Ulster County Schools Recycling Club

Sample School Announcements

Elementary School level

(1) Look around your classroom. Do you know what that big blue box (insert here, type of container being used) next to the trash can is? That's where you recycle!

Do you know what to recycle in that blue bin? Paper! Any color paper. And, you can put magazines, newspapers and paper bags in there too.

Do you know why you should recycle? To make cool new things. The paper we recycle can be made into new paper, and that means that fewer trees will be cut down.

So, please use that blue bin to recycle your paper. The trees will thank you!

Middle School level

(1) Did you know that each of us throws away over 1,000 pounds of trash each year? That's A LOT of waste.

BUT, there is something we can all do about it! KEEP ON RECYCLING! Did you know that when we recycle, our used paper and our empty cans and bottles are turned into cool new things? Old paper becomes new paper, and old cans become new cans. Plastic bottles can even be made into new winter jackets!

Check out where the recycling bin is in your classroom. If you don't know what to put in it, ask your teacher. Remember, recycling helps to reduce waste—and that's good for everyone!

(2) What do you do with all the paper you've used and don't need anymore? You know, your old homework assignments, scrap paper…Do you just throw it in the trash?

Do you ever wonder where it goes after that? It could go to a few different places, like a landfill or place that turns it into energy. But, it'll never be a sheet of paper again…

Trees are cut down to make new paper. But, if you recycle paper instead of trashing it, the *old* paper gets used to make new paper--and then--fewer trees are used.

So, the next time you wad that sheet of paper up to toss in the trash—stop and think about where it's going…Then find the nearest blue bin and put it in there instead. You might just save a tree.

High School level

(1) Did you know that plastic bottles can take over 400 years to decompose? That's right, those bottles we throw away will be sitting in a landfill long after we're gone.

What can I do about this, you might ask? It's simple—*recycle* your soda, water and juice bottles! Once you've finished your drink, find a recycling bin for your bottle or can. In our school, recycling bins are located throughout the hallways, in the classrooms and in the cafeteria. Once the bottles are recycled, they are reprocessed into new bottles, t-shirts, fleece jackets, sweaters and even socks.

So, get involved. Recycle your bottles. Encourage your friends to do the same. You can make a difference.

(2) Did you know that by recycling just 1 aluminum can, enough energy is saved to run a TV for 3 hours? Now, think about how many aluminum cans you use in a week. Multiply it by 3. That's how many hours a TV can run on the energy saved—as long as you make sure you recycle all of those cans.

You can recycle empty cans and bottles here at school: Just place them into the bins located throughout the hallways and in the cafeteria. It may seem like a small thing, but it really makes a difference.

(3) Do you recycle paper? Be honest—do you put your old homework, scrap paper, magazines or newspapers in the recycling bin at home and at school?

If you do, great! If you sometimes or never do, here are some things you should know:

--The average person uses 580 pounds (about a quarter ton) of paper in a year.

--Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 380 gallons of oil.

--Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 trees from being cut down.

Sometimes we can't help it--we just use a lot of paper. But, we have the potential to conserve energy and save trees by being sure to recycle paper when we're done with it. Find the nearest recycling bin next time you need to get rid of paper. In our school, there is a paper bin in every classroom—be sure to use it every chance you get!

General

Students, faculty, and staff; today we will be starting (or expanding our) a comprehensive recycling program. Please look for the new recycling containers located (list locations of containers). We will no longer be throwing everything away. In the classrooms, you will be recycling (list all classroom recyclables). In the cafeteria, you will be recycling (list all cafeteria recyclables). Recycling is important to all of us. Each one of us can make a difference. Every time we recycle just one piece of paper or one aluminum can, we are helping to conserve the earth's natural resources. So please, do your part. If you have any questions or suggestions, ask your teacher (or a member of the student environmental club.) Thank you for your help, and have a green day!