



eco-cycle

GREEN STAR SCHOOLS® NEWS

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Stephanie Potter with Energy Eagles.

EAGLE CREST ENERGY EAGLES PRESENT AT EPA FOOD WASTE SEMINAR

Eagle Crest Elementary students presented at the Environmental Protection Agency's Food Waste Reduction Workshop on the importance of reducing food waste in schools.

The workshop took place at Rocky Heights Middle School in the [Douglas County School District](#). This school has chickens, a garden and more!

BREAKFAST WASTE ADVICE FROM A GREEN STAR SCHOOL

BY COURTNEY FERGUSON, 4/5 GRADE TEACHER

Columbine Elementary has more students eating breakfast in the classrooms than any other school in Boulder Valley School District.

So, I decided to make the breakfast announcement every morning, based on what the students are eating and regarding issues in the classroom waste stations. This practice has improved stu-

dents' sorting waste properly during breakfast. We still have some contamination, but I believe it has greatly improved since the announcements began.

I also remind students to check with teachers at the end of the day so that they empty their classroom buckets into the hallway stations regularly.

DOUGLASS ELEMENTARY NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Not only is Douglass Elementary School in a brand new building, but they also received the 2016 Presidential Youth Award for addressing excess food waste in the U.S.

Check out the [video](#) they developed to address this issue. Congratulations!

PROPER SORTING BROUGHT TO YOU BY LONGMONT ESTATES 5TH GRADERS

Thank you Longmont

Estates Elementary 5th graders for your [video on proper sorting in our Green Star Schools!](#)

SHAKE FIVE FOR FIRESIDE

BY TOM LAJEUNESSE, 1ST GRADE TEACHER

Last spring, the Green Team at Fireside Elementary conducted a study of paper towel usage in our school's student bathrooms. We were concerned about how many trees were being used each day, and the cost to the school district and the environment. Contact me if you want to learn more at tom.lajeunesse@bvsd.org.

Our study indicated that first grade and pre-school used the most towels.

We hope to continue the project this year and see if there can be less paper towel waste with the help of our fabulous Fireside students.

COMPOST WORM BIN TIPS!

The Classroom Worm Bin Project for Green Star Schools has a waiting list. To get on the waitlist for a worm bin next year, contact Michele Melio, michele@ecocycle.org.



Worm bin tip for the fall: Did you know that you DON'T need to add soil to your worm bin? All you need are dried leaves or shredded newspaper for their bedding. Make sure that the bedding is as damp as a wrung-out sponge by using a water spray bottle.

What is this crawling in our worm bin?

I'm a white springtail. Click on the image and find out more about me! Just a little decomposer to enjoy!



GREEN STAR SCHOOLS®



Lyons Elementary Eco-Club with Principal Andrew Moore & Hawk Quest's bald eagle at their 10-Year celebration.

GREEN STAR SCHOOL 5 & 10-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Nine schools celebrated five or ten years as a Green Star School this fall.

Five-year schools were: Casey Middle and Flatirons, Red Hawk and Whittier Elementary Schools.

Ten-year schools were: Columbine, Eisenhower, Heatherwood, Lyons and Niwot Elementary Schools.

WINNERS OF THE GREEN STAR SCHOOLS GRANT

Two winners of this year's Green Star Schools Grant were Centennial Middle and Lyons Elementary Schools. These schools were given funds to purchase durables for their Zero Waste events.

Whittier Elementary also won compostable cups and plates for their all-school classroom parties.

ZERO WASTE FRIDAYS CONTINUE AT CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL BY JULIE FRIEDER, PARENT

Centennial's Green Team is committed to encouraging students to reduce cafeteria waste by either

choosing a BVSD Zero Waste hot lunch or packing a waste-free lunch.

Every Friday for the rest of the school year, students will be reminded to practice Zero Waste. All students who make no trash on Fridays get entered into a raffle where they could win the monthly prize - a super cool, double-walled, insulated stainless steel Eco-Vessel mug.

Eco-Vessel, based in Boulder, is sponsoring our Green Team and has donated 10 mugs - one for each month. Thank you Eco-Vessel!



WASTE-FREE IS THE WAY TO BE

Two schools won last spring's Waste-Free Lunch contest. First place (\$400) went to Pioneer Elementary. They cut their trash by 90% and had a 10% increase in durable utensils. Second place (\$200) went to Burlington Elementary. They cut their trash by 73% and lost less than 1% of their utensils. Register now for this year's contest by contacting michele@ecocycle.org.

LYONS' SCHOOLS PROMOTE THEIR GREEN STAR TOWN

The Town of Lyons has been working with Eco-Cycle to create the first Green Star Zero Waste town in the U.S. with help from an EPA grant. [Lyons Elementary Eco-Club](#), student interns and Lyons Middle/Senior High School students are an integral part of this project.

As part of the grant funding, Eco-Cycle has hired student interns to help promote the project. Some of their activities include surveying businesses, tabling at Zero Waste events and promoting student waste reduction pledges, like the upcoming holiday pledge.



Charlie Gau, Eco-Cycle intern, points out proper sorting at Lyons Middle/Senior.

SEND SUBMISSIONS & PHOTOS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER TO:

Michele Melio
Green Star Schools
Project Manager
(303) 444-6634, ext. 118



ECO-CYCLE'S CHILDREN'S USED BOOK PROJECT REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REREAD

Community Montessori raised \$700 for the victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico by selling used books provided by Eco-Cycle!

Contact us for your next fundraiser! Contact Amanda Fox, 303-444-6634 ext. 103 or amanda@ecocycle.org.

