



APRIL 2018

SERT Spotlight

Four MCPS Schools are Recognized for Leading by Example

Each year SERT's **LEAD BY EXAMPLE** campaign challenges middle and high school students to create resource conservation plans that include energy conservation and responsible recycling projects, or initiatives toward a sustainable future. This campaign is important because it raises awareness and reinforces a culture of conservation and sustainability while giving students the opportunity to grow and strengthen their leadership skills. Over the years, successful initiatives have included energy audits with recommended conservation practices such as staff using task lamps, computer shutdowns, various contests, videos and social media awareness strategies, and more. All of these actions promote conservation behaviors among students, staff, and the community while encouraging responsible environmental stewardship habits.

Our secondary schools have submitted entries with some excellent ideas for conservation. They show that our students and staff have adopted a spirit of environmental responsibility and that daily conservation practices are becoming second-nature.

The SERT program congratulates Richard Montgomery High School and Redland Middle School for winning the first place title in the 2018 *Lead by Example* campaign, and applauds Northwest High School and Rocky Hill Middle School for winning second place. Here are some photographs highlight their outstanding activities.



Richard Montgomery High School's principal, Mr. Damon Monteleone, gets into the spirit of recycling during morning hall duty.



ABOVE: Students at Redland Middle School are working together to restore the school's greenhouse, garden and pond. The SERT team captain is cleaning out the pond which will provide a home for fish when the project is complete.

BELOW: Team members create posters that raise awareness and promote recycling participation.



More “Lead by Example” Campaign Highlights



Richard Montgomery High School’s team takes advantage of the morning announcement videos to promote water conservation habits.



The SERT Club at RMHS created light switch covers with beautiful eco-friendly designs that draw attention to the light switches and remind students and staff to turn off the overhead lights whenever they’re not needed.



More than 200 pounds of plastic bottle caps were upcycled into a bench that the students and staff of Northwest High School will enjoy for years to come.



With an average monthly recycling rate of 7.27 pounds per person (PPP), Redland Middle School is recycling well above the average middle school rate of 4.12 PPP. We’re sure that has something to do with their awesome school-based SERT team!



The Green Team at Northwest High School uses videos and humor to help spread the importance of recycling and saving energy. They’ve also created a comprehensive website as part of their Green School application that described their activities, projects, meetings, data, objectives and more.



Rocky Hill Middle School’s Green Team designed their own T-shirts this year. The students have become walking billboards, promote conservation, recycling, and being “green.”

SPRING CLEANUP

It's that time of the year again—
time for Spring cleaning your
lockers, classrooms, and offices!



**Please remember these important items while
coordinating your school's cleanup:**

- 1 Recycle all types of paper. This includes spiral notebooks, composition books, magazines, colored paper, bulletin board decorations and backgrounds, theme paper, used copier paper, and flattened cardboard boxes.
- 2 Place additional recycling bins in the hallways and classrooms to capture all of the extra recyclables.
- 3 Recycling dumpsters should be locked at all times and should only be unlocked when recycling materials are being placed into the dumpster. Our recycling hauler is able to service dumpsters when locks are in place.
- 4 If your dumpsters are full due to Spring cleaning activities, you may request extra pick-ups. Contact the SERT recycling manager, John Meyer, by phone (240-314-1090) or by e-mail (recycling@mcpsmd.org). Please do not throw recyclables in the trash!



Department of Facilities Management | **SERT PROGRAM**
45 W. Gude Drive, Suite 4000 | Rockville, MD 20850
SERT@mcpsmd.org | www.GreenSchoolsFocus.org





Maryland Association for Environmental & Outdoor Education

2018 MAEOE CERTIFICATIONS

The Maryland Green Schools Award Program, sponsored by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education ([MAEOE](#)), is a nationally-recognized program that allows schools and their communities to evaluate their efforts in environmental sustainability. Participating schools encourage sustainability, foster environmental literacy, and empower students to make changes to reduce their environmental impact. A total of 618 Maryland schools (27%) are certified by MAEOE and we're proud to say that 85 MCPS schools (41.5%) have voluntarily earned and maintained MAEOE Green School certification. [Click here](#) for a list of those schools.

As certified Green Schools, the MCPS schools listed in the next column have all demonstrated a continuous effort to integrate sustainable environmental practices, environmental education curriculum, professional development and engagement into the culture of the school. As schools go through the process of re-certification every four years, they continue to integrate and reinforce conservation practices, resulting in progress toward a more sustainable future. Certification by MAEOE signifies that our schools have made a commitment to developing stewards of the earth and reducing their impact on the environment. MCPS is proud of its partnership with MAEOE and we look forward to the next round of Green School applications.

Schools will be recognized and celebrated at the Maryland Green Schools Youth Summit held at Sandy Point State Park on May 31, 2018.

NEW CERTIFICATION

Beall Elementary School
Georgian Forest Elementary School
Kensington-Parkwood Elementary School
Monocacy Elementary School
Wayside Elementary School
Weller Road Elementary School

FIRST RECERTIFICATION

Bells Mill Elementary School
Cold Spring Elementary School
Jones Lane Elementary School
Richard Montgomery High School
Northwest High School
William Tyler Page Elementary School
Potomac Elementary School
Judith Resnik Elementary School
Rock View Elementary School
Sargent Shriver Elementary School
Silver Spring International Middle School
Sligo Middle School
Twinbrook Elementary School

SECOND RECERTIFICATION

Ashburton Elementary School
Bethesda Elementary School
Forest Knolls Elementary School
Garrett Park Elementary School
New Hampshire Estates Elementary School
Sligo Creek Elementary School
Travilah Elementary School

SERT Spotlight

This newsletter is produced by the School Energy and Recycling Team (SERT) program and distributed to SERT leaders, school-based SERT teams, building service personnel, and others who are interested in conservation and sustainability. As part of the [Montgomery County Public Schools](#) Department of Facilities Management, the SERT program provides opportunities for all schools to participate and receive incentives and recognition for their energy conservation and recycling efforts. We support a balanced environment for the integration of all students to work together in a culturally diverse environment, and strive to provide the resources, support, and vision of the future for a successful conservation program at each school. Promoting the connections between human behavior and its impact on the environment reinforces our culture of conservation and increases participation in our mission to conserve resources and recycle actively.



SERT PROGRAM

Montgomery County Public Schools
Department of Facilities Management

45 West Gude Drive, Suite 4000
Rockville, Maryland 20850

www.GreenSchoolsFocus.org

Phone: 240.314.1090

Fax: 301.279.3005

SERT@mcpsmd.org

@MCPSSert