

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS WEEK
OCTOBER 12 - 16, 2026**

- WHEREAS,** *The State of Maryland has a strong history of environmental stewardship, which involves students learning about and incorporating environmental actions at their schools and within their communities, and a commitment to protecting the state's resources; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Sustainability efforts in school districts across the state include: conserving energy, increasing energy efficiency measures with renewable solutions, reducing food waste, decreasing carbon output, improving indoor air quality, while supporting healthy outdoor spaces that can increase canopy cover and create habitat, where the Maryland Green Schools Program empowers youth to make changes to reduce environmental impact, encourage sustainability, and foster environmental literacy; and*
- WHEREAS,** *School facility staff are commended for stepping forward and implementing sustainability measures, ensuring our school facilities reflect our students' visions and allowing school facilities to be examples of sustainability; these efforts support student achievement, promote equitable access, nurture exploration and curiosity, and foster student stewardship; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland Green Schools support the State's efforts to address climate change and meet Maryland's Environmental Literacy Standards; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland supports the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement - School District Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome to increase the number of school districts that have policies and practices that support environmental education and sustainable schools; and*
- WHEREAS,** *A total of 702 schools, representing approximately 40 percent of all Maryland schools, are recognized as Green Schools; Maryland Green Schools are dedicated to integrating the environment into instruction, modeling sustainable environmental practices, and extending learning into the community; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Outdoor Learning Partnership, established by Executive Order in 2024, encourages schools and communities to support Local Education Agencies and empower Maryland's youth to grow as environmental stewards that are equipped to access, conserve, and restore our state's natural resources to ensure a climate-ready Maryland; and*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 12 - 16, 2026, as SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 12th day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-six

[Signature]
Governor
[Signature]
Lt. Governor
[Signature]
Secretary of State