

Bryn Mawr Elementary School

School district: Renton

School location: Unincorporated King County

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: November 2011

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in May 2012

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- As of May 2012, Bryn Mawr increased its recycling rate from 18 percent to 50 percent.
- The school began the 2011-12 year with a school-wide assembly and classroom workshops provided by King County.
- Teachers Pamela Moore and Laura Grant gave a presentation to all staff to introduce them to the Green Schools Program.
- A green ambassador was chosen from each class to help oversee Bryn Mawr's new milk carton recycling program.
- Three fifth-grade students took responsibility for helping lunch custodian Rod Kempf with lunchroom recycling.
- The school reduced food waste by encouraging students to take only what they will eat and drink and to use the share table for unwanted items.
- Re-use paper boxes were created for classrooms and teacher workroom to reduce paper waste.
- The PTA shared information with parents and the school community about Bryn Mawr's waste reduction and recycling



Students are proud of their milk carton recycling success.



Earth Day bulletin board messages next to milk cartons collected for recycling.



Sign at cafeteria salad bar to encourage students to only take what they will eat.



efforts through newsletter articles and the PTA bulletin board in the front office.

- PTA members worked with the student Green Team on an Earth Day activity to save empty milk cartons for four days to illustrate the quantity of milk cartons students could recycle.
- On Earth Day, students were reminded about the four “R’s” – rethink, reduce, reuse and recycle – and encouraged to teach another person about them on Earth Day.

Award

- Green Leader School Award, Pillar 1 (Environmental Impact, including waste reduction, recycling, water conservation and energy efficiency) from Washington State.

Comment

"Recycling in the lunchroom at Bryn Mawr has made a huge difference!"

– **Rod Kempf, custodian**