

Greening Our Schools: A Survey of Environmental Education in NB

Number of schools surveyed: 202

Environmental Curriculum

Number of schools that provide environmental education:

| | <i>For grades:</i> | | | | <i>In addition to what is demanded by the curriculum for grades:</i> |
|--|--------------------|------------|-------------|--|--|
| | <i>K-5</i> | <i>6-8</i> | <i>9-12</i> | | |
| Environmental studies as a component in science programs: | | | | | |
| Environmental studies as a component in social studies | | | | K-5: | 57 |
| Environmental science: | | | | 6-8: | 45 |
| Other education/pursuits: | | | | 9-12: | 24 |
| Invite guest speakers to talk on environmental matters: | 189 | | | Invite guest speakers to talk on health matters: | 158 |
| Invite guest speakers to talk on social/economic matters: | 131 | | | Invite guest speakers to talk on culture/cultural matters: | 140 |
| Conduct field trips with an environmental focus: | 193 | | | Conduct field trips with a health focus: | 96 |
| Conduct field trips with a social/economic focus: | 91 | | | Conduct field trips with a culture/cultural focus: | 130 |
| Use the Earth Ed catalogue to find environmental education | | | 9 | | |

Schools which receive environmental materials from:

| <u>Non-Profit Groups:</u> | 186 | <u>Industry Sector:</u> | 182 |
|--|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Atlantic Salmon Federation | 102 | Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd | 33 |
| Conservation Council of NB | 82 | Cdn Nuclear Association | 13 |
| Ducks Unlimited | 105 | Forest Products Association | 88 |
| Kindness Club | 71 | J.D. Irving | 127 |
| Nature NB | 49 | NB Power | 145 |
| Canadian Parks + Wilderness Society - NB | 40 | Other | 16 |
| Other | 50 | | |

Green Programs/Operations

Recycling

Number of schools implementing a recycling program: 199

Schools which are recycling:

Beverage Containers: **197** Office Items: **116** Paper: **175**

Schools are using reusable dishes: Always: **80** Often: **40** Sometimes: **0** Rarely: **32**

Schools interested in starting a recycling program: 15

Schools not interested in starting a recycling program: 29

Reasons schools are not interested in recycling :

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
| Concerns about hygiene: | 5 | Lack of motivation: | 2 |
| Employee time: | 12 | Lack of physical space/infrastructure: | 14 |
| Lack of knowledge: | 2 | Poor access to recycling depots: | 9 |

Composting

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Number of schools implementing a composting program: 56

Schools with this type of composting program:

Municipal: **17** On-site food waste: **30** On-site yard waste: **9** Vermicomposting: **6**

Schools interested in starting a composting program: 69

Schools not interested in starting a composting program: 100

Reasons schools are not interested in composting:

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Concerns about hygiene: | 21 | Lack of knowledge: | 17 |
| Employee time: | 57 | Lack of motivation: | 10 |
| Few compostables in the waste stream: | 5 | Lack of physical space: | 50 |
| Lack of access to recycling depots: | 13 | Vandalism: | 13 |

School environmental operations/programs

Number of schools with environmental operations/programs: 202

Energy conservation programs: 182

Schools that save energy with the following measures:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Close doors: | 76 | Have computers controlling the heat: | 97 |
| Destination Conservation: | 25 | Turn off computers: | 111 |
| Draw shades: | 46 | Turn off lights: | 161 |
| Energy conservation awareness: | 86 | | |

Water conservation programs: 74

Schools that have the following measures to conserve water:

Low flush toilets: 31 Timed flushes: 23 Water saving devices in taps: 39

Indoor air quality programs: 196

Schools that have the following measures to control indoor air quality:

Not Smoking on school property: 175 Use unscented/non-toxic cleaning products: 174
Scent-free controls: 147 Use ventilation to control indoor air quality: 105

Healthy outdoor environment programs: 139

Schools that have the following measures to control outdoor air quality:

Anti-Idling Zones for Buses: 94 Ban the Use of Cosmetic Pesticides on School Grounds: 96

Anti-litter programs: 170

Schools using the following measures to control litter:

Adopt a Highway: 15 Use PR (signs/fancy cans): 31
Use biodegradeable products: 17 Use yard clean-up: 158
Eat only in cafeteria: 68

Health / Social programs: 164

Schools participating in the following health and social programs:

Anti-bullying programs: 157 Healthy Eating programs: 147
Multi-culturalism: 73 Partnerships with community groups: 96
Volunteer programs: 99

School ground programs:

School Ground Naturalization: 55 Beautification: 148 Vegetable Gardening: 18

Schools without an environmental program/operation but interested in starting one: 39

Schools without environmental program/operation who are not interested in starting one: 18

Reasons why schools are not currently interested in starting an environmental program:

Employee time: 18 Lack of motivation: 4
Lack of knowledge: 6 Lack of physical space: 5

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Schools that have experienced problems with the drinking water supply: 62

Schools that monitor their environmental impact from year to year: 47

Schools that consider environmental and social factors when making purchases: 70

Student Activity

Number of schools with a student environmental group: 126

Student environmental groups supported by:

Administration: 61 Student environmental groups which function:
Student Council: 36 As part of the class curriculum: 41
Teacher Advisors: 96 Independently: 75
As part of the student council: 25

Number of schools with a student social justice group: 27

Student social justice groups supported by:

Administration: 15 Student social justice groups which function:
Student Council: 7 As part of the class curriculum: 8
Teacher Advisors: 24 Independently: 14
As part of the student council: 3

SEEDS Program

Number of schools that:

Participate in the SEEDS (Green school) program: 34
Are interested in participating in the SEEDS program in the future: 62
Are not familiar with the SEEDS program: 50

Wrap-up

Number of schools that would partner with non-profit groups for:

Improving green 111 Increasing student activity: 135 Programs: 99

Number of schools that are involved in additional environmental activities not mentioned above: 86

