

School Lunch Recycling

*Saving Money by the Garbage Bag
And Creating a Generation of Children Who Care*



Half of all garbage generated in schools occurs during lunchtime. However, 95% of what is thrown away is recyclable. Kids are learning to throw everything away without a thought, and schools are throwing away precious money on waste management – money that should be going towards student programs.

School Lunch Recycling helps kids learn to take responsibility for the waste they create while helping schools save money. The solution is to separate waste right at the source – in the lunchroom.



How it Works

School Lunch Recycling comes to your school to set up a streamlined recycling system with clearly marked bins. Students and staff are educated about how the system works, as well as where all the recyclables are taken and the benefits to the school. Teachers are provided with materials and activities to extend learning about recycling into the classroom and in children's homes.

Results

- Reduces lunchroom garbage **by 95%**. A school that generates 22 bags of loosely mixed garbage will generate only $\frac{1}{4}$ bag of garbage and 5 bags of condensed recyclables
- Reduces refuse costs **significantly**
- Generates substantial revenue for Westchester County
- Ensures compliance with NY State Recycling Laws
- Provides opportunity for green school recognition
- **Creates a generation of children who are actively involved in recycling and who take responsibility for their daily actions**



Feedback from Participating Schools

Fifteen schools in New Rochelle, Eastchester, Tuckahoe, Ossining, Mt Vernon and Yonkers school districts participate in *School Lunch Recycling*, with Greenburgh Central on deck.

"This program is the future of school waste management."

- County Legislator Sheila Marcotte

"My 3rd grader is now the recycling police in our house, he makes sure every plastic container is being recycled!"

- Kim Martelli, mother of 3rd grader



Program was presented to Westchester County Legislative Committee

"Recycling is a good thing for kids to do. They are physically involved in creating a better future for themselves. Recycling empowers children to become the positive change that will help our environment."

- Franco Miele, Principal Ward Elementary School



School Lunch Recycling is Affiliated with:

- EcoPel (Environmental Committee of Pelham)
- Green Schools Coalition of Westchester
- Greenburgh Nature Center
- Southern Westchester Energy Action Consortium (SWEAC)
- Town of Greenburgh Sustainability
- Urban School Food Alliance

School Lunch Recycling had been presented to and endorsed by:

- Westchester Municipal Officials Association
- Westchester County Environmental Legislative Committee

Beyond School Lunch

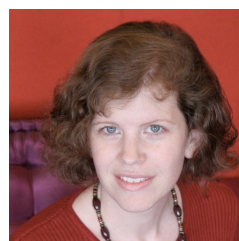
In addition to lunch-time recycling, *School Lunch Recycling* offers:

- Waste-free classroom
- On-site educational composting
- Terracycle partnership programs
- Green writing contests
- Hands-on recycling for kids
- Electronic waste recycling education

Contact Us for a Presentation About *School Lunch Recycling*!



Anna Giordano, a businesswoman-turned-recycling advocate, created *School Lunch Recycling* after seeing the daily garbage piles generated at her children's school. Her vision is to save the world, one school district at a time.



Ashley Welde brings 15 years of communications expertise to *School Lunch Recycling*, as well as a passion for educating kids that their actions make a difference. Her hope is that educating children about recycling will instill an awareness that lasts a lifetime.

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