



eco-cycle®

# GREEN STAR SCHOOLS® NEWS

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## WELCOME NEW GREEN STAR SCHOOLS!

Welcome **Longmont High** and **Birch Elementary**! Birch is the first Green Star School in Broomfield! Over 1,770 students and staff joined our Green Star Schools community, reducing waste, and fostering a new generation of environmental leaders.

There are currently 66 Green Star Schools in Boulder and Broomfield Counties. Eco-Cycle's Green Star Schools program is looking forward to continued collaboration with existing Green Star Schools, as well as the enrollment of new schools!



*Birch student composts food scraps*

## ZERO WASTE AFTER PROM & EVENTS

At **Centaurus, Boulder,** and **Fairview High Schools**, volunteers reduced waste at After Prom events by ensuring discards were sorted right, partnering with Eco-Cycle which loaned Zero Waste Event supplies!



*Centaurus High After Prom Zero Waste Station*

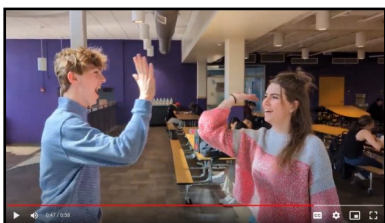
*Alison Fischer, Centaurus parent*

Eco-Cycle can work with event organizers to reduce waste at After Prom or any school event. This year, Eco-Cycle supported school bike events, carnivals, multi-cultural celebrations, and dinners as Zero Waste Events.

**Hosting an event at your school? Want to make it Zero Waste?**  
Contact Kathy, Green Star Schools Program Manager at [kathy@ecocycle.org](mailto:kathy@ecocycle.org)

## INSPIRING VIDEOS TO IMPROVE COMPOSTING

**Boulder High School** restarted composting in the cafeteria this Spring! BHS Science teacher, Julie Thompson, students, and staff created entertaining videos and a quiz to help make sorting discards at lunchtime a success at their school. Click on the links below to view the videos, and share the short sorting quiz with students and staff for easy reminders!



[Composting Has Returned](#)



[Rillo and Pizza](#)



[Food in the Wrong Place](#)



[Sorting Quiz](#)

*Contributed by Julie Thompson, Boulder High School, BVSD*

## EARTH MONTH ACTIVITIES



**Whittier Elementary's** Sustainability Committee hosted an Earth Month Bake Sale after school on April 23<sup>rd</sup> to help non-profits working to mitigate climate impacts. The organizers raised over \$300 for Conservation Colorado!

*Contributed by Tamar van Vliet and Cherlyn Seruto, Whittier Elementary, BVSD*

Patrick Griffin's 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> students at **Jamestown Elementary** continued to monitor the creek on their school grounds by collecting data from the flood in 2013. They also beautified the area with garden maintenance.

*Contributed by Megan Quitter and Patrick Griffin, Jamestown Elementary, BVSD*



At **Horizons K-8**, Rachel's 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade class picked up litter around the school grounds for Earth Day!



*Contributed Rachel Clionsky, Horizons, K-8, BVSD*

**We appreciate all your support in collecting clean compost!**  
For more information, view [Eco-Cycle's Compost Guidelines](#).

## WASTE-FREE LUNCH: PRECYCLE

This Spring, 8 Green Star Schools participated in Eco-Cycle's *Waste-Free Lunch: Precycle* promotion, which encourages students to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost to reduce waste at lunch. **BCSIS, Central Elementary, and Horizons K-8** were the lucky winners of the cash prize drawing. A few schools also participated in the Bonus Reusable Utensil



Central Elementary's Student Council stands with their Waste-Free Lunch Pledges!

Contest to promote the return of reusable utensils and prevent the loss of reusables! **Eisenhower** won 1<sup>st</sup> place and **Whittier** 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Bonus Reusable Utensil Contest!

## PAVING THE WAY FOR A GREENER FUTURE

The **Eisenhower** EcoEagles were invited to a BVSD Board of Education meeting in honor of Earth Month. Fifth grader, Lily Bradshaw, detailed their fork & spoon donation competition, in conjunction with Eco-Cycle's Waste Free Lunch promotion.



Eisenhower Elementary utensil drive collection

They collected a remarkable 1,839 forks & spoons!

Bundles are being delivered to other schools to help them reduce dependency on plastic utensils.

## UPCYCLED CREATIVE REUSE IN ACTION



A display of the award-winning garment for the Trashion Project

**Sunset Middle School** art classes embarked on an eco-conscious journey with their Trashion Project to celebrate Earth Day. Through innovative design and creativity, students explored the intersection of art and sustainability, repurposing discarded materials into stunning fashion statements. From juice pouches and chip bags turned into chic accessories to repurposed newspapers, magazines, and bubble wrap transformed into award-winning garments, budding artists honed their artistic skills and learned the importance of environmental stewardship. Join us in celebrating their ingenuity and commitment to a greener future!

Contributed by Jennifer Tjornehoj, Sunset Middle, SVVSD

**Eagle Crest Elementary's** 4<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in Recycle Colorado's "Trash to Treasure" poster contest! They studied this year's Earth Day theme, planet vs. plastics, and generated questions after learning facts about plastic pollution. Inspired to up-cycle plastics, they created useful items such as clothing, chairs, drawers, bird feeders, gardening sets (watering can, seed and soil containers), games, and posters. Students had a blast using their imaginations, making a positive impact, and creating useful items and beautiful art!



"Trash to Treasure" bird feeders

Contributed by Stephanie Potter, Eagle Crest, SVVSD

At the Board Meeting, EcoEagles also highlighted their efforts in fundraising for Walk and Roll days, collecting hard to recycle items, promoting Recycle Colorado's Poster Contest, and creating Zero Waste Party kits for all classrooms. The EcoEagles told the board, "What green teams do is important because the Earth needs more help than ever before."



EcoEagles Green Team!

Contributed by Marti Hirsch, Eisenhower, BVSD

## FAREWELL & THANK YOU STEPHANIE!



Stephanie cares deeply about the Earth and the role that students and the community can play in protecting it. She was a key staff member when Eagle Crest joined Green Star Schools in 2009 and, in partnership with colleagues, has worked tirelessly for the past 15 years to continue to grow their student-led sustainability program. From district energy audits and reducing their carbon footprint, to

expanding their pollinator gardens, to aquaponics and worm composting, Stephanie is an inspiration to so many people in her community. Every year she co-coaches a group of 20-30 student sustainability leaders to seek out areas of concern and possible solutions to make their community more sustainable. These students educate the community at local events, create school-wide sustainability initiatives, attend field trips to deepen their understanding, and once even hosted a visit from the First Gentleman.

Thanks to Stephanie's dedication to empowering their students through sustainability efforts, Eagle Crest students can stand proud and say, "We are leaders. We help build a better world."

Thank you, Stephanie, congratulations on your retirement!

Contributed by Katy Schwartz, Eagle Crest, SVVSD

Cheers to another GREEN year!

Thank you to all our Green Star School teachers and staff for your dedication towards building Zero Waste—we appreciate you!  
And a huge thank you to the amazing custodial and kitchen staff for your support. We couldn't do it without you!

Have a wonderful Summer and we'll see you in the Fall!

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