

# Western Finger Lakes Solid Waste Management Authority

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## America Recycles Day Prizes at Newark's Kelley School

Two students and their guests have the opportunity to visit the Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester because the students signed a pledge to recycle and buy recycled products. Cherylann Garrett in Ms. Lora Preblich's class and Cameron Swann in Ms. Amber Phelps & Ms. Angela Brunner's class were each awarded 4 passes for the zoo. The passes were two of several prizes awarded for America Recycles Day, an annual event. For more information on America Recycles Day, visit the website [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org). Several students at the Kelley School in Newark received reusable shopping bags for signing an America Recycles Day pledge card. Prizes were donated by a variety of groups and companies including Monroe County Department of Environmental Services, Abitibi Bowater (a paper recycling company), and Wegmans Food Market. Names were chosen through a random drawing.

Teacher Assistants Christa Ojeda and Nancy Youngs, who comprise the Recycling Committee at Kelley School, invited Marjorie Torelli, recycling educator for the Western Finger Lakes Authority, to come to the school and present information about recycling to the students. After a brief presentation, the students signed pledge cards, stating "I will recycle and I will buy recycled-content products."

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Torelli emphasized that the process of recycling includes not only placing materials in Blue Boxes to be collected for recycling, but also purchasing materials made from those recycled materials. Recycling is an activity that depends on each person's participation. "Each person has to opt-in to recycling for the process to work," said Torelli.

America Recycles Day is a national annual recognition of the importance of recycling. Since recycling is not complete until new products are made from recycled materials and then returned to the consumer, purchasing recycled-content materials is a theme of the event. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation collects pledge cards across New York State and some prizes are awarded at the state level.

Keep America Beautiful now operates the America Recycles Day activities nationally. Information on America Recycles Day can be found on the Keep America Beautiful website.

In Wayne and Yates Counties, the Western Finger Lakes Authority works with other counties in Western New York to promote America Recycles Day. The regional committee provides information to local schools to encourage students and staff to sign pledge cards and increase their familiarity with recycling.

For more information, please contact the Western Finger Lakes Authority (1.800.724.3867) or [www.wfingerlakesauthority.org](http://www.wfingerlakesauthority.org).

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