



Environmental and Adventure School (EAS)

School district: Lake Washington

School location: Kirkland

Began participating in the Green Schools Program:
January 2014

Level One of the Green Schools Program:
Achieved in May 2014

Level Two of the Green Schools Program:
Achieved in May 2017

Level Three of the Green Schools Program:
Achieved in May 2019

Sustaining Green School 2019-20:
Achieved in May 2020



Student Green Team in front of school



Student Green Team in cafeteria

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Environmental and Adventure School has achieved a 73 percent recycling rate.
- In 2014, after the school began collecting lunchroom recyclable and compostable materials, lunchroom waste was reduced from six 33-gallon cans of garbage to one 33 gallon can.
- Student Green Team members and parent volunteers monitored all waste stations in the lunchroom to ensure correct sorting of recyclable materials and garbage. They also created posters about recycling.
- The school cafeteria replaced all disposable plates and utensils with compostable plates and durable utensils.



Parent Susan Vossler and principal Victor Scarpelli receive King County Earth Hero at School award in 2014



King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

- Green Team students conducted a lunchroom waste audit and used common sources of contamination to set goals and educate the student body on correct recycling practices.
- Student Green Team members educated the school community about waste reduction and recycling practices with skits, posters, and the school's online newsletter.
- Green Team members collaborated with Finn Hill Middle School's leadership students to create a two-minute video on composting and recycling.
- The school decreased paper consumption by using an online portal to digitally download assignments. Teachers used interactive whiteboards, wireless polling devices, and communicated with students and parents through a twice weekly online news bulletin.
- Green Team members created, promoted, and set up reuse paper trays in each classroom and the school commons.
- Custodians and parent volunteers actively provided support to student Green Team members.
- The school began collecting paper towels used in the science labs and art room to be transported to a regional composting facility. This removed about 75% of 33- gallon can of paper towels from the waste stream every day.
- The school started school-wide paper towel collection for transport to a regional composting facility. Paper towels were collected in restrooms, science rooms, art rooms, and the commons. Collection bins were monitored before contents were placed in outdoor compost bins for pick-up.



Students work on storm drains



Students mark storm drains



Green Team members in front of the school's Green Schools banner



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- Two Green Team students researched and organized a water conservation pledge where they asked students and staff members to participate by signing their names on the pledge poster.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- Four Green Team students acted as an Energy Conservation patrol to check classrooms and other shared spaces for energy conservation practices.
- The student Green Team created a large poster to display the school's Energy Conservation Pledge. Students were encouraged to read and sign the pledge.
- Green Team members created an energy conservation video and shared it at an all-school meeting.
- The school created a student Energy Patrol to turn off lights in all unoccupied spaces.
- The school's computers were set to enter sleep mode automatically after about 15 min. Printers, projectors, smart boards, etc. were turned off when not in use.
- Green Teams worked with the principal to determine how to set vending machine timers to prevent them from turning on as the custodian walked by at night.
- The school district lent the Green Team a light meter to find areas in the school that were over-lit. The district then removed one or two bulbs in those spaces to bring light levels down and use less electricity.



Green Team members during a trash sort activity



Green Team members sort school lunch waste and track what they found



Green Team members sort and track school lunch waste



Water Conservation and Pollution Prevention (Level Three)



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- Green Team students delivered a kick-off presentation to all students on the first day of school about Green Schools practices at Environmental and Adventure.
- Green Team students completed a variety of projects in 2018-19:
 - Three students surveyed and mapped 34 stormwater drains on the campus and adjoining streets. They labeled the drains with adhesive stickers.
 - Two students organized a pledge campaign to stop buying bottled water. 82 percent of the school community participated in the pledge.
 - Four students researched water conservation tips to share with the school community.
 - One student researched the path of water through the school's "hidden rivers" and created a digital poster presented to students at the all-school meeting in April.
 - Two students researched and created an 8.5" x 11" "Don't Flush Trouble" poster and placed the laminated posters above toilets in the school.
- Green Team student representatives attended the Lake Washington School District Sustainability Summits to present an overview of the school's conservation efforts. Students learned about the efforts of other schools and of the district and then shared those with the school.
- Green Team students monitored the faucets and submitted work orders to repair damaged ones. To further conserve water, they educated students and staff members on how to completely shut-off faucets.
- The school maintained a 4,000 gallon, above-ground rainwater cistern to collect rainwater from the roof. The rainwater collected was used as the primary water source for the drip-irrigation system for the school greenhouse. School campus grounds were designed with drought-resistant plants, including a progressive bioswale running along the east boundary of the campus.

Sustaining Green School 2019-20

- In early January 2020, all EAS staff members and 132 students out of the 140 EAS students signed a large posted energy conservation pledge. The signed pledge



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document was posted in the school commons as a reminder to conserve energy at home and school.

- Students maintained a greenhouse and multiple raised beds where native plants were grown for use in local habitat restoration projects. In January and February 2020, Green Team members researched and applied for National Wildlife Federation schoolyard habitat certification, and in March 2020 certification was received.
- Green Team members prepared announcements and shared recycling, energy conservation, and water conservation facts every week at the all-school Monday morning meetings from September 3, 2019 through March 9, 2020 when the school facility closed due to Covid-19.
- To remind families about the school's no idling policy, Green Team students created and shared reminders in EAS' weekly News Bulletin sent to school families.
- Green Team students communicated with district employees to request results of the school's annual drinking water test and data on campus use of pesticides and herbicides.
- As of October 2019, the school's recycling rate was calculated at 61 percent, lower than the previous year's 73 percent, but by March 2020 the recycling rate was 73 percent. In February 2020, Green Team students conducted an all-school trash sort, and found a significant amount of material in garbage containers that could have been recycled or composted. They used that data to educate the school community about what materials can be recycled and composted. King County Green Schools Program provided recycling stickers which were placed on bins in February 2020.

Awards

- Teacher Brian Healy received a King County Earth Heroes at School award in May 2015 for his work building and sustaining an effective waste reduction and recycling program at the school.
- Parent volunteer Susan Vossler received a King County Earth Heroes at School award in 2014 for her dedicated volunteer work with the student Green Team.



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- The school received awards for community stewardship from the Land Conservancy, Washington Department of Ecology, Eastside Audubon, the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and E3 Washington.