

Green School Application

Each year, Cholee Lake Elementary takes an initiative in becoming a more “Earth Friendly and Conscious” school. There are many key players on our team, from Administration, to students, and even outside partners that work very hard to maintain our status of being a Green school. We take pride in the fact that our school has been recognized for this award for four years now. There are many ways that we are using our school as an Earth Friendly location.

Administration has limited the amount of copied agendas, bulletins, and paperwork for teachers. Instead, they have created electronic documents to be filled out. With close to 100 employees at our school, this eliminates the amount of paper used to in order to inform staff of certain events and/or issues. Teachers are also reminded by Administrators to turn off lights, computers, document cameras, and any other form of technology each night. During long weekends or holiday breaks, teachers are encouraged to unplug all appliances such as refrigerators, microwaves, and in some instances coffee makers.

Many teachers have taken ownership of the Green initiative as well. We are using journals and notebooks to write activities and lessons in, instead of making copies of worksheets. Teachers are also utilizing the outdoor areas for reading time. Teachers are using the nature trail located behind the school for students to observe their surroundings. Through Science and Writing, teachers have taught about the importance of saving natural resources. There are also teachers who sponsor clubs which deal directly with learning about how to and helping to help our earth. Such clubs are Recycling Club, Garden Club, and SECME Club. Also, teachers are helping to initiate healthy alternative activities throughout the school year. For example, we take part in “Walk to School Day,” once a month, and encourage students to walk more often.

Students are also participating in helping to keep our school Green. They are putting unwanted paper in recycle bins which are collected each week by our “Recycle Squad.” Students are utilizing the blue recycle bins for water bottles and soda cans. They use these bins to help eliminate trash in the cafeteria as well.

Through outside organizations, we are given even more opportunities to show our willingness to keep our school Earth Friendly. More effective procedures are being put into place to better organize the collecting and shipping of items to each of our school partners, Terra-Cycle, Caps of Love, and shoes for the cure in order to help cut down on trash in our schools.

With everyone working together for this incredibly important cause, our school will continue to grow and thrive in being a Green School.