



Southeast Michigan Green Schools Initiative

Macomb – Oakland – Wayne Counties

Program Guidelines 2017-18

Public Act 301 (2010) updated and revised P.A. 146 (2006), which established the Michigan Green Schools program. A public or private school in Michigan may apply to be designated a “Green School” by submitting the appropriate information to the county/intermediate school district in which the school is located. The intent of the Michigan Green Schools Program is to encourage students to participate in activities which help them learn about preserving natural resources, protect the environment and promote energy efficiency and savings.

A school is eligible to receive a green, emerald or evergreen school environmental stewardship designation when the school coordinator or students submits proper written documentation describing how the school has performed in a minimum of 10 energy saving and environmental activities. The activities are set up in categories: (A-D) Recycling, Energy Saving, Environmental Protection and Miscellaneous. With an additional 2 categories: Category E that allows you to Propose Your Own Activity and Category X “Special Activity” that allows you to create a Green School Logo or Video.

How to become a Green School:

- Assign a Green School Leader/Team (teacher, staff, parent, or student)
- COMPLETE at least 10 activities with a minimum of 2 activities from Categories A-D.
- Activities must be unique to your school.
- Activities must be completed during the current school year.
- You must submit the online Oakland Schools application form. **Please note that other application forms, including those found on the Michigan Green Schools Foundation website, CANNOT be accepted.**
- **Describe the Activity:** Provide a concise summary of each activity including any relevant data, dates and groups involved in the activity.
- Copied (cut and paste) documentation from previous year(s) is highly discouraged. Each year the documentation should show additional efforts and research that were made to complete the activity.
- Submit the online application to Karen Crawford, Karen.crawford@oakaland.k12.mi.us no later than March 1, 2018.

Scoring

- Points are accumulated in any combination of categories, as long as there is a minimum of two from each Category A-D.
- **Each activity is worth only 1 point, NOT 1 point each time you document the activity. (examples: going on 3 field trips is 1 point not 3 points; Doing 4 school energy saving efforts is worth only 1 point not 4 points).**
- The (+) indicates that additional credit (up to 1 additional point) MAY be awarded to schools who provide evidence of student learning as well as higher levels of complexity and effort in the planning and execution of the activity/project.
- | <u>Designation</u> | <u>Number of Points Earned</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Green | 10 -14 points |
| Emerald | 15 -19 points |
| Evergreen | 20 or more points |

Other Important Notes

- Applications are due on or before **March 1, 2018.**

For additional information

Oakland County's Michigan Green School program, please visit <https://oakland.k12.mi.us/district-school-operations/environmental/mi-green-schools/pages/default.aspx> (see application along right hand column).

For more assistance, please contact:

Oakland County Green Schools coordinator contact:
Karen Crawford karen.crawford@oakland.k12.mi.us or 248.209.2550

Wayne County Green Schools program coordinator:
Nancy Gregor ngregor@waynecounty.com

Macomb County Green Schools coordinator contact:
Patti Dib patti.dib@macombgov.org

Category A – Recycling Category

(Complete at least two different activities to earn points within this category)

Activity 1: Coordinate a recycling program for at least two of the following and describe your program: (one half point each)

- Office paper
- Plastic
- Metal cans
- Printer cartridges
- Newspapers and magazines
- Cellular telephones
- Cardboard
- Fabric and clothing
- Compact discs and digital video discs
- Glass
- Other 1 - item not covered in the above listing
- Other 2 - item not covered in the above listing

Activity 2: Composting food and organic wastes (+)

Activity 3: Conducting a waste-free lunch program (+)

Activity 4: Implementing a policy to buy recycled, biodegradable, locally produced or less toxic food and school supplies. Participate in local farm programs/participate in purchasing locally grown produce.

Category B – Energy Category

(Complete at least two different activities to earn points within this category)

Activity 1: Offer at least one teaching unit on alternative energy

Activity 2: Students research and report the alternative energy, renewable fuels or specialized energy-efficient technology in school operations (district wide mandates)

Activity 3: Implement a school energy-saving program – specific actions taken at your school building

Activity 4: Perform energy audits at student homes and educating student families and the community

Activity 5: Taking part in a project or event to promote improved vehicle fuel efficiency (+)

Activity 6: Sponsoring an alternative energy presentation, project or event FOR YOUR SCHOOL (+)

Category C – Environmental Protection Category

(Complete at least two different activities to earn points within this category)

Activity 1: Participate in activities promoting the health of any Michigan watershed

Activity 2: Offer a teaching unit on environmental issues facing this state

Activity 3: Establish or maintain a natural Michigan garden project with native plants or vegetables. Grown produce is used in teaching units or donated to a community organization (+)

Activity 4: Establish or maintain an OUTDOOR animal habitat project

Activity 5: Participate in a local community environmental issue by activities such as letter-writing, attending public hearings, raising funds or community outreach (+)

Category D – Miscellaneous Category

(Complete at least two different activities to earn points within this category)

Activity 1: Sponsor an endangered or threatened species and publicize the activity

Activity 2: Host an environmental or energy speaker, event or field trip

Activity 3: Establish a student organization that participates in environmental activities

Activity 4: Observe Earth Day by participating in an Earth Day event in April and/or America Recycles Day in November

Activity 5: Maintain an updated bulletin board or kiosk with information on environmental concerns and the school's actions in addressing those concerns

Activity 6: Establish an eco-reading program

Activity 7: Update the school's media center environmental materials

Activity 8: Visit internet sites that educate about the environment and support endangered ecosystems

Activity 9: Create an active website, school wide broadcast, a Public Service Announcement, or documentary addressing environmental issues facing the state (+)

Activity 10: Coordinate an exchange or drive to collect used or unwanted items within the school or community for repurpose (+)

Category E – Propose Your Own Activity

(Optional – Up to two activities may be proposed)

A school may design and propose another activity, which would qualify as an environmental stewardship project. The school should receive prior approval from a county coordinator to ensure the Activity qualifies.