

Scholastic Packet

The Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District services various cities and communities in the Salt Lake Valley. Many of these areas are in the school district your school is located within. However, your school district boundaries and our service district boundaries do not align. Because of this, education and outreach efforts are complicated due to finite resources and limited time. However, these limitations are not preventive to promoting sustainability, specifically recycling.

There are numerous opportunities to promote and educate students about recycling and sustainability. Additionally, many of these methods are very simple and free. Presented here are a few effective means to promote recycling this fall in your school. Highlighted are those events and actions most engaging to your student body.



Recycle Bowl is an exciting recycling competition run by Keep America Beautiful, a national sustainability non-profit organization. The competition's aims are to increase and develop recycling programs in elementary and secondary schools across America. This competition is analogous to other nationwide recycling competitions in higher education, such as *RecycleMania* and *Game Day Challenge*.

What is most appealing about this competition is the prize money awarded to a winning school. Additionally, the *Recycle-Bowl* Competition has a wide variety of support and promotional tools at the disposal of participating school. Competition is per capita and can be at a school level or district level. For more information, please go to their website at www.recycle-bowl.org/divisions. Below is a summarization of the divisions and associated prizes. There is a category for every school and level of participation, so find the one right for your school. Registration is due by October 15th and the competition starts Monday, October 21st.

Cash Prizes

- State Champion wins a \$1,000 prize
- National Champion earns an additional \$1,000 on top of state prize, plus \$2,500 in store credit for Busch Systems recycling bins
- Community Recycling Category offers a \$1,000 first prize, a \$750 second prize and \$500 third prize

Competition Divisions

- State Champion School; best recycling school in state
- National Community Recycling Champion School; collects recyclables from the community on top of school's recycling, and competes nationally
- National District Champion; best recycling school district nationally

Bragging Rights Division

- Waste Reduction Champion; national competition, tracks waste and recycling
- Food Scrap Collection Champion; national competition, reports food scraps diverted from trash

Last year, only two schools in Utah participated in *Recycle-Bowl*. Numerically speaking, your school has a great chance at winning with these odds! However, the overall and greater goal is to promote sustainability as well as the three R's of recycling (reduce, reuse, recycle). Commonly, people who participate in these kinds of events become very impressed at what they can change. Also, the challenge presented by the competition can leave a great impression on students that will work in unison with other educational materials outlined below.

The Green Revolution Exhibit at The Leonardo



The Leonardo has recently opened a new exhibit specifically on waste called the Green Revolution. This exhibit looks at how much trash someone generates each day, as well as sustainability themed lifestyle improvements. Below is an excerpt from The Leonardo's website:

The Green Revolution is a global effort of people working together to create a sustainable future. This exhibit was developed by the Smithsonian and Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. It's a "traveling" exhibit that doesn't travel in crates on trucks, but through ideas and shared content. The materials used in The Leonardo's version of the exhibit are re-used and re-cycled from local sources, along with components from past Leo exhibits. Come see the surprising ways that you can make a difference in your life and in the world.

www.theleonardo.org/exhibits/discover#4

Field trips at The Leonardo can be scheduled for classes or whole schools. Field trips are offered via self-guided tours or In-Depth Workshops. To book a field trip to The Leonardo, call 801-531-9800 ext. 131 or email education@theleonardo.org. Visit their website at www.theleonardo.org

Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District Educational Outreach



Our scholastic outreach goal for the Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District is to educate students and teachers about recycling and sustainability. We encourage self-education with everyone and all levels of education. Provided below are resources that can aid in lesson plans, presentations, and any other engagement to promote the acquisition of knowledge on recycling.

Activities and Materials

The Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District has been a part of numerous presentations and outreach events. Unfortunately, it is not feasible to visit every classroom and teach about sustainability. We have within our service district 66 public schools (44 elementary schools, 13 middle schools, and eight high schools). However, we are more than willing and happy to do presentations to a large group of students in settings like assemblies.

Additionally, we have an abundant amount of PowerPoint presentations on subjects like glass recycling, composting, plastics recycling, Carbon footprints, and general recycling. These are available to anyone interested. See below for contact information.

Educational Information

Just as there are a variety of items that can be recycled, so are the ways we can help you get informed! We have worked with schools, citizens groups, city councils, Boy Scout troops, and just about anyone interested in conserving resources via recycling. Something of particular interest are the FAQ sheets on our website (wasatchfrontwaste.org) about special items like tires, chemicals, pesticides, and all other Household Hazardous Waste. We specialized with the waste and sanitation needs of our customers living in the Salt Lake Valley.

Finally, we have some ideas on recycling lessons and activities, such as a matching game about pairing a recyclable item to its recycled form.

Please contact us for more information and ideas. We enjoy collaboration and look forward to hearing from you! Contact Jeffrey Summerhays, our Sustainability Coordinator, via email at jsummerhays@wasatchfrontwaste.org, or call him at **385-468-6337**.