

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Checklist

The following checklist will help you see how well your school is doing with waste reduction and give you some new ideas. You may even want to make it your school's challenge to complete every action on this list.

3R Education

Education is an important part of waste reduction at school. The more that students, teachers, staff and parents know about 3R initiatives, the more likely they are to participate.

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| 1. Our School has an active environmental group. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Our school incorporates waste reduction issues into course topics. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Our school recognizes the 3R hierarchy-reduce, reuse, then recycle. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Our school plans awareness activities around special occasions like Earth Day, Waste Reduction Week, Compost Awareness Week and Environment Week. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Our school Keeps parents informed of waste reduction activities at school. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Our school encourages all students and teachers to reduce waste at school through PA announcements, posters, memos and other reminders. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Our school shares resources among teachers instead of ordering multiple copies. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Our school has assessed how much waste we generate by conducting waste audit. | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Reduce

Reduce comes first in the 3R hierarchy. You can prevent waste from entering our waste disposal systems by reducing at the source- giving the greatest environmental benefit.

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| 1. Our School holds waste-free lunch days throughout the school year. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Our school encourages students to bring their own reusable cutlery for use in the cafeteria. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Our school makes reusable utensils and plates available at school events where food is served. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Our school always prints and photocopies tests and assignments double-sided. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Our school photocopier automatically prints documents double-sided (or our school has posted a sign as a reminder). | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Our school communicates via the phone, email and/or school website | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Our school monitors the amount of paper that is purchased from one year to the next | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Our school avoids purchasing over-packaged material and supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Reuse

Reuse is the second R. We can reduce the amount of waste we throw away and eliminate the need to purchase new items by finding new owners and uses for unwanted items.

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| 1. Our School has a reuse program for school books and supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Our school holds used-good sales and/or swap events | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Our school collects and reuses paper that is still blank on one side | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Our school donates unwanted computers equipment and school furniture | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Our school collects and reuses unwanted items for crafts and art projects | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Our school has a book exchange in the library for used books and magazines | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Recycle

Recycle is the last of the 3 Rs. Recycling lets us turn waste, that could not be eliminated by reducing or reusing, into a resource.

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| 1. Our School recycles all beverage containers collected at school | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Our school has held a recycling blitz | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Our school recycles used ink cartridges | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Our school recycles paper | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Our school recycles some types of electronic waste
(i.e. rechargeable batteries, cell phones, CDs) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Our school purchases paper and supplies made from recycled material | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Composte

Composting is nature's way of recycling. We can recycle our organic waste by letting it break down naturally in a compost bin.

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| 1. Our School is educated about the environment benefits of composting | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Our school has educated teachers and students about how to compost | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Our school has compost bin set up on school grounds and composts
organic waste collected at school | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Our school has a vermicompost bin | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Our school composts yard waste | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Our school uses finished compost on school ground | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Information

For more information on composting contact recycle NB:

Tel: 1 506 454-8473

E-mail: isabelle.kirouac@recyclenb.com

Web site : recyclenb.com



Moving Beyond Waste

www.recyclenb.com