



## Maywood Middle School

**School District:** Issaquah

**School Location:** Renton

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:** October 2006

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:**  
Achieved in December 2009

**Level Two of the Green Schools Program:**  
Achieved in February 2016

**Level Three of the Green Schools Program:**  
Achieved in May 2017

**Sustaining Green School 2017-18:**  
Achieved in May 2018

**Sustaining Green School 2018-19:**  
Achieved in May 2019

### Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Maywood Middle School achieved a school-wide recycling rate of 60 percent.
- The school reduced garbage collection costs by increasing recycling and collecting food scraps and other compostable materials in its cafeteria.
- The school increased its cafeteria recycling rate to higher than 75 percent. Prior to May 2009, only five percent of the total lunchroom waste was recycled.
- To encourage students to sort their recyclable and compostable materials, students made posters and shared information during morning intercom announcements and on the school information board at the front of the school.



Students created a bottle cap mosaic to promote reuse

<b>CHARGER GREEN</b>	
<p>To: _____</p> <p>Grade: _____ Date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RODE BIKE OR WALKED TO SCHOOL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> COMPOSTED/RECYCLED CORRECTLY</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> WATER-SAVING ACTION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ENERGY-SAVING ACTION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PACKED A ZERO-WASTE LUNCH</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> USED REUSABLE CONTAINERS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> USED ONE PAPER TOWEL TO DRY HANDS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____</p> <p>AWARDED BY: _____</p>	

Green Team students created the Green Charger Award to acknowledge green practices



# Success Story

- The ASB students created a “Go Green” pledge that students signed committing themselves to recycling and composting at school. These pledges were then posted in the lunchroom to remind students of their commitment.
- The school committed to creating a culture of conservation that engages students and staff members in conservation awareness and action as part of citizenship learning.
- In 2015-16, the Green Team created a “One Paper Towel Challenge” to encourage students and staff members to reduce bathroom paper towel waste. Green Team students gave PowerPoint presentations to advisory classes, presented the campaign to students during lunch, and hung signs in every bathroom.
- Due to the success of the One Paper Towel Challenge at Maywood Middle School, the Green Team presented the campaign to the school district, Boeing and several local businesses.
- Green Team students promoted waste-free Wednesdays by instructing others how to make a waste-free lunch. Students also weighed lunchroom waste on multiple waste-free Wednesdays to monitor progress over time.
- In December 2014 and 2015, the Green Team encouraged alternatives to traditional paper holiday gift wrap. Students promoted reusing materials such as newspaper, paper bags, used maps, chip bags, and schoolwork instead of buying new gift wrap.
- In 2017, the Green Team completed a “Go Green” mural made of plastic non-recyclable bottle tops to display in the cafeteria.
- In 2016-17, the Green Team held a digital art poster/meme contest to promote zero waste. Judges from the community used a scoring rubric to select the winner.
- Containers for leftover liquids were added to cafeteria recycling stations thanks to new custodian Sean Turner.
- Incoming sixth-grade students participated in an orientation in which waste reduction and recycling expectations were emphasized.



## Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- Green Team students made weekly conservation announcements about energy conservation, including tips on how to reduce energy use.
- Eighth-grade biology students calculated their carbon footprints as part of the curriculum.
- Energy conservation signs were posted on light switches and electronics to remind staff and students to turn them off when not in use.
- The school's vending machine lights were permanently turned off.
- Staff members and students were encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather rather than adjusting the thermostat settings.
- During the winter months, thermostats remained set at 68 to 72 degrees.
- Signs reminding students and staff to turn off lights were placed by all light switches.

## Water Conservation and Pollution Prevention (Level Three)

- A student team tested every school faucet and found only two of the nearly 100 faucets were not low flow. The school district replaced aerators as needed.
- A PowerPoint made by the Green Team focusing on waste reduction and water conservation was shown in all classes.
- Teacher Ms. Watkins led a six-week water conservation unit with her READ 180 sixth-grade classes.
- The school included water conservation facts in the tip-of-the-week morning announcements.
- The school held a water conservation pledge student campaign in April 2017;

## Sustaining Green School Recognition

Maywood Middle School was recognized as a Sustaining Green School for sustaining and building on its Level One waste reduction and recycling practices, Level Two energy conservation practices, and Level Three water conservation strategies. How the school did this is described below.



## **Sustaining Green School 2017-18**

- The Green Team idea for a Charger Green Award was approved by the administration. The award was designed to acknowledge students' green practices. Award winners were entered into a drawing to win a monthly prize.
- The school held a student water conservation pledge campaign in April 2017.
- The school participated in the "One Paper Towel Challenge" at the Issaquah School District STEMposium fair. The Challenge included a call to action, namely to use one paper towel to dry one's hands.

## **Sustaining Green School 2018-19**

- Green Team students presented a "Take One for the Trees" paper towel challenge at the Issaquah School District STEMposium in February 2019. They also presented the challenge to the board of directors at the Coal Creek YMCA which planned to implement the practice. To meet multilingual needs, students updated the restroom sign about the challenge.
- Students made a "Get your Green On" mural with plastic bottle caps and hung it in the cafeteria.
- Three-dimensional sorting signs for placement above the cafeteria waste bins were updated.
- Student Green Team members created a video to encourage correct sorting of recyclable and waste items in the cafeteria.
- The school began participating in the Crayola ColorCycle maker recycling program.

## **Awards**

- Teacher Jane Watkins was awarded an King County Earth Hero at School award in May 2018 for developing a water conservation curriculum unit and helping to improve the school's waste reduction and recycling practices.
- Teacher Megan Atkins received a King County Earth Hero at School award in 2007 for her work with leadership students on developing and promoting a recycling program and promoting the program.