

Does This Program Fulfill Illinois State Standards?



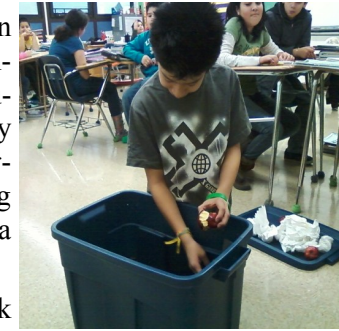
Yes! Many of the Illinois State Learning Standards are addressed in the classroom presentations provided by Will County. Just a partial list of these standards is presented below:

- 12.B.1a.** Describe and compare characteristics of living things in relationship to their environments.
- 12.B.2a.** Describe relationships among various organisms in their environments (e.g., predator/prey, parasite/host, food chains and food webs).
- 12.B.4a.** Compare physical, ecological and behavioral factors that influence interactions and interdependence of organisms.
- 12.B.1b.** Describe how living things depend on one another for survival.
- 12.B.2b.** Identify physical features of plant and animals that help them live in different environments (e.g., specialized teeth for eating certain foods, thorns for protection, insulation for cold temperature).
- 12.C.1a.** Identify and compare sources of energy (e.g., batteries, the sun).
- 12.E.2a.** Identify and explain natural cycles of the Earth's land, water and atmospheric systems (e.g., rock cycle, water cycle, weather patterns).
- 12.E.3a.** Analyze and explain large-scale dynamic forces, events and processes that affect the Earth's land, water and atmospheric systems (e.g. jet stream, hurricanes, plate tectonics).
- 12E.1c.** Identify renewable and nonrenewable natural resources.
- 12E.2c.** Identify and classify recyclable materials.
- 12E.3c.** Evaluate the biodegradability of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources.
- 13.B.2d.** Compare the relative effectiveness of reducing, reusing and recycling in actual situations.
- 13B.1e.** Demonstrate ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle materials.
- 13B.2e.** Identify and explain ways that technology changes ecosystems (e.g., dams, highways, buildings, communication networks, power plants).
- 13B.3e.** Identify advantages and disadvantages of natural resource conservation and management programs.
- 13B.2f.** Analyze how specific personal and societal choices that humans make affect local, regional, and global ecosystems (e.g., lawn and garden care, mass transit).
- 13B.3f.** Apply classroom-developed criteria to determine the effects of policies on local science and technology issues (e.g., energy consumption, landfills, water quality).



Composting in the Classroom

Are you interested in teaching indoor composting to your students? Will County is proud to offer vermicomposting (worm) bins to area teachers.



Worms will break down vegetable and fruit scraps into a fine, nutrient rich fertilizer that can be used in gardens and house plants. Students will delight in seeing the remains of their apples and carrot sticks “disappear” as they decompose and the red wigglers devour them!

Bins, complete with worms, will be delivered personally to your classroom. For more information and an application, visit our website at: http://www.willcountygreen.com/education/composting_in_the_classroom.aspx

Adding New Schools Every Year since 1998!

School Year	Total Participating Schools
2005-2006	32 schools
2006-2007	32 schools
2007-2008	35 schools
2008-2009	39 schools
2009-2010	41 schools
2010-2011	52 schools
2011-2012	55 schools
2012-2013	57 schools

Is your school in the program? Check at http://www.willcountygreen.com/education/participating_schools.aspx for a complete list of all the participating schools.

School Environmental Education Program



Recognizing Will County schools since 1998 for excellence in environmental achievements



**Will County
Land Use Department
Resource Recovery & Energy
recycling@willcountygreen.com
www.willcountygreen.com**



How to become a Will County Earth Flag School

Beginning in 1998, the Will County Land Use Division recognized schools throughout the county that have excelled in issues of environmental awareness. To qualify as an Earth Flag School, a school must annually complete four earth-friendly tasks (as outlined in the application, *We Want to Be a Will County Earth Flag School*).



One of those tasks is to invite a representative from Will County to address either one entire grade level or environmental group. The presentations vary in content as well as in age-appropriate supporting activities.

In the elementary grades, students will be introduced to the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling. Students will learn where garbage goes, where recycling goes, and what ultimately becomes of these items.

In the middle grades, the lesson presented to students will expand to include the identification of renewable/nonrenewable resources and the significance of energy conservation.

At the high school level, students will join in an interactive presentation that involves the entire classroom in a discussion about resources, consumerism, and the effect of individual's choices on the world we inhabit.

In May of each school year, participating schools are honored at an awards assembly currently held at the Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet.



My class wanted to send you a thank you note for yesterday, but they insisted that we send you an email so that we could "reduce our waste."

-First grade teacher, Plainfield School District 202

Just wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed your presentation. All the teachers think you're great.

-3rd grade teacher, Channahon School District 17

I just wanted to say thank you for coming and visiting our school. The kids were still talking about it the next day.

-Junior high teacher, Elwood School District 203

Many other teachers stopped me and shared how much they enjoyed the presentation.

-3rd grade teacher, New Lenox School District 122

The students still refer to your presentation from three months ago!

-6th grade teacher, Valley View School District 365U

I wanted to thank you for the time you devoted to our school this week. The third graders are still talking about your presentation. My hope is that this will impact them and their families for life! You are a wonderful teacher and the students respond so well to you!

-3rd grade teacher, Plainfield School District 202

Thanks again for coming out to visit PSHS yesterday. My students enjoyed the presentation.

-High school teacher, Plainfield School District 202

Sponsor

**Will County - Land Use
Resource Recovery & Energy
58 E. Clinton Street
Joliet, IL 60432**

**Phone: 815-727-8834
recycling@willcountygreen.com
www.willcountygreen.com**



We Want to Be a Will County Earth Flag School

We will complete 4 Earth Tasks:

1. **Recycle Paper** and one additional material (ink cartridges, cans, bottles, plastic bags, etc.)
2. **Use Both Sides** of photocopies or loose leaf paper; institute a double-sided policy.
3. **Invite Will County** to your school for a presentation to one grade level or environmental group.
 - ❖ Students and faculty become environmental ambassadors to the remainder of the school.
 - ❖ Follow-up report submitted to Will County related to information presented.
4. **Perform Two Activities of Your Choice** involving one grade level or school club by May 1 of each school year.
 - ❖ Host a collection event to save landfill space and give items a new purpose (shoes, clothing, books, etc.)
 - ❖ Start an environmental club (meet at least monthly to discuss environmental topics);
 - ❖ Compost organic food scraps at school (using outdoor compost bin or classroom vermi-composting bin);
 - ❖ Perform at least 2 waste-free lunch days during the school year;
 - ❖ Host a recycled art fair to showcase student projects;
 - ❖ Join the TREX Plastic Bag Recycling Challenge (application on willcountygreen.com site)
 - ❖ Become a Lights4Learning school;
 - ❖ Entire school uses natural lighting one hour a month, eliminate most lights (Earth Hour);
 - ❖ Join Will County's Better Buildings Challenge in partnership with the Department of Energy
 - ❖ Other _____

District# _____ School Name _____

School Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Contact Person _____ Phone Number _____

Contact E-Mail _____ Grade level for presentation _____

Preferred date for presentation:

Choice #1 _____ Choice #2 _____ Choice #3 _____

Approximate number of students involved in presentation/presentations? _____ (maximum 40, per presentation)

Approximate number of adults involved in presentation/presentations? _____

Presentations will be a minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes. If multiple presentations are in the same day, the representative will need 15 minutes between classes for set-up/ moving. Smaller groups are far more effective than large assemblies. We prefer to give several presentations in a school to groups with fewer than 40 students. In some buildings, this can mean that the presentations will be spread over two days. Presentations will focus on energy conservation and alternate forms of energy, in addition to recycling.

Principal's Signature _____

Please fax the form to: 815-722-3410 or scan & email form
or send questions to WHyzer@willcountygreen.com
OR Mail to: Will County—Land Use (Attn: Wyn Hyzer)
Resource Recovery and Energy Division
58 E. Clinton St.
Joliet, IL 60432

