

Waste Audit



Activity

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Activity

The Waste Audit takes place four times in a school year: September, December, February and June. This activity can be done as a class activity and then move into a school wide activity.

Hazardous Waste Audit Checklist

Classrooms and laboratories employing pollution prevention are easy to implement, safer for students and, in most cases, easier on the school budget.

Score one point for each checkmark (Total Possible Points = 12)

Does your school:

- Store chemicals properly to avoid unauthorized use or spills?
- Not mix chemical and hazardous wastes with everyday trash, pour them down the drain, or dump them on the ground?
- Store oil cans, paint cans and other liquid materials with like substances in drip pans or trays to catch leaks and spills?
- Collect all hazardous materials after use and transport to a hazardous waste handling facility?
- Refill or recycle your printer cartridges and ink ribbons?
- Use only rechargeable batteries?
- Stack containers in a way that minimizes the chance for tipping, puncturing or breaking?
- Inspect raw material upon receipt from suppliers?
- Regularly inspect dumpsters and compactors for spills and stains?
- Keep hazardous waste products in an area that ensures that there is no chance of contaminated waste entering your fresh air supply?
- Cover waste disposal areas and recycling bins to avoid rainwater infiltration?
- Properly capture cooling refrigerants (CFCs) and recycle them?



Waste Audit Checklist

Score one point for each checkmark (Total Possible Points = 20)

Does your school:

- Encourage practices that reduce waste paper?
- Recycle items, such as paper, aluminium cans, cardboard and plastic bottles?
- Minimize packaging waste by specifying returnable or reduced packaging in supply agreements, particularly for items purchased in large quantities?
- Recycle items, such as paper, aluminium cans, cardboard and plastic bottles?
- Have recycle bins readily available?
- Keep a supply of extra mugs and glasses in common areas?
- Donate old or outdated equipment, books or furniture to local community organizations?
- Use worm bins for indoor composting as a class project?
- Encourage students and staff to bring their lunch in reusable containers?
- Promote litterless lunches?
- Inform the parents of the school's waste initiatives and include them in your efforts?
- Promote and work with "EarthCARE Teams"?
- Include your custodian in your waste recycle efforts?
- Include a quick recycle topic on all agendas for staff meetings?
- Send out newsletters and promote successful recycling initiatives?
- Create incentives, rewards or recognition for employees and students who take a leadership role in you school's greening efforts?
- Promote recycling at school assemblies?
- Have the full backing and leadership from your principal?
- Seek employee and student suggestions, and find other ways to involve them in your environmental program (e.g., create a poster or slogan contest)?
- Arrange and ensure recycle pick-ups are completed?