



# ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY YOUTH PROGRAMMING LIST

**All programs are offered for FREE and can be adapted to suit any special needs! Complete the Guest Speaker Request Form and send to the Recycling Outreach Team [apeo@ucrra.org](mailto:apeo@ucrra.org) or [mfra@ucrra.org](mailto:mfra@ucrra.org)**

**“Tour UCRRA Recycling and Composting Facilities”** Tours typically start with a 30 minute educational program, followed by a 30 minute facility tour. Closed toe shoes are required for all participants on tours (no sandals, flip-flops, etc.) and all participants must wear a hard hat. Children must be accompanied by adults (5:1 youth/adult) Maximum 30 guests per visit.

**“Recycling Bingo”** is a 30-40 minute activity and can accommodate up to 30 students. This is a fun game for all ages. Participants will learn facts about recycling, composting and rethinking waste! Prizes will be provided for winners. Program needs: N/A.

**“What Goes Where”** is a 30-40 minute card game and can accommodate groups of all sizes/ages. Participants will learn “what goes where” meaning what items can be composted, put in your recycling bin, brought to another place for recycling or discarded. Program needs: N/A.

**“I Want to Be Recycled”** this is a tabletop card game. This game is recommended for small groups, all ages. Participants will learn what recycled items become (example: a recycled water bottle can become fleece). Program needs: table.

**“Recycling Jeopardy”** is a 30-40+ minute game and discussion about recycling, waste reduction, reuse, and composting (adaptable for children in grades 2-12) and is a good program for groups of 10-30 youth. Children will be broken up into two teams and earn points to win real prizes. Participants learn about environmental science and sustainability, recycling, waste reduction and reuse, as well as gain practical teamwork skills. Program needs: screen to project, laptop/projector set up

**“Ocean Plastic Pollution: Understanding our Impact on Marine Environments”** is a 40+ minute interactive discussion and science exploration activity (adaptable for children in grades 5-12) and is a good program for large or small groups. Participants will learn about plastics, litter, ocean pollution and the impacts on marine wildlife. Program needs: shared tablespace, access to water, screen to project, laptop/projector set up

**“Countdown to the Breakdown”** is a 40+ minute interactive hands-on activity and discussion about waste, landfills, recycling, and biodegradation (adaptable for children in grades 5-12) and is a good program for groups of 10-45 participants. Children will learn how garbage creates pollution, how recycling conserves natural resources, and about the biodegradability of various materials. Participants are asked to think critically about how trash is made up raw materials and guess how long it takes to break down in the environment. Program needs: large empty room or plenty of floor space



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**“Up-Cycled Paper Jewelry”** is a 20-30 minute hands-on craft activity (recommended for children in grades 3-6) and is a good program for smaller groups. Participants learn about up-cycling unwanted things into new useful things. Holiday gift-wrapping paper is rolled, glued, and glazed into beautiful beads that can be worn as necklaces or bracelets. All craft supplies provided. Program needs: shared table space for each participant, table cloths to protect from glue.

**“Up-Cycling”** is a 20 minute hands-on craft activity (adaptable for all ages) and is a good program for small groups. Participants learn about up-cycling unwanted things into new useful things and gain understanding of the importance of reuse and recycling and make their own creations using upcycled materials. Examples: robots, valentines, masks, puppets, etc. Craft projects subject to change. Program needs: shared table space for each participant

**“Up-cycled Reusable Bags”** is a 30 minute hands-on activity (recommended for children in grades 3-8) and is a good program for small groups. Participants will learn about upcycling, the Ulster County Bring Your Own Bag Act, and the benefits of waste reduction and reuse. Program needs: students must bring their own old t-shirts, scissors, shared table space.

**“Recycling & Composting Trivia”** is a trivia wheel game (adaptable for children in grades K-12) and is a good program for very small groups or at an event table. Participants will spin a trivia wheel to land on a recycling/composting category. They will then be asked a trivia question about recycling, composting, or solid waste for chances to win real prizes Program needs: 1 large table for prize wheel

**“Composting for Kids”** is a 20+ minute interactive discussion and activity (adaptable for children in grades 2-6) and is a good program for groups of 10-30 youth. Children will learn about what composting is, and the benefits of using compost in the garden. Children gain practical knowledge about introductory composting topics: how does composting work, what can be composted, and why is composting good for the environment. Depending on the age group, a story book about compost or a hands on composting activity can be added on to this lecture. Program needs: depends on program request

**“Working with Worms”** is a 20+ minute interactive discussion and activity (adaptable for children in grades K-12). Children will get see inside a live worm bin and will learn introductory composting topics: what is composting, worm ecology, the worm lifecycle, and how a worm bin is built and designed. Children will get to observe the worms and try to identify worms at each stage of their lifecycle. All program materials provided. Program needs: N/A



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**Soil / Compost Food Web** is a 20+ minute interactive game (recommended for youth in grades 7--12) and is a good program for groups of 15-25 youth. Participants learn about soil biology and the many microorganisms in the soil, and gain understanding of ecosystems and ecological food chains. Participants group to form an actual connected food web, where each person plays a part (as a soil organism) in the ecosystem of composting. Advanced topics and scientific terminology. Program needs: large empty room or plenty of floor space.

**“Seed Bombs”** is a 30 minute hands-on craft activity and is a great project for a small group (recommended for children in grades K-2). Participants learn about compost, pollinators, and create small balls of clay with wildflower seeds. This project can be extended by incorporating one of our short stories (example “Compost Stew”). Program needs: shared table space, table cloth and handwashing station.

## Group Reading Children’s Books

- Compost Stew: An A—Z Recipe for the Earth (Recommended K-2)
- Why Should I Recycle? (Recommended K-3)
- Wiggling Worms at Work (Recommended 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>)
- Don’t Throw That Away (Recommended K-2)
- Recycling is Fun (Recommended K-1)
- What a Waste: Trash, Recycling and Protecting our Planet (Recommended K-5)
- Where Do Garbage Trucks Go? And Other Questions about Trash and Recycling (Recommended K-2)
- The Berenstain Bears Go Green (Recommended K-3)

## Other Tools for Teachers

Below are some multi-day project ideas. Upon request, the Recycling Outreach Team can provide more information.

- Paper-Making/Seeded Paper-Making
- Zero Waste Lunch Challenge
- Composting in the Classroom
- NYSAR3 Green School Grant Program
- NYRecycles Poster Contest
- Pepsico Recycle Rally

**UCRRA 999 Flatbush Road Kingston NY 12401 (845) 336-0600**

**[www.UCRRRA.org](http://www.UCRRRA.org) @UCRRA**



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## Facility Tour / Program Request Form

*Thank You for connecting with us. Please complete this form and return to the UCRRA three weeks prior to community events or two weeks prior to tour requests.*

### Program Proposal

Event Date(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Event Time(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Description of  
Event/Program  
Request \_\_\_\_\_

Main Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / ST / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Email Contact \_\_\_\_\_

How many participants will be reached by this  
program? \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide grade level for students. \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify the duration (minutes) of your program  
request \_\_\_\_\_

For presentations not at UCCRA: will a projector and laptop be provided?

Yes

No

Please use this space provided for any additional comments.

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