

King County Green Schools Program



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Mission

To provide King County schools and school districts with tools and support needed to

- initiate and expand waste reduction and recycling practices and other conservation actions.
- involve the whole school community in environmental stewardship.
- operate environmentally efficient and responsible facilities.

Program benefits

- **Assistance** - King County provides trainings and hands-on assistance.
- **Resources** - King County provides recycling containers and stickers, information and referrals.
- **Student learning and leadership**
- Students learn about conservation, take action, and develop leadership skills.
- **Cost savings** - Conservation practices save money.
- **Recognition** - Participants are recognized as Green School models.

Program summary

- Program participants may progress through program levels. After completing education and actions in each level, participants receive recognition.
- Eligible schools and school districts: K - 12, public and private, located in King County outside the City of Seattle.
- King County provides **assistance** and **resources**, including the following.
 - School visits, meetings with Green Teams, and ongoing guidance to make improvements, track successes, and meet program criteria in each level.
 - Best Practices Guides and assessments.
 - Recycling containers (up to \$200 per school), signs, and other materials.
 - Educational programs including classroom workshops, trainings for school and district teams, and guidance on outreach about conservation practices.

How to become a King County Green School or District

Step 1 Form a Green Schools team

- **School** teams include two or more staff members (such as teachers, principal, custodian), as well as students, student groups, and parents.
- **School district** teams include at least two district staff (such as a resource conservation or facility manager, food services director, or curriculum director), and may include school staff, students, and parents.

Step 2 Sign up to participate. Fill out a [program application form](#).

Step 3 Improve waste reduction and recycling practices - Level One of the program - *with assistance and tools from King County.*

Step 4 Celebrate successes and receive recognition!

If desired, complete additional program levels -- and receive more recognition.

Level Two 1. Sustain and build upon Level One waste reduction and recycling practices.
2. Complete **energy conservation** education and actions.

Level Three 1. Sustain and build upon Level One and Level Two practices.
2. Complete **water conservation and pollution prevention** education and actions.

Sustaining Green School 1. Sustain Level One, Level Two, and Level Three practices.
2. Complete one additional conservation action or educational strategy from the Level One, Two, or Three Best Practices Guides or any of the following Best Practices Guides provided by the program.

- **Green building**
- **Healthy schools**
- **Litter reduction**
- **Transportation**

Participants receive recognition

- Each school that completes Level One receives a banner, web logo, certificate, and success story on the program website. When schools complete Levels Two or Three, certificates and "Level 2" or "Level 3" banner stickers are provided, and success stories are updated. Sustaining Green Schools receive a certificate and a "Sustaining Green School" banner ribbon for each school year that criteria is met.
- Media releases are issued to recognize participants that complete program levels.

Schools and school districts that do not meet program level criteria are still eligible to receive assistance.

Sign up to participate

King County schools (K - 12, public and private) and school districts outside Seattle may [submit an application](#) at any time. Participants are selected on a first come, first served basis.

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