

A program of Northeast Resource Recovery Association  
2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234 / 1.603.736.4401 / [www.nrrarecycles.org](http://www.nrrarecycles.org)

# The NRRA School Recycling Club



The NRRA School Recycling Club  
builds community action by directing  
students, teachers, schools and communities to a clear  
understanding of pertinent solid and hazardous  
waste issues and supporting sustainable  
waste reduction programs.



## CLASSROOM WORKSHOPS (4)

NRRA workshops are designed for use in standard classroom settings and most can be tailored to fit the curriculum and developmental needs of any class, grades K-12. Workshops are also a great staff development tool and work well as the focus of a Green Team meeting or Recycling Club after-school event. Workshops are generally 40 minutes long but can be modified to fit any classroom period. As much as possible, the programs are experiential and hands-on in nature, and The NRRA School Recycling Club staff can assist with identifying curriculum standards associated with each program.

### HEALTHY HOME, CLEAN WATERS

Participants investigate household toxins, primarily cleaning chemicals. They learn how to identify toxic products, why it matters to human health and the environment, how to safely dispose of toxics and how to make or find safer alternatives in the marketplace. Appropriate for all ages, hands-on activities vary according to the group. All participants receive recipe books for making non-toxic products from common, inexpensive items.

### WASTE = GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

This workshop connects waste and global climate change and is followed by a Q&A session. Depending on time, a group break-out session explores and evaluates the school using a waste-focused "School Sustainability Scorecard." Teams reassemble to report their findings and to reflect on environmental practices and policies the school already has and those they might consider adopting.

### BACK TO THE EARTH

Yard trimmings and food residuals together constitute over 25 percent of the US municipal solid waste stream. That's a lot of waste to send to landfills when it could become useful and environmentally beneficial compost instead! Composting offers obvious resource management benefits and creates a useful product from organic waste that would otherwise have been landfilled. This workshop, available for all age groups, explains how composting works and how to make it work.

### GARBAGE GUERRILLAS

A workshop version of our very popular Trash On the Lawn Day (TOLD). Rather than sorting all the waste from a day, participants collect small working samples of waste, which are audited and analyzed.



## SCHOOL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (3)

NRRA school technical assistance programs are designed to work at a larger, school-wide level and focus on big picture problems and solutions. Because of the nature of these programs, they tend to take more time and work best when as many stakeholders as possible at the school participate. At lower grade levels, these programs are often organized by teachers and staff, but in upper grade levels, we encourage students to take the leading role as a truly service-learning leadership opportunity at their school.

## GREEN CLEANING + INDOOR AIR QUALITY (IAQ) EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The NRRA School Recycling Club staff work with facility managers and custodians to evaluate custodial products and practices for indoor air quality impacts. A report assessing all currently used chemical products and providing recommendations for improved practices is generated and reviewed with staff and administrators/management during a second visit or by phone. Follow up assistance is provided as needed.

## TRASH ON THE LAWN DAY (TOLD)

A TOLD is a thought-provoking service-learning project that assesses a school's waste management issues and opportunities for improvement, while fostering student leadership. Under The NRRA School Recycling Club's guidance, student leaders organize a waste sort of an entire day's worth of trash. This tool for positive change examines waste management practices, purchasing policies, hauling agreements and diversion opportunities. A TOLD consists of envisioning and audit planning, the audit, and presentation of the results and action plan. TOLDS often draw media attention and can become an annual event to track progress toward sustainable cost-effective methods of school waste management.

Need more flexibility in scheduling? Ask about our *TOLD to GO Rental Kit*. Our kit contains a video and manual complete with supply lists and special equipment needed to host your own Trash On the Lawn Day!

## STAR OF SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

Star Assessments are NRRA's proprietary school recycling inventory and review. Developed for NRRA by Heather Greenwood, in collaboration with Antioch University New England, the Star Assessment provides a comprehensive quantitative and qualitative report on a school's recycling and waste reduction efforts in five key areas. The report provides clear, unbiased suggestions and areas for improvement as well as base-line data for future examination of your school's recycling program. Star Assessments take roughly an hour (depending on school size) to complete and require access to an entire school. They make a great activity for a Green Team or Recycling Team of students or teachers to start off a year or get better organized.

## SCHOOL RECYCLING CLUB CURRICULA

Thanks to a United States Department of Agriculture grant, NRRA is proud to offer two outstanding recycling curricula manuals: *3R's of the Common Core: A Teacher's Resource Guide to Solid Waste and Recycling* and *Teaching Toxics: Creating Solutions to Household Pollution*. Lesson plans have been divided into grades K-3, 4-6, 7-8 and 9-12. All have been tied to national Common Core standards. The manuals are available in print or on-line in PDF format.

In addition, we have four PowerPoint presentations available for schools to purchase on-line: Garbage Guerrillas, Back to the Earth, Healthy Home-Clean Waters and Waste = Global Climate Change.

We also offer two new spiral-bound manuals: *Closing the Food Loop at School – An On-Site School Composting Guide* and *School Hazmat 101 – A Blueprint for Hazardous Material Management in Schools*.

If you are interested in purchasing these state-of-the-art resources, contact Gwen Erley, Programs Coordinator at (603) 736-4401 X119 or [TheClub@nrrarecycles.org](mailto:TheClub@nrrarecycles.org).

## COST (MEMBERS ONLY):

School Recycling Club Programs are offered to all Club Members. NRRA Member towns and Waste Management Districts support School Club Membership on behalf of their schools, at no additional charge to the school. If your town or WMD is not a member, the cost to join The Club is only \$.07/student for each academic year. For more details on membership or to determine your membership status, please contact us.

## BILLING:

NRRA members, schools, PTAs, solid waste districts, towns, individuals, green teams or corporate sponsors will not have to worry about paying for the program until it is completed. Instead, anyone interested in NRRA School Recycling Club Programs can simply order the programs they want or authorize NRRA to spend a certain dollar amount, and NRRA will find schools in your town or geographic area that want programs. NRRA will place the appropriate programs there.

## STAFF:

NRRA School Recycling Club Programs are offered across New England by experts on school recycling and recycling education. Our Staff Includes:

**Heather Herring:** Heather is the NRRA Education Manager, overseeing operator, community and school outreach and training. She has a Master of Science degree in Environmental Studies from Antioch University New England and has taught students ranging from preschool to the graduate level. She has experience in employer relations, program coordination, administration and was an Adjunct Faculty member at Antioch. Heather coordinates the monthly NRRA Members/Operations Marketing meetings and previously worked as an NRRA Member Services representative with recycling facility operators.

**Gwen Erley:** Gwen is our in-house Programs Coordinator. She oversees the day-to-day operation of The CLUB and serves as the liaison to all schools looking for assistance. She has a background in setting up educational internships and is a Michigan State University graduate.

**Cindy Sterling:** Cindy comes to NRRA after years of service as an educator and recycling coordinator at the Windham Solid Waste District in Vermont. Among Cindy's areas of expertise are the connections between recycling and sustainability and both local and national curricular standards. She has been an adjunct Professor of Geography with Keene State College and is currently the Grant Manager for NRRA.

| SERVICE:                                  | MEMBER           |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|
| First Workshop                            | \$ 400           |
| Additional Workshops (Same day/ location) | \$ 200           |
| Trash On the Lawn Day (TOLD)              | \$ 1,000         |
| TOLD to Go Rental Kit                     | \$ 250*          |
| Green Cleaning/IAQ                        | \$ 1,000         |
| Star of Sustainability Assessment         | \$ 400**         |
| Annual School Recycling Conference        | Call for Pricing |

\*Plus Shipping

\*\*Star Assessments are free if done in conjunction with another workshop (same day/location)

Prices include all travel, report preparation and follow-up.

\$100 fee for evening or weekend programs

**For More Information or to Schedule Programs:**

**Visit: [www.NRRARecycles.org](http://www.NRRARecycles.org)**

**Call: (800) 223-0150, Ext. 119**

**Email: [TheClub@NRRARecycles.org](mailto:TheClub@NRRARecycles.org)**

