



Northwest Yeshiva High School

School district: Private

School location: Mercer Island

Began participating in Green Schools Program: November 2011

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in March 2013

Student Green Team recognition: Achieved in June 2023

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Northwest Yeshiva High increased its recycling rate, thanks to waste reduction and recycling practices and outreach conducted by the student Green Team.
- Student Green Team members, with leadership from student Mathias Cohanim:
 - Posted conservation tips around the school.
 - Monitored collection of recyclable and compostable materials at lunch.
 - Collected bottle caps for Aveda, a company which recycled the caps. In May 2012, students dropped off 8 large boxes of caps to an Aveda recycling collection site.
- In 2012, the school began to buy compostable serving-ware for school events. Compostable cups were used for guests. Single-use disposable utensils were replaced with compostable utensils. Staff used durable, washable cups.
- The school started a worm bin in 2012 to compost food scraps and garden waste for the school's organic garden. Students maintained the garden year-round.
- Regular announcements were made in weekly school bulletins, on the PA system, and in the lunchroom about school waste reduction and recycling efforts.
- Signs were posted on all recycling and composting bins to show students and staff what materials were accepted in each bin.
- Green Team students partnered with the organization Redeeming Soles to run a shoe drive to collect unwanted shoes in good condition. In 2012, students collected more than 100 pairs of shoes for those in need. Students volunteered at the Redeeming Soles warehouse to help process shoes for reuse.



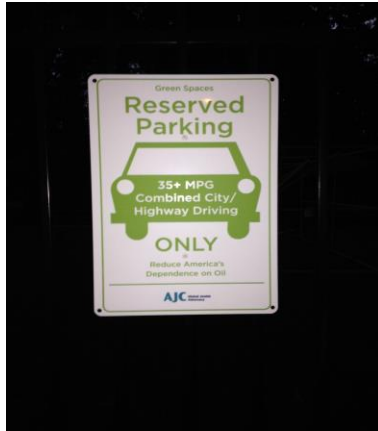
King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

Energy and water conservation activities

- Students and staff worked with the American Jewish Committee in 2012-13 to install a designated school parking spot for fuel-efficient vehicles, especially hybrid cars getting at least 35 miles per gallon.



- In 2022-23, student Green Team members planted herbs in the school greenhouse, using compost and rain water collected at the school. The team posted information to raise awareness about sustainable lawncare practices, including grass alternatives, sustainable water use, herbicide alternatives, and benefits of planting native species.