



Florida GREEN School Designation Program Fact Sheet



STEP 2: Environmental Action Plan

The Environmental Action Plan (EAP) will come into play after the successful completion of the school-wide audits. Once the data is collected, the Green Team will work together to devise a plan to reduce the environmental impact of the school. The EAP should have several long-term and short-term goals that can be regularly measured and recorded.

The short-term plans might include reducing energy usage by 10 percent from the previous year or increasing recycling to minimize what goes to the landfill, starting with achievable goals that increase involvement, enthusiasm, and confidence in the ability of the Green Team.

Specific methods to monitor and evaluate the EAP are vital and should be written in the Plan, along with the people and positions responsible for collecting data.

Tip

If your Environmental Audit has shown that your school needs to set numerous targets, do not feel that you have to tackle them all at once. Prioritize them by dividing them into what is achievable in the short, medium and longer term.

Steps for an Environmental Action Plan

1. Gather results from your Environmental Audit. Pick out topics that you want to tackle, such as energy consumption or cafeteria waste. Decide what kinds of actions you take to improve your school's performance.
2. Decide how you will measure success in achieving your objectives. For example, if you are tackling energy consumption, set up a system that allows you to measure changes in energy usage over time.
3. Negotiate a time frame for each action item. Is the target action to be achieved in the short, medium or long term?
4. Decide who is to be responsible for each action. Students should take as much responsibility as possible.
5. Include a section for monitoring any financial costs you may incur or save based on your activities.
6. Make your Eco-Action Plan accessible to the whole school community through your website or post it in a visible location.