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## **Ohio EPA Awards Environmental Education Grant to Promote Waste Reduction in Northeast Ohio Schools**

More than 5,000 Northeast Ohio students will have the opportunity to learn more about waste reduction and sustainability thanks to a \$29,790 grant from [Ohio EPA's Environmental Education Fund](#) (OEEF). The grant was awarded to Sustainability for Educators and the Environment (SEE) – one of nine Ohio communities and organizations to receive a total of \$300,000 to support environmental education programs.

SEE's educators will use the grant to establish sustainability programs in 12 Northeast Ohio schools. SEE will show K-12 students how to engage in zero waste practices, perform waste audits and construct lunch waste composting stations and recycling stations for bottles, cans, paper and plastic. Students will create signs to promote the stations, track waste volume reductions achieved and post the results on a social networking website.

School districts and schools participating in the program will include: Lakewood City Schools and St. Joan of Arc School in Chagrin Falls (Cuyahoga County); Price Elementary School in Cuyahoga Falls and Miller South School in Akron (Summit County); Kent City Schools (Portage County); Wadsworth City Schools (Medina County); and Geneva City Schools (Ashtabula County). Emerald Environmental Inc. will collaborate with SEE on the project.

The OEEF is administered by Ohio EPA. Grants up to \$50,000 are funded from one-half of the civil penalties collected by the Agency for air and water pollution control violations. Eligible grant recipients include environmental groups, public and private schools, colleges and universities, trade or professional organizations, businesses and state and local governments. Approximately \$1 million is given each year.

The next OEEF grant application deadline is July 15, 2011. An electronic letter of intent to apply is due by July 8. Additional information is available [online](#) or by calling (614) 644-2873.

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