



GREEN TEAMS



STARTING YOUR OWN GREEN TEAM!

SARCAN
RECYCLING
A DIVISION OF SARC

SARCAN.CA





HOW TO START A GREEN TEAM

WHAT IS A GREEN TEAM?

A Green Team is a group of students at your school who will work together to make your school as environmentally sustainable as possible. Team members will work together to find and implement solutions to reduce waste and increase recycling through advocacy and action.

WHY START A GREEN TEAM?

Green Teams are important for schools for many reasons:

- **Your school** can raise funds through recycling beverage containers at SARCAN.
- Students get a chance to practice leadership and organizational skills.
- **Teachers** will have hands-on learning opportunities to connect students with environment.
- Our Environment and our community is cleaner and greener.



WHAT CAN A GREEN TEAM DO?

- Collect beverage containers and take to your local SARCAN Recycling depot.
- Set up recycling sorting stations with bins with signage.
- Make sure classrooms and lunchrooms recycle paper, plastic, and other packaging.
- Advocate for zero waste activities, like zero waste lunches.
- Set up and manage school composting programs.
- Make presentations at assemblies and in classrooms on environmental protection.





RECRUITING TEAM MEMBERS



ASSIGN A STAFF LEADER

Have a teacher or member of the school's administration lead your green team. You can also consider having a member of your Parent/Teacher organization coordinate your green team activities.

FIND PASSIONATE STUDENTS

Every school has students who are passionate about saving our planet. Find these passionate students by asking your teachers who they think would be a great fit. You can also:

- Put up posters throughout school
- Write an announcement at a school assembly or email for teachers to read
- Write an ad for the parent newsletter
- Announce the club during classroom time

SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS

If your school has any fundraising projects on the go (like school trips, new equipment, or music/sports groups) try reaching out to these groups to see if they have members who would be interested in helping out.





HOLDING GREEN TEAM MEETINGS

HOST REGULAR MEETINGS

Use meetings to make sure that your entire team is on the same page and working towards common goals

YOUR FIRST MEETING

In your first meeting, you should decide the goals and objectives for your Green Team:

- What does your team want to accomplish?
- What problems do you want to solve?
- What do you want to accomplish in the school year?

You can also create a mission statement for your Green Team. Your mission statement should outline your cause (Who? What? Where?), your actions (what you do), and the impact you want to make.



MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS HEARD

Everyone on your Green Team will have something to contribute, so make sure that everyone has a chance to speak and share their opinions in your meetings!

DECIDE ON ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

In your first meeting, brainstorm the different roles your team needs for it to run smoothly.

- How will you choose who does what?
- How long should roles be held?





TIPS FOR YOUR GREEN TEAM

START SMALL

When you are picking your duties, start with easy to achieve projects (like recycling) and build momentum from those achievements to expand into bigger objectives (like gardening/composting)

COMMUNICATE OFTEN

Share important information with your entire group, including your leaders. Use posters, assemblies, and classroom presentations to share important milestones, changes to your programs, and words of encouragement!



HAVE FUN!

It isn't easy being green, but it should be fun! Think about transforming your Green Teams eco-efforts (like recycling) into a game with contests, challenges, and competitions!

CELEBRATE!

Make sure you take time to celebrate and recognize all the hard work your committee members and your entire school does with rewards and celebrations of your environmental achievements!