.

- *Recycling Surveys*

A brief survey designed by GrowNYC and approved by Department of Education might be distributed to a random sampling of faculty, staff, and students. This survey would be used to provide a baseline with which to measure recycling knowledge, practices, and the impact of Recycling Champions. If the survey is administered, a second follow-up survey would be distributed several months into the program.

- *Bag Count*

In order to quantify a school's recycling effort, the Custodian Engineer can choose whether or not to have custodial staff tally the number of recycling and trash bags collected – one day per week over the course of the RCP term. RCP would provide tally sheets and collect them on a monthly basis.

- *NYC DOE Photo Release Forms:* RCP will document as much as possible through photos and video, this is critical to helping other NYC schools. NYC DOE photo release forms will be distributed to any students and staff photographed or filmed. Photos and video will not be taken nor utilized without permission.



Recycling Champions Program

GrowNYC's Recycling Champions Program Application 2012 – 2013

Instructions

- Scan the signed application and email it to SchoolRecycling@grownyc.org or fax it to GrowNYC at 212.788.7913
- Application is due by **5:00pm on Friday, June 15, 2012**

School Information (All Fields Required)

- Campus buildings must fill out a separate application for each school

School Name & Number: _____

Street: _____ City/Zip _____

• Grades served? _____ • Student enrollment? _____

• Number of faculty and staff? _____

• Does your school have separate programs or academies? If so, please list them and their focus.

• Please list all relevant programming present in your school or school schedule (Green Team, student government, involved PTA, annual science fair, faculty meetings, advisory groups, etc.)

• Is your school working with any other outside DOE organizations or education programs?



Recycling Champions Program

Why Does Your School Want to Participate in RCP?

Please write a short response, considering the following questions. Answers can be typed and attached to the application or hand written below, with additional pages attached as necessary.

- What are your school's sustainability goals?

- What were your school's challenges and successes with recycling to date?

- How would you like to see students involved in a recycling program?



Recycling Champions Program

Required Contact Information

1.) **Principal:** _____

Phone: _____ Preferred Email: _____

Signature Required: _____

2.) **Sustainability Coordinator:** _____

Phone: _____ Preferred Email: _____

Signature Required: _____

3.) **Custodian Engineer:** _____

Phone: _____ Preferred Email: _____

Signature Required: _____

4.) **SchoolFood Manager:** _____

Phone: _____ Preferred Email: _____

Signature Required: _____

NOTE: Please designate a contact person for summer vacation to be made available if the Recycling Champions Coordinator needs to discuss planning or program requirements:

Summer Contact: _____ Position: _____

Phone Number : _____ Preferred Email: _____

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