



# SERT Flash

School Energy and Recycling Team



## Recycling Rangers at Olney Elementary School Are Making Recycling Fun and Educational!



The Recycling Rangers from Olney Elementary School

How does Olney Elementary School (ES) integrate recycling into their day?

Ms. Heritage and her fourth grade class at Olney ES have developed a quick and efficient method for responsible recycling that gives instant feedback to other classrooms on how well they are doing while learning about the multiple benefits of recycling. Recycling Rangers are assigned a classroom to retrieve the paper recycle container. If there is contamination in the recycle container, the Recycle Ranger writes out a ticket indicating the type of contamination. If everything is perfect, the classroom gets an award ticket. They do this twice a week, and it only takes about 20 minutes!

On the day SERT was visiting Olney ES, only six tickets for contamination were passed out; and the contaminated materials were removed before reaching the recycling dumpster. The Recycling Rangers are busy creating a living bulletin board displaying data that reflects perfect recycling scores. This awareness activity inspires the school population to do a great job. After the recycling data is documented on the bulletin board it is added to a recycling performance matrix and distributed to all staff electronically avoiding paper waste too!

Ms. Heritage is teaching the students how they can be a positive force to help the environment, about the connections between human behavior and the environment, and math calculations and concepts.

If you would like to learn how you can set up a program similar to the Olney ES Recycle Rangers please contact the SERT Recycling office at [recycling@mcpsmd.org](mailto:recycling@mcpsmd.org)

Do you have a "SERT Flash" you would like to share about your SERT efforts? Please submit a photograph and paragraph about your team and you too can be featured in a future FLASH!

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"It's your world...choose to conserve"