



MCPS Recycling Efforts Update

MCPS is busy improving recycling programs and increasing recycling participation rates. Below is a brief summary of our accomplishments (and we're not done yet)!

For more information visit:

<http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/greenschoolsfocus/serf.shtm>

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/materials/recycle/index.shtm>

- ♻️ The current MCPS recycle rate is 40%.
- ♻️ Refurbish and reduction programs are in place to extend the life of copiers, building service equipment and other repairable equipment.
- ♻️ Solid waste disposal has decreased significantly thanks to centralized stations that have been placed in schools. Further plans include having such stations built into the infrastructure of new stadiums and building entrances.
- ♻️ MCPS Construction now recycles applicable materials throughout the building process. Outside contractors also participate by recycling masonry, concrete, wood, cardboard, etc. whenever they work on MCPS projects.
- ♻️ MCPS is currently developing "green" procurement processes. MCPS now purchases many recycled products including: pencils, paper, pens, and ink cartridges. The purchase of more earth-friendly cleaning products is also a priority.
- ♻️ School Plant Operations has opened a repair shop to reduce the frequency of equipment purchases.
- ♻️ Recycling data points have been added to school inspection criteria. Results are reviewed by the recycling manager for analysis and action.
- ♻️ The MCPS "Reach Out" program focuses on middle and high school lunch room practices. The School Energy and Recycling Team (SERT) visits participating schools during their lunch hour to teach students about the importance of capturing and recycling lunch room materials and containers.



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