



North Middle School Energy Team

Our Task

We've placed recycling bins all over our school so students can recycle in the hallways. Our recycling bins are for any recyclable plastic and paper. Once a day, we gather the recycled materials in the morning for a fresh start. Our goal is to better our planet and save lives.



Why We Recycle

We recycle because when we don't reuse plastic, a whopping 70% of this waste ends up in the ocean where marine life live. This debris eventually sinks to the bottom, damaging life on the seabed. Microplastic can be eaten by fish, which can end up on our plates.

Tragic events happen everyday due to the waste that gets thrown around. The litter that doesn't end up polluting the ocean, ends up polluting the air and land instead.



Why We Recycle (Cont.)

Microplastic is found everywhere, even in your water supply and household dust. This is a foreign object passing through our body and most adults have BPA in their urine. 8 million tons of trash is tossed into the ocean each year and according to a study by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation on *The New Plastics Economy*, by 2050, there will be more trash than fish.



What Plastic Is Recyclable?

#1: PET (POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE)

Water bottles and plastic soda bottles are the most common containers made out of PET and the most common plastic recycled.

#2: HDPE (HIGH-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE)

Most milk jugs, detergent containers, and oil bottles are made of HDPE and it is recycled every now and then.

#4: LDPE (LOW-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE)

LDPE is what plastic bags are made of. It is also in shrink wraps and dry cleaner garment bags.

#5: PP (POLYPROPYLENE)

Polypropylene plastic is used in some margarine, yogurt containers, potato chip bags, cereal bags, and more. PP is considered safe for reuse, and can be recycled.



Mistakes in Recycling

How do we know if it is recyclable? We check the triangles on the bottom of plastic bottles or containers to see if it has the numbers 1, 2, 4 or 5.

Recycle

- Plastic bottles
- Papers
- Shredded Papers
- Newspaper

Don't Recycle

- Lip Gloss
- Banana Peels
- Liquids
- Gum

MORE HELPFUL TIPS

PLACE ALL **RECYCLABLES** LOOSE IN THE **RECYCLING BIN** OR **CART**.



RINSE PLASTIC AND METAL CONTAINERS TO **REMOVE ALL REMAINING RESIDUE**.

DO NOT PLACE **YARD WASTE** IN YOUR **RECYCLING CART**.



ALL ITEMS MUST BE **IN YOUR CART OR BIN** TO BE COLLECTED. **DO NOT PLACE** RECYCLABLES ON **TOP OF** OR **AROUND** YOUR CONTAINER.



BOTTLE CAPS CAN REMAIN ON THE ITEM AND CAN BE RECYCLED TOO!

IF YOUR RECYCLING PROGRAM ACCEPTS **GLASS**, YES, **ALL COLORS** ARE ACCEPTABLE.



WHEN IN DOUBT, **THROW IT OUT** (IN THE **GARBAGE**).

What We Have Done

We have given out a presentation to all of the kids in our school. We have also hosted a schoolwide competition, encouraging other students to recycle often and in larger quantities. We have even collaborated with our school's News Crew to get the word out about recycling. We want to encourage our peers to help us save the materials on Earth.



What Have We Done (Cont.)

We keep score of this competition via a spreadsheet and announce the current winner on announcements. We have also started a little energy saving tip on the announcements. We have given small tips like “turn off the lights when not in use” and “don’t leave appliances plugged in” which has affected most students. We do this every Friday on the announcements.

Recycling Chart

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
22	02/22	3rd	1st	2nd								
23	02/25	2nd	1st	3rd								
24	02/26	3rd	1st	1st								
25	02/27	2nd	1st	3rd								
26	02/28	3rd	1st	2nd								
27	03/01	3rd	2nd	1st								
28	03/04	3rd	1st	2nd								
29	03/05	2nd	1st	3rd								
30	03/06	2nd	1st	3rd								
31	03/07	3rd	1st	2nd								
32	03/08	1st	2nd	3rd								
33	03/11	3rd	1st	2nd								
34	03/12	3rd	1st	2nd								
35	03/13	3rd	1st	2nd								
36	03/14	3rd	2nd	1st								
37	03/15	3rd	2nd	1st								
38	03/18	1st	3rd	2nd								
39	03/19	1st	3rd	2nd								
40	03/20	3rd	2nd	1st								
41	03/21	3rd	1st	2nd								
42	03/22	3rd	2nd	1st								
43	03/25	3rd	2nd	1st								
44	03/26	3rd	1st	2nd								
45	03/27	1st	2nd	3rd								
46	03/28	3rd	1st	2nd								
47	04/08	1st	3rd	2nd								
48	04/09	2nd	3rd	1st								

+ Sheet1 Explore

Our Future Goals

In the future our recycling team plans to not only present to our whole school but to also present to the schools around our county. More specifically at the elementary schools in Hardin County. We would also like to plan a Energy Carnival for our school to participate in next year. We would like to get our school more involved in what we do to save our earth.





Our Team

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