



# Encouraging Environmental Excellence in Education Application Form

The Encouraging Environmental Excellence in Education Program (E4) recognizes any K – 12 public or private school for their achievements in environmental stewardship and their efforts to educate and involve their students on environmental topics. Please use this application to acknowledge and highlight school and student participation in environmental stewardship and/or education activities. Activities should focus on how students “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” (Three Rs) but can include other environmental activities as well. **Please note that the examples provided in the following sections are just examples and are not exhaustive lists.** The “Other” section is available to add all other activities not already mentioned as well as provide more detail. Please add any additional information and attachments to your application that help demonstrate how your school encourages environmental excellence. **Please submit finished applications to [recycle@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:recycle@epa.ohio.gov), include subject line of “E4 Application”.**

## School Information

In this section, we will collect contact and demographic information about your school. The “Applicant” is the teacher, student, administrator, etc. who fills out this application.

### Contact Information

Applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant’s job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant’s email: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal’s name: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal’s email: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal’s phone number: (    )    - \_\_\_\_\_

### School Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (location): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (    )    - \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of students: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of staff: \_\_\_\_\_

### School Type

Public     Private     Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Grade levels served (mark all that apply)

K-5     K-8     6-8     9-12     Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## Executive Summary

Please provide a summary that highlights school and student participation in environmental stewardship and/or education activities. **Please focus on student-led activities where possible.**

## Involvement

How do you promote environmental activities at your school? (mark all that apply)

- We have classroom presentations on waste prevention, energy or water conservation.
- We have a display in our school.
- Students present during assemblies or morning meetings about the green team.
- We include periodic environmental messages in our school announcements.
- We include short articles in the school newsletter about ways that families can be green at home.
- We have let the school know about our programs in a school assembly.
- We have established an environmental club/green team.
- We teach students and parents about waste-free lunches.
- We have created resource conservation or recycling contests between grade levels or between students and teachers.
- We host litter clean-ups on or off school property.
- Other (explain below): <Note: you may also use this space to clarify any selections above.>

Please provide more detail on how students are involved in environmental activities at your school:

## Curriculum

Please use this section to discuss how “Three Rs” activities are incorporated into the curriculum. How do you use hands on activities to engage students in environmental stewardship while teaching them about math, science, art, STEM, etc.? How are students using the knowledge they’ve gained from these activities to become problem solvers and create new projects/initiatives?

## Recycling

Recycling generation: What recyclable material is being collected at your school? How are students involved in recycling?

What other recycling activities are ongoing or recently completed? (mark all that apply)

- All classrooms have recycling.
- The school office, library, computer lab and teacher's lounge have recycling.
- The school's green team monitors the recycling efforts of our school's recycling by checking for recyclables in the classroom/office trash and contamination in the recycling. We report these periodic findings to the classes.
- We set up special recycling drives at the end of the terms and/or school year to collect large volumes of paper.
- Other (explain below): <Note: you may also use this space to clarify any selections above.>

## Reduce

How does your school reduce materials in order to conserve resources and reduce waste? (mark all that apply)

- We set our printers to print double-sided and/or we encourage staff and students to print double-sided.
- We have a one-sided paper box in every classroom to make sure paper is used on both sides before recycling.
- We replaced milk cartons with milk dispensers/reusable cups.
- We compost food waste and other materials.
- We eliminated single-use plastics.
- Other (explain below): <Note: you may also use this space to clarify any selections above.>

How does your school reduce energy use? (mark all that apply)

- We have green teams that monitor classrooms to see if lights have been left on when not in use.
- Computers are automatically turned off every night.
- We installed solar panels.
- Light switches and/or computers have signs reminding people to turn them off when not in use.
- Other (explain below): <Note: you may also use this space to clarify any selections above.>

How does your school reduce water use? (mark all that apply)

- We planted native plants throughout school grounds.
- We designed a display for the foyer, commons, cafeteria or other public space to educate students and staff about our school's water quality and/or conservation efforts.
- We installed rain barrels or a rain garden.
- Our school has a green roof.
- Other (explain below): <Note: you may also use this space to clarify any selections above.>

## Reuse

How does your school reuse materials in order to conserve resources and reduce waste? (mark all that apply)

- We use durable silverware and trays in our cafeteria.
- We donate unclaimed lost and found and other unwanted items.
- We encourage the use or rechargeable batteries within the school and at home.
- We installed water bottle filling stations.
- We created a donation station/reuse closet where people can drop off or pick up used clothing, games, sporting equipment, costumes, etc.
- We teach students how to “upcycle” materials.
- Other (explain below): <Note: you may also use this space to clarify any selections above.>