



U.S. Green Building Council – Illinois Chapter
Green Apple Day of Service
September 28, 2013

PROJECT SUGGESTIONS

Green Apple Day of Service applicants may identify a project in one of the service areas listed below, or customize a project to meet local goals. Projects are encouraged (but not required) to continue beyond the Day of Service through the partner or challenge program paths. Suggestions within each category are listed in order of easy to more challenging. For additional service activity ideas and resources visit the USGBC-Illinois website.

GARDEN

- Plant a tree
- Pull weeds (alternative to pesticide use)
- Remove invasive species (honeysuckle, etc)
- Plant a school garden
- Build a composting area
- Build a rain garden or bio-swale

WASTE REDUCTION

- Conduct a waste-stream sort
- Plan/host a waste-free lunch day
- Begin a recycling campaign (or a host a recycling competition that culminates in a weigh-off on 9/28)
- Plan and implement a solid waste management policy (list what gets recycled, composted, reused, land-filled)
- Host an E-waste drive (collect electronics for recycling)
- Host a unique recycling drive (Teracycle collects typically non-recyclables)

COMMUNITY EVENT

- If you already have a green school, offer a tour for community members
- Host a sustainability education day for your community
- Host a green-eating potluck
- Take a field trip to ___ to learn about ___ and help ___
- Plan a green art fair or “trash-ion” show

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

- Plan/host a carpool day
- Host a bike tune-up and bike rack installation

CONTACT

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usgbc-illinois.org/events/green-apple

BEHAVIOR CHANGE

- Plan a school sustainability education campaign (post signage and offer a presentation)
- Sign a green schools commitment (and host an education day to learn about the commitment)
- Paint a green behavior-themed mural

ENERGY

- Plan and host a “turn out the lights” campaign
- Calculate individual or school carbon footprints
- Conduct an energy audit
- Host a school weatherization effort
- Retrofit light fixtures
- Install renewable energy systems

WATER

- Host a water-saving campaign
- Conduct a water audit
- Install low-flow fixtures
- Build a rainwater collection system, or rain barrels

CLEAN UP

- Plan a trash clean-up
- Host a green cleaning day (try out new eco-friendly products, and evaluate effectiveness)
- Re-paint an area of the school (with low VOC paint)

FUNDRAISER

- Collect small electronics for recycling, ship for free to a partner organization, and earn cash for your school!
- Instead of traditional fundraisers (candy, wrapping paper), sell fair trade, organic or recycled gifts to your community.



ILLINOIS