



Simple Actions for Growing My Green & Healthy School

Community Involvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invite community members to presentation days in your classroom.• Ask a local business to be a part of your green team.
Energy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set up school computers to sleep when not in use.• Control facility temperatures: 65° to 68°F in winter and 78° to 80°F in summer.• Label light switches to remind students and staff to turn off lights.
Environmental & Sustainability Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find lessons and activities that integrate into your content area on GHSWisconsin.org.• Teach a lesson outdoors.• Help your students complete the Green & Healthy Schools assessment worksheets.
Environmental Health (Indoor Air Quality, Chemical Management, Integrated Pest Management)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use natural household cleaning products and reduce exposure to potentially toxic airborne substances.• Develop and implement a green chemical & small quantity purchasing policy.• Inventory and properly label all chemicals.
Health & Wellness
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant a school garden.• Use local and/or organic produce for lunches.• Design a “Walking Wednesdays” incentive or participate in a Let’s Move program.
Recycling & Waste Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have a designated waste free lunch day.• Use email for parent correspondence.• Print and copy all documents in the duplex setting.
School Site (School Grounds & School Forest)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use school grounds for teaching about plants and wildlife.• Register a new area as a school forest.• Replant hard to mow areas with native plantings that require less maintenance.
Transportation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start a “Walking School Bus.”• Host bike or walk to school challenges.• Adopt a “No Idling Zone” policy.
Water
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check bathroom faucets, fix leaks and install aerators.• Schedule watering for early morning or late evening, and only when necessary.• Set lawn mower blades 2-3 inches high. Taller grass shades the soil, increasing moisture retention and aiding in weed repression.