

Western Finger Lakes Solid Waste Management Authority

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Funding for Recycling Available for Schools

Funding for recycling programs in schools is available from the professional recyclers in New York State. Schools that are planning to improve and develop their recycling programs can get some financial help. The New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling (NYSAR3) has a grant program for New York State schools, both public and private. NYSAR3 is offering up to \$500 in grant funding to NY public and private schools for innovative, interesting or intriguing new methods for reducing school waste through reduction, reuse, recycling and/or composting.

Since establishing the program in 2005, NYSAR3 has awarded money to 60 schools for a variety of programs. More information about the program is available on the NYSAR3 website (www.nysar3.org). The recyclers recommend that prospective applicants also visit the site for the Go Green Initiative (www.gogreeninitiative.org). GGI is an international program that promotes a variety of recycling and environmental programs in schools. Another informative and helpful site is the US Green Building Council NY Chapter (www.greenupstateny.org).

The first resource for schools with questions about recycling in Wayne and Yates Counties is the Western Finger Lakes Authority. Marjorie Torelli, Public Relations/Education

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● **Wayne County**

● **Yates County**

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Coordinator, can assist school personnel with the grant application and with developing programs in the schools. There is no charge for her assistance.

“NYSAR3 has provided a great incentive for schools to get started or to boost their program. The grant money may be able to get them over some initial barriers to recycling more or to starting a compost program,” said Torelli. “As a former NYSAR3 president, I’m really enthusiastic about this grant opportunity. Anything that can help out the schools is great!”

In the current round, grant applications are due by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 29, 2011. There will be another opportunity in the fall.

For more information, contact Marjorie Torelli at the Western Finger Lakes Authority, 1.800.724.3867 or mtorelli@co.wayne.ny.us.

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