

# Step 1: 12 Steps to Sustainability at Your High School

Establishing Where You Are Now

Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Green Campus Initiative	Past & Current Activity	Potential Projects	Team Members
<p>1. <b>Teaching and Research</b> - Strengthen and prioritize environmental studies, research, and policy programs. Teach environmental literacy to all students. Expand opportunities for using the school's physical plant and business operations as a "learning lab" for students. Develop community environmental education programs and participate in public dialogue on environmental issues in the wider community.</p>			
<p>2. <b>Purchasing and Administrative Services</b> - Implement an environmentally-friendly products purchasing policy, i.e., buy only products that are durable, reusable, recyclable, made of recycled materials, non-hazardous, energy efficient, sustainably harvested, and produced in an environmentally sound manner. Use your Buying Power to recognize and encourage responsible behavior in suppliers.</p>			
<p>3. <b>Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling</b> - Establish a waste reduction ethic in all areas, perform waste stream analyses to determine recycling potential. Implement a recycling program starting with paper and cardboard and expand to metal, plastic and glass. Recycle tires, batteries, fluorescent lamps and ballasts, computers, scrap metal, Compost organic waste. Recycle hazardous waste-containing products, such as fluorescent lamps and ballasts, anti-freeze, solvents, batteries, computer monitor and TVs. Seek to recycle at least 50% of your school's waste stream.</p>			
<p>4. <b>Energy Conservation</b> - Create energy databases that document energy use, perform an energy audit and complete energy conservation projects. Promote linkage between energy conservation effort with programs to reduce your school's carbon dioxide emissions and contribution to global warming.</p>			
<p>5. <b>Energy Purchasing</b> - Structure energy purchases to benefit your conservation program. Use energy efficiency measures to flatten your school's load profile to lower electric rates. Phase out use of dirty fuels like oil. Buy green power from wind, hydro and solar sources. Install Solar PV at your school.</p>			
<p>6. <b>Water and Wastewater</b> - Implement water conservation program to repair leaks and retrofit inefficient plumbing fixtures. Protect ground water and storm run-off by minimizing use of salt for ice-melting. Use drought-resistant plantings and minimize irrigation unless using captured rainwater.</p>			

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<p>7. <b>Hazardous Materials</b> - Meet or exceed legal "has mat" handling, collection, disposal and tracking requirements. Educate hazardous waste generators about minimization and proper disposal techniques. Develop a chemical tracking or inventory database, Implement a "chemical swapping" program. Switch to non/least toxic paints, solvents and cleaning agents. Switch print shop to soy-based inks. Use integrated pest management techniques to minimize or eliminate use of pesticides. Recycle and recover ozone-depleting CFCs. Avoid chlorine-based products and incineration of plastics.</p>			
<p>8. <b>Transportation</b> - Encourage travel by buses, carpooling, public transportation, bicycling, walking. Convert vehicle fleet to hybrid or alternative fuel, e.g., natural gas, electric and biodiesel.</p>			
<p>9. <b>Food and Food Service</b> - Buy regional produce in season. Support local organic farms. Promote less meat consumption and eating "low on the food chain" for health and environmental reasons. Minimize the use of disposable dinnerware. Implement a reusable mug program with discounted drinks at dining areas.</p>			
<p>10. <b>Campus Grounds and Land Use</b> - Redefine campus beauty. Reduce lawn areas and grass cutting. Promote "natural succession" for unneeded lawn areas. Protect woodlands, wetlands, watershed, and wildlife. Implement a tree protection policy. Plant native species.</p>			
<p>11. <b>New Construction</b> - Utilize sustainable or "green" High Performance design principles for all new construction and rehabs. Design for state-of-the-art energy efficiency and exceed energy codes. Incorporate renewable energy technologies including day lighting and passive solar. Include suitable recycling collection space in building design programs. Specify environmentally-friendly building materials and products. Evaluate options based on life cycle analysis.</p>			
<p>12. <b>Campus Planning and Design</b> - Develop HS campus master plan which minimizes negative impacts and disruption of natural ecosystems and surroundings. Preserve and enhance green space. Protect natural areas from development. Concentrate building additions and arrange campus walkways and roads to minimize driveways and encourage pedestrian and bicycle use. Use water-efficient indigenous plantings; landscape for energy efficiency as well as aesthetics.</p>			