

Maywood Middle School

School district: Issaquah

School location: Renton

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: October 2006

Level One of the Green Schools Program:
 Achieved in December 2009

Level Two of the Green Schools Program:
 Achieved in February 2016

Level Three of the Green Schools Program:
 Achieved in May 2017

Sustaining Green School 2017-18:
 Achieved in May 2018

Sustaining Green School 2018-19:
 Achieved in May 2019


Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Maywood Middle School achieved a school-wide recycling rate of 60%, due to school-wide waste reduction and recycling practices.
- The school reduced garbage collection costs by increasing recycling and collecting food scraps and other compostable materials in its cafeteria.
- The cafeteria recycling rate reached 75%. Prior to May 2009, only 5% of cafeteria “waste” was collected for recycling and composting.
- To encourage students to sort recyclable and compostable materials, Green Team students created posters and shared information during morning intercom announcements and on the information board at the front of the school.



Students created a bottle cap mosaic to promote reuse

CHARGER GREEN



To: _____

Grade: _____ Date: _____

RODE BIKE OR WALKED TO SCHOOL
 COMPOSTED/RECYCLED CORRECTLY
 WATER-SAVING ACTION
 ENERGY-SAVING ACTION
 PACKED A ZERO-WASTE LUNCH
 USED REUSABLE CONTAINERS
 USED ONE PAPER TOWEL TO DRY HANDS
 OTHER: _____

AWARDED BY: _____

Green Team students created the Green Charger Award to acknowledge green practices



Success Story

- ASB students created a “Go Green” pledge which students signed to commit to recycling and composting. The pledges were posted in the lunchroom to remind students of their commitments.
- As part of citizenship learning, the school committed to creating a culture of conservation to engage students and staff in conservation education and action.
- Incoming sixth-grade students participated in an orientation in which waste reduction and recycling expectations were emphasized.
- In 2015-16, the Green Team created a One Paper Towel Challenge to encourage students and staff to reduce restroom paper towel waste. The team gave PowerPoint presentations to advisory classes, presented the campaign to students during lunch, and hung signs in every restroom. Due to the success of the challenge at Maywood, the Green Team shared the campaign with the school district, Boeing, and several local businesses.
- Green Team students promoted Waste-Free Wednesdays by showing fellow students how to pack lunches from home in reusable containers and how to reduce wasted food. To monitor progress over time, students weighed lunchroom waste on several Waste-Free Wednesdays.
- Containers for leftover liquids were added to cafeteria recycling stations thanks to new custodian Sean Turner.
- In 2014 and 2015, the Green Team encouraged alternatives such as used maps, schoolwork, and paper bags to traditional paper holiday gift wrap.
- In 2017, the Green Team completed a Go Green mural made of plastic bottle tops to display in the cafeteria.

Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- Green Team students made weekly conservation announcements about energy conservation, including tips on how to reduce energy use.
- Eighth-grade biology students calculated their carbon footprints.
- Energy conservation signs from the Green Schools Program were posted on light switches and electronics as reminders to turn them off when not needed.



- The school's vending machine lights were permanently turned off.
- Staff and students were encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather rather than adjusting the thermostat settings. During winter months, thermostats remained set at 68 to 72 degrees.

Water Conservation (Level Three)

- Green Team students created and shared a PowerPoint presentation about waste reduction and water conservation to show to all classes.
- A student team tested every school faucet and found only two of the nearly 100 faucets were not low flow. The school district replaced aerators as needed.
- Teacher Ms. Watkins led a six-week water conservation unit with her READ 180 sixth-grade classes.
- The school included water conservation and waste reduction information in the tip-of-the-week morning announcements.

Sustaining Green School Recognition

Maywood Middle School was recognized as a Sustaining Green School for sustaining and building on its Level One waste reduction and recycling practices, Level Two energy conservation practices, and Level Three water conservation strategies. How the school did this is described below.

Sustaining Green School 2017-18

- The Green Team idea for a Charger Green Award was approved by the administration. The award was designed to acknowledge students' green practices. Award winners were entered into a drawing to win a monthly prize.
- The school participated in the One Paper Towel Challenge at the Issaquah School District STEMposium fair. The Challenge included a call to use one paper towel to dry one's hands.



Sustaining Green School 2018-19

- Green Team students presented a “Take One for the Trees” paper towel challenge at the Issaquah School District STEMposium in February 2019. They also presented the challenge to the board of directors at the Coal Creek YMCA which planned to promote the practice. To meet multilingual needs, students updated the restroom sign about the challenge.
- Students updated the 3-dimensional sorting posters to place above cafeteria recycling, food scrap, and garbage bins.
- Student Green Team members created a video to encourage correct sorting of recyclable and waste items in the cafeteria.
- The school began participating in Crayola ColorCycle’s marker recycling program.

Awards

- Teacher Jane Watkins was awarded an King County Earth Hero at School award in May 2018 for developing a water conservation curriculum unit and helping to improve the school’s waste reduction and recycling practices.
- Teacher Megan Atkins received a King County Earth Hero at School award in 2007 for her work with leadership students promoting waste reduction and recycling practices.