

# 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 hands-on assistance and guidance.
- **Resources** - King County provides recycling containers and stickers, information and referrals.
- **Opportunities for students** - Students take action, learn about conservation 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 three program levels. After completing criteria in each level, participants receive recognition.
- Eligible schools and school districts are K - 12, public and private, and are located in King County outside the City of Seattle.
- King County provides assistance and support, including the following:
  1. Assessment of waste reduction and recycling practices.
  2. Site visits and ongoing guidance to make improvements, track successes and complete the program criteria.
  3. Student and staff education and outreach about conservation practices.
  4. Recycling containers (up to \$200 per school) and recycling stickers.

# 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) and interested students and parents.  
- School district teams include at least two district staff (such as a resource conservation or facility manager), and may include school staff and students.
- Step 2** Apply. Fill out a King County Green Schools Program application form.
- Step 3** Complete Level One, which is focused on Waste Reduction and Recycling. King County provides assistance and tools.
- Step 4** Celebrate successes and receive recognition.

If desired, complete Level Two and Level Three.

- Level Two**
1. Maintain and build upon Level One practices.
  2. Complete Energy Conservation criteria.

- Level Three**
1. Maintain and build upon Level One and Level Two practices.
  2. Complete Water Conservation criteria.

- Optional** Complete criteria in one or more of the following categories:
- Environmental Education
  - Environmental Purchasing
  - Green Building
  - Hazardous Materials Management
  - Litter Reduction
  - Transportation Options

*Schools and districts that do not meet the criteria are still eligible to receive assistance.*

## Participants Receive Recognition

- Each school that completes Level One receives a banner, a certificate, and a success story on the program website. When participants complete Levels Two and Three, success stories are updated and certificates are provided.
- Media releases are issued to recognize participants that complete program levels.

## How Your School or District Can 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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