

ecomaine

Memorandum

DATE: May 18, 2023

TO: Chair and Members of the Board

FROM: Kevin H. Roche, CEO

SUBJECT: **Agenda for the Outreach & Recycling Committee Meeting**

There is an **ecomaine** Outreach & Recycling Committee scheduled for **May 25, 2023 @ 4:00PM**. The meeting will be here at ecomaine.

The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes (*Attachment A*)
2. Review of 2022-23 School Waste Diversion Grants Final Reports (*Attachment B*)
3. Consideration of 2023-24 School Waste Diversion Grants (*Attachments C1 & C2*)
4. Manager's Report (*Attachment D*)
 - FY23 P.R. & Outreach Metrics
 - ecofest Community Event Recap
 - Annual Meeting (June 15, 2023)
5. Recycling Market Report (*Handout*)
6. Other

ecomaine

Memorandum

Attachment A

DATE: April 13, 2023
TO: Chair and Members of the Board
FROM: Kevin H. Roche, CEO
SUBJECT: Outreach & Recycling Committee Minutes – April 13, 2023

The **ecomaine** Outreach & Recycling Committee met April 13. The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Caleb Hemphill, Chairman.

1. Approval of Minutes
 - Linda Boudreau moved to approve February 9's minutes; Troy Moon seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. Judging – Upcycle Challenge:

The Committee reviewed the entries for 2023's Upcycle Challenge, and decided on three finalists, to be voted on by the public, online through 8PM on April 30:

 - Aurora Milton, Cape Elizabeth High School: an all-new jumper made from old clothing (an old dress, old pants, with a touch from an old homecoming dress; 2022 winner)
 - Emma, Ruby, Christine & Scarlett, Fiddlehead Center for the Arts, Scarborough: a doll house from an old wreath box, with furniture, curtains, and accessories made from old straws, cardboard, paper, paper and toilet paper tubes, left over flooring tiles, sharpie caps etc. (Fiddlehead Center for the Arts was 2021's winner)
 - The Intercultural Community Center, Westbrook: a wind chime to replace the ICC's old one, made from an upcycled bike wheel, glass bottles, and pages from old books (also includes natural materials: seashells, pinecones, and leaves)

The Committee also suggested recognition for Sydney Doyle of Mt. Ararat Middle School, who submitted an entry of reusable tote bags made from old pet food bags (ineligible because the school does not serve any ecomaine member communities). Staff will send Sydney an ecomaine sustainability prize pack.

3. FY23 P.R. & Outreach Metrics – staff provided a look at FY23's metrics to date
4. Program updates – staff provided updates on the progress of the following:
 - ecofest Community Event – April 22, 2023
 - School Waste Diversion Grants Update (to be considered at the May 25 Committee meeting)
 - i. Final reports from 2022-23 due April 30
 - ii. Proposals for 2023-24 due May 12
 - Annual Meeting (June 15, 2023)
5. Recycling Market Report: Staff presented the handout of recycling markets/pricing

6. Other Business: The Committee recognized the service at ecomaine of Katrina Venhuizen, who will be departing after April 22, 2023.

Linda Boudreau made the motion to adjourn at 5:11 p.m. Rob Wood seconded.

Attendees: Caleb Hemphill, Linda Boudreau, Linda Cohen, Troy Moon, Rob Wood

Staff: Matt Grondin, Katrina Venhuizen, Nate Cronauer

DRAFT

2023-24 Grants Cover Page & Table of Contents

Total Budget: \$25,000

Total Amount Requested from 11 Schools: \$31,259

Recipients are chosen based on the following criteria:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Demonstration of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, or composting (please note that gardening or greenhousing projects, while they promote sustainability and are generally lovely, will be given lower priority than those in waste diversion)
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- How compelling and worthy the funding is, overall

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One-Page Summaries of Each Proposal

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Full Proposals

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School Recycling Grant Final Report

Congratulations on a successful proposal to ecomaine's School Recycling Grants program! We're so excited to have worked with so many wonderful schools and child care programs this year!

Please use this form to provide the committee with a final update on your progress. Use as much detail as possible to describe the completion of your project, and include any photos or attachments.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact us at info@ecomaine.org for more information.

Email *

Appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com

School Information

Name and Physical Address of School / Child Care Program *

Appletree School, 44 Two Lights Rd, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

In 1-2 sentences, briefly describe your school's grant project. *

We planned a school community event with parents and staff to remove aging and decaying garden beds and build new ones. We used a Lumber Company in our town that buys locally-source wood.

Grant Summary

Please use this section to provide a detailed summary of progress during the 2020-21 school year

Please provide a narrative summary of the funded project, including accomplishments, challenges, and unexpected findings. (500 word max) *

Our original plan was to purchase pre-made raised beds. But as we looked at the costs and had families asking if there was a way they could volunteer their time, we decided to make the boxes ourselves and replace 4 large existing beds and reuse the healthy soil into some smaller beds for the same cost. We worked with The Lumbery to determine the best wood product to use for the beds we built, and we chose hemlock for its' ability to hold up over years, yet at a slightly lower cost than cedar. Parents arrived to help demo the old beds and haul away to the transfer station. Other parents brought tools for building the new beds, but first they had to dig a lot of dirt to create some new sized box areas which actually left us with a bit more soil to use than we had expected, so we didn't need to purchase as much soil as we had thought! It was a great day of some hard work, but a very positive experience. We had the Lumbery make us one 6X4 box out of cedar to replace another raised bed that was disintegrating. This box holds mint that the children love to cut and munch on as they arrive in the morning. We will add new nutrient rich soil to the box as we start the growing season.

Please provide a full list of purchases made and the total amount of funding used during the project. (Ex: Recycling Bins - \$147; Poster Materials - \$53; Gloves and Protective Equipment - \$59) *

Funding given: \$680

Purchases:

4- 2X10X16 Rough Hemlock boards \$405.28

1 box fasteners for corners \$24.99

1 Raised Bed cedar \$. 200.00

2 cubic feet Raised Bed mix \$19.99

No charge for delivery

Total: \$650.26 purchased, plus tax 35.76 =\$686.02

Classroom Integration

Please use this section to describe how this project was folded into student learning.

How did your school incorporated this grant into classroom learning? (3-4 sentences) *

The children and teachers talked about how we were going to have a community garden rebuilding project where some of us will work together to create a better and safer garden. Children learned about transplanting (reusing) some perennial plants and brainstormed how to use two planks that were still in good shape instead of taking them to the dump (we chose to use them in muddy spots on the woodland paths). We will use our compost created from our food scraps to enhance the soil, and plant seeds that we collected and saved from last year's garden.

Program Sustainability

Please use this section to describe any efforts being made to maintain this project into the future.

In 2-3 sentences, please describe what steps, if any, have been taken to continue this project in future years? *

We will plant in spring, harvest in the early fall, dig for fun after the harvest is done and learn about how the earth is dormant over the winter and then start over again in the spring. Children will be invited to bring seedlings and then seeds from their own gardens as a way to keep the cycle continuing.

Thank you for your continued support of schools!

Partnership with ecomaine

How have you worked with ecomaine on this grant? How would you like to do so in the future?

Have you utilized the following resources from ecomaine? *

	Yes	No	Unsure
Do/Don't Recycle lists for students	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Subscribed to monthly email newsletter	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online virtual tour programming	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Virtual or on-site presentations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Customized signage	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please use this space to describe any other specific educational supports your school would benefit from.

We could use new signage on do/don't lists, and/or the recycle decal for trash cans.

We'd love to highlight the great work being done at our schools! Please provide any additional materials, if appropriate. Examples include presentations, photos, data spreadsheets, videos, etc. (100 MB limit)

Please include any links here, if applicable. Links may include (but are not limited to) press releases, YouTube videos, school websites, etc.

School Recycling Grant Final Report

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If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact us at info@ecomaine.org for more information.

Email *

k.....

School Information

Name and Physical Address of School / Child Care Program *

The Ecology Learning Center, 230 Main Street, Unity, ME 04988.....

In 1-2 sentences, briefly describe your school's grant project. *

The Ecology Learning Center was able to purchase standard waste and recycling bins.....

Grant Summary

Please use this section to provide a detailed summary of progress during the 2020-21 school year

Please provide a narrative summary of the funded project, including accomplishments, challenges, and unexpected findings. (500 word max) *

The Ecology Learning Center was able to reinstate a standardized waste and recycling program for students and staff to engage in easily and accurately. We were able to consolidate our waste locations and ensure all were equipped with standard bins. Challenges that remain are maintaining a tidy consolidation area for all of our waste through the week as well as full integration of our composting program.

Please provide a full list of purchases made and the total amount of funding used during the project. (Ex: Recycling Bins - \$147; Poster Materials - \$53; Gloves and Protective Equipment - \$59) *

Amount - Description

\$393.76 - waste bins with lids

\$165 - large trash bin

\$100 - 4 recycling boxes

\$141.24 - regular trash bins

Classroom Integration

Please use this section to describe how this project was folded into student learning.

How did your school incorporated this grant into classroom learning? (3-4 sentences) *

We have our students involved in all components of our school through chores each day. A rotating group of Advisory students learn and collect the waste from the school and consolidate it in our waste shed.

Program Sustainability

Please use this section to describe any efforts being made to maintain this project into the future.

In 2-3 sentences, please describe what steps, if any, have been taken to continue this project in future years? *

We are committed to creating a school garden to incorporate our compost. We are also building our recycling of returnables to benefit each senior class by means of a fundraiser.

Partnership with ecomaine

How have you worked with ecomaine on this grant? How would you like to do so in the future?

Have you utilized the following resources from ecomaine? *

	Yes	No	Unsure
Do/Don't Recycle lists for students	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Subscribed to monthly email newsletter	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online virtual tour programming	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Virtual or on-site presentations	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Customized signage	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please use this space to describe any other specific educational supports your school would benefit from.

Standardized signage, on-site presentations at the start of the year and mid-way through the year as a reminder to all students of the importance of proper disposal of items.

We'd love to highlight the great work being done at our schools! Please provide any additional materials, if appropriate. Examples include presentations, photos, data spreadsheets, videos, etc. (100 MB limit)

Please include any links here, if applicable. Links may include (but are not limited to) press releases, YouTube videos, school websites, etc.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

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FIDDLEHEAD CENTER FOR THE ARTS (SCARBOROUGH)

School Recycling Grant Final Report

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Please use this form to provide the committee with a final update on your progress. Use as much detail as possible to describe the completion of your project, and include any photos or attachments.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact us at info@ecomaine.org for more information.

Email *

oona@fiddleheadscarborough.org

School Information

Name and Physical Address of School / Child Care Program *

Fiddlehead Center for the Arts - Scarborough

In 1-2 sentences, briefly describe your school's grant project. *

We expanded our gardening program to include composting, built a rotating composter, taught our students about the benefit of composting and expanded our actual garden for the 2023 season.

Grant Summary

Please use this section to provide a detailed summary of progress during the 2020-21 school year

Please provide a narrative summary of the funded project, including accomplishments, challenges, and unexpected findings. (500 word max) *

Introducing composting to our kids and including them in the building of our center's composter was very successful. They respond best to hands on learning and feel an ownership now over the process. After more research, we found that we didn't have the capacity at this time to expand into raising and feeding worms. So we opted instead to build on what the kids are most excited about and that is the garden. We purchased new garden beds to add to our existing garden and reached out to Mainely Tubs around the corner to get a large 7 x 8 foot pallet that will serve as another "raised bed" for our smaller veggies. We are excited to be able to utilize our own homespun compost in the these gardens from food scraps that the children would have discarded into the trash. Thank you for the opportunity to enrich our children's learning and quite literally the soil around us. :)

Please provide a full list of purchases made and the total amount of funding used during the project. (Ex: Recycling Bins - \$147; Poster Materials - \$53; Gloves and Protective Equipment - \$59) *

Raised beds: \$309
Compost Tumbler - \$80
Gloves -\$20
Broom and dust pan - \$6.50
Small compost bucket for our kitchen - \$35
Books and articles for our library - \$64
Garden soil/mulch delivery - \$600
Veggie seeds and starts - \$62
Total used: \$1,176.50

Classroom Integration

Please use this section to describe how this project was folded into student learning.

How did your school incorporated this grant into classroom learning? (3-4 sentences) *

We purchased and built the compost tumbler with our Nature and Farm themed Summer Camp. The campers learned all about composting, made signs about what foods/items can go into the bin and what food/items cannot. We integrated the composting program to reduce our food waste during the school year as well.

Program Sustainability

Please use this section to describe any efforts being made to maintain this project into the future.

In 2-3 sentences, please describe what steps, if any, have been taken to continue this project in * future years?

We hope to keep composting for years to come and to use the compost to enrich our garden during the summer months. We also hope that the education and experiences they have with composting and gardening at Fiddlehead will inspire food waste reduction in their homes too.

Partnership with ecomaine

How have you worked with ecomaine on this grant? How would you like to do so in the future?

Have you utilized the following resources from ecomaine? *

	Yes	No	Unsure
Do/Don't Recycle lists for students	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Virtual or on-site presentations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Customized signage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please use this space to describe any other specific educational supports your school would benefit from.

We would love any additional posters or materials that we could post around our center.

We'd love to highlight the great work being done at our schools! Please provide any additional materials, if appropriate. Examples include presentations, photos, data spreadsheets, videos, etc. (100 MB limit)

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If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact us at info@ecomaine.org for more information.

Email *

marier@fiddleheadschoool.org

School Information

Name and Physical Address of School / Child Care Program *

Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences 25 Shaker Road Gray, Maine 04260

In 1-2 sentences, briefly describe your school's grant project. *

Our grant was focused on setting up systems for composting and recycling. We put compost containers in all classrooms and the kitchen, and used Garbage to Gardens' service for compost pick up. We also ordered a variety of books on composting, recycling and sustainable practices.

Grant Summary

Please use this section to provide a detailed summary of progress during the 2020-21 school year

Please provide a narrative summary of the funded project, including accomplishments, challenges, and unexpected findings. (500 word max) *

plastics compost tumblers several years ago as a donation

Please provide a full list of purchases made and the total amount of funding used during the project. (Ex: Recycling Bins - \$147; Poster Materials - \$53; Gloves and Protective Equipment - \$59) *

10 -8 quart stock pots for composting-\$144.50, Garbage to Garden's bi-monthly pick up-\$518, books on recycling, composting, sustainability-\$134.00. Total=\$796.57

Classroom Integration

Please use this section to describe how this project was folded into student learning.

How did your school incorporated this grant into classroom learning? (3-4 sentences) *

We began with teacher training so educators would have a more comprehensive understanding of recycling and composting to be able to support students in their learning. Bringing in educators from Eco Maine and Garbage to Gardens to work with children in the classrooms helped students understand the importance of caring for our planet and conserving resources. Composting in every classroom helped students be able to take part in taking action to reduce waste and keep food waste out of the solid waste stream.

Program Sustainability

Please use this section to describe any efforts being made to maintain this project into the future.

In 2-3 sentences, please describe what steps, if any, have been taken to continue this project in * future years?

Having the compost containers in the school and then switching from an outside service to our own tumblers requires more involvement from the students. A teacher (OT) saw the need and the opportunity for students to combine physical work with service to help with the maintenance of our composting and recycling efforts. Once we have our team trained this year, those students can train new students next year. Also, when we receive the compost from garbage to gardens, student will see the connection first hand what the cycles and systems at work in nature can do right here in our yard.

Partnership with ecomaine

How have you worked with ecomaine on this grant? How would you like to do so in the future?

Have you utilized the following resources from ecomaine? *

	Yes	No	Unsure
Do/Don't Recycle lists for students	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Virtual or on-site presentations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Customized signage	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please use this space to describe any other specific educational supports your school would benefit from.

Training for our teacher volunteer on how to create and develop a recycling and composting team.

We'd love to highlight the great work being done at our schools! Please provide any additional materials, if appropriate. Examples include presentations, photos, data spreadsheets, videos, etc. (100 MB limit)



IMG_0615 - Mari...



IMG_0616 - Mari...



IMG_1116 - Mari...



IMG_1117 - Mari...

Please include any links here, if applicable. Links may include (but are not limited to) press releases, YouTube videos, school websites, etc.

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NO COST EXTENSION REQUEST BY FIDDLEHEAD (GRAY)

PROPOSAL #1

With our left over funds of \$1162 we would like to purchase an electric hand dryer pending feasibility and approval by an electrician.

XLERATOR XL-BW Automatic High Speed Hand Dryer with White Thermoset Plastic Cover and 1.1 Noise Reduction Nozzle (or another model of similar efficiency)

1@ \$500 \$500

approx. \$300 for installation \$300

Agrimaster Galvanized Stock Tank 2 @ 109.99 \$219.98

Soil/compost to fill stock tanks for gardening \$142

Leftover soils will be used in raised beds

Total \$1161.98

PROPOSAL #2

We would like to purchase supplies for our newly forming recycling and composting team:

10 green aprons \$26.00

10 pairs Work gloves 2 @14.99 \$29.91

1 Collapsible Folding Wagon Garden Cart Beach Wagon/Grocery Wagon/All-Terrain Wheels. Garden Grocery Wagon (Black) \$38.99

Materials for gardening to foster more sustainable practices and habits:

Agrimaster Galvanized Stock Tank/for raised beds 4 @ 109.99 \$439.96

Soil/compost to fill stock tanks for gardening \$200.00

(3) 7 Pockets Vertical Garden Wall Hanging Planter 3@\$16.88 \$50.64

12 6 pack Seedlings for new raised beds \$72.00

Metal Watering cans for students 2 @ 19.99 \$39.98

Natural baskets for classrooms in school for storage to replace or avoid plastic containers \$260.00

PROPOSAL #2

total \$1157.48

From: [Matt Grondin](#)
To: [Marie Reimensnyder](#)
Cc: [Nathan Cronauer](#)
Subject: RE: [External] Proposal for Eco Maine grant unused funds
Date: Friday, May 5, 2023 11:17:00 AM

Thanks Marie.

This looks great. Our preference would be for Proposal #1 as well, in order to reduce the number of paper towels used, primarily. But you have approval to proceed with the project(s) you've proposed! Please feel free to use funds you already have toward this project, and upon submission of a final update, we will provide the remaining 20% of funds.

Thanks!
Matt

Matt Grondin | Director of Communications & Public Affairs
grondin@ecomaine.org | d: 207-523-3108 | c: 207-756-9990
ecomaine | www.ecomaine.org | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

Get instant answers to your recycling and waste-handling questions in ecomaine's [RECYCLOPEDIA](#).
Download the FREE mobile app today!

From: Marie Reimensnyder <marier@fiddleheadschoo.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 4, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Matt Grondin <Grondin@ecomaine.org>
Subject: [External] Proposal for Eco Maine grant unused funds

Hello Matt,

I am writing with a new proposal for our Eco Maine Grant for Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences in Gray, Maine. We did not use the full funds of our grant for a variety of reasons:

I found less expensive stainless steel pots for compost containers in the classroom.

The pad we were going to create for the dumpster and recycling bin that did not have designated places in our school yard-making it unsafe for children to empty recycling- was not needed as the containers have been relocated to a permanent place on the blacktop.

We did not generate as much compost as expected-likely because we do not have a school lunch program and much of the leftover food from lunches goes back home in lunchboxes.

We ended our service two months earlier than planned. We still have a need to compost, but are attempting to use the small tumblers in our yard.

Grant amount	\$2044
<u>Grant funds used</u>	<u>\$ 882</u>
Balance	\$1162

I am proposing two options as I would like to be able to install one or two electric eco hand dryers in our bathroom(s) to reduce the use of paper towels. Thus will be contingent on feasibility in terms of where the electrical wires run in the bathrooms- and the cost of an electrician.

In the event we cannot install an electric hand dryer, I am submitting a second proposal for supplies for our newly forming recycling and composting team. We would also be open to

suggestions for systems that would increase our recycling at school. We have had Nate Cronauer do a presentation for both teachers and students, but we still seem to struggle with efficient and thorough recycling practices. I do believe a recycling team will help keep a more watchful eye on the trash/recycling bins to implement regular audits and encourage better environmentally aware practices.

I wish I could say our recycling and composting was a great success, but in reality, we still need help to create a culture of recyclers in our school.

Thank you for your support. I am including the grant proposals below.

Sincerely and with appreciation,
Marie

Marie Camillo Reimensnyder (she/her/hers)

Nature Based Curriculum Coordinator

Fiddlehead School of Arts and Sciences

marier@fiddleheadschoo.org 207-749-2335

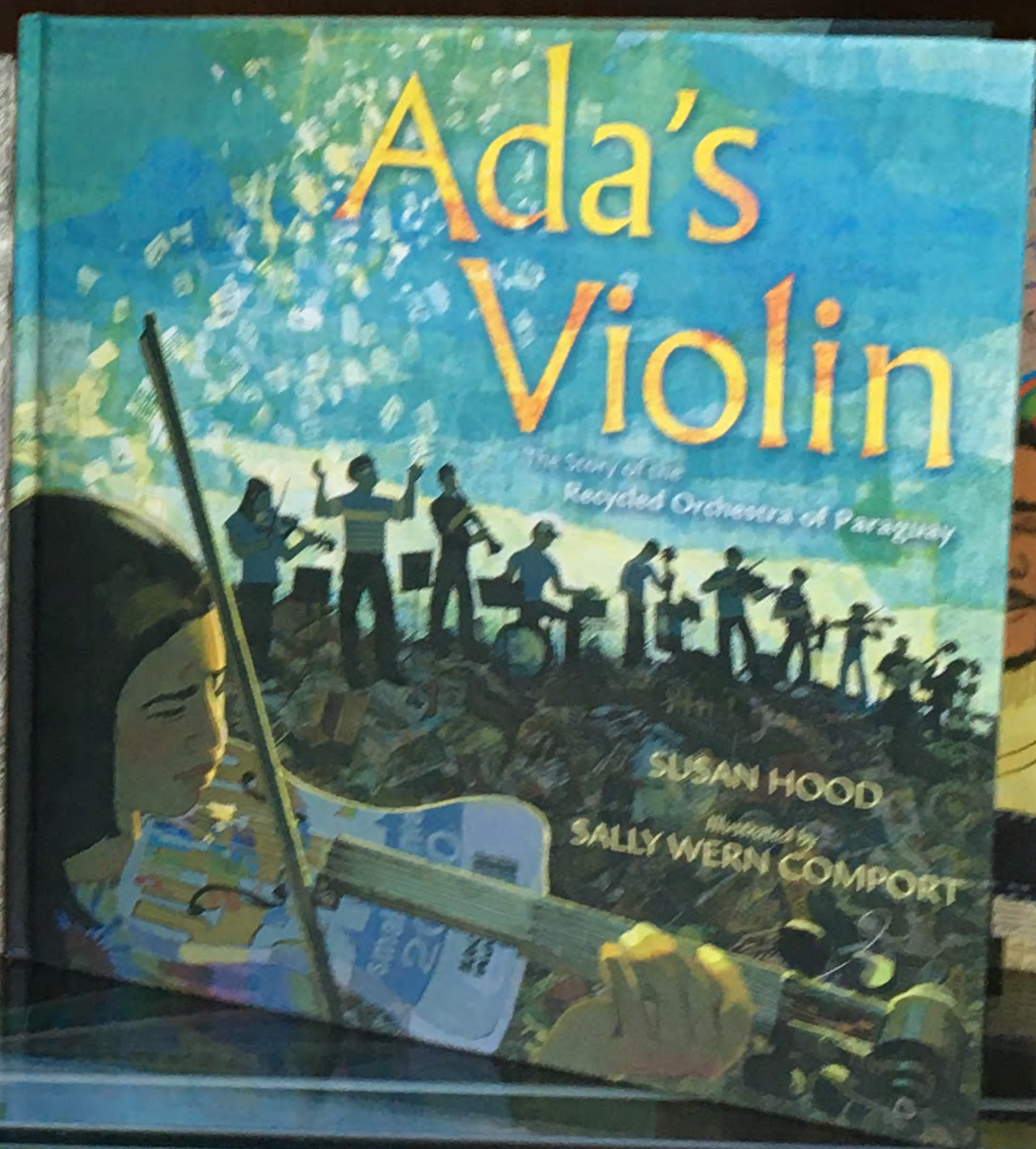
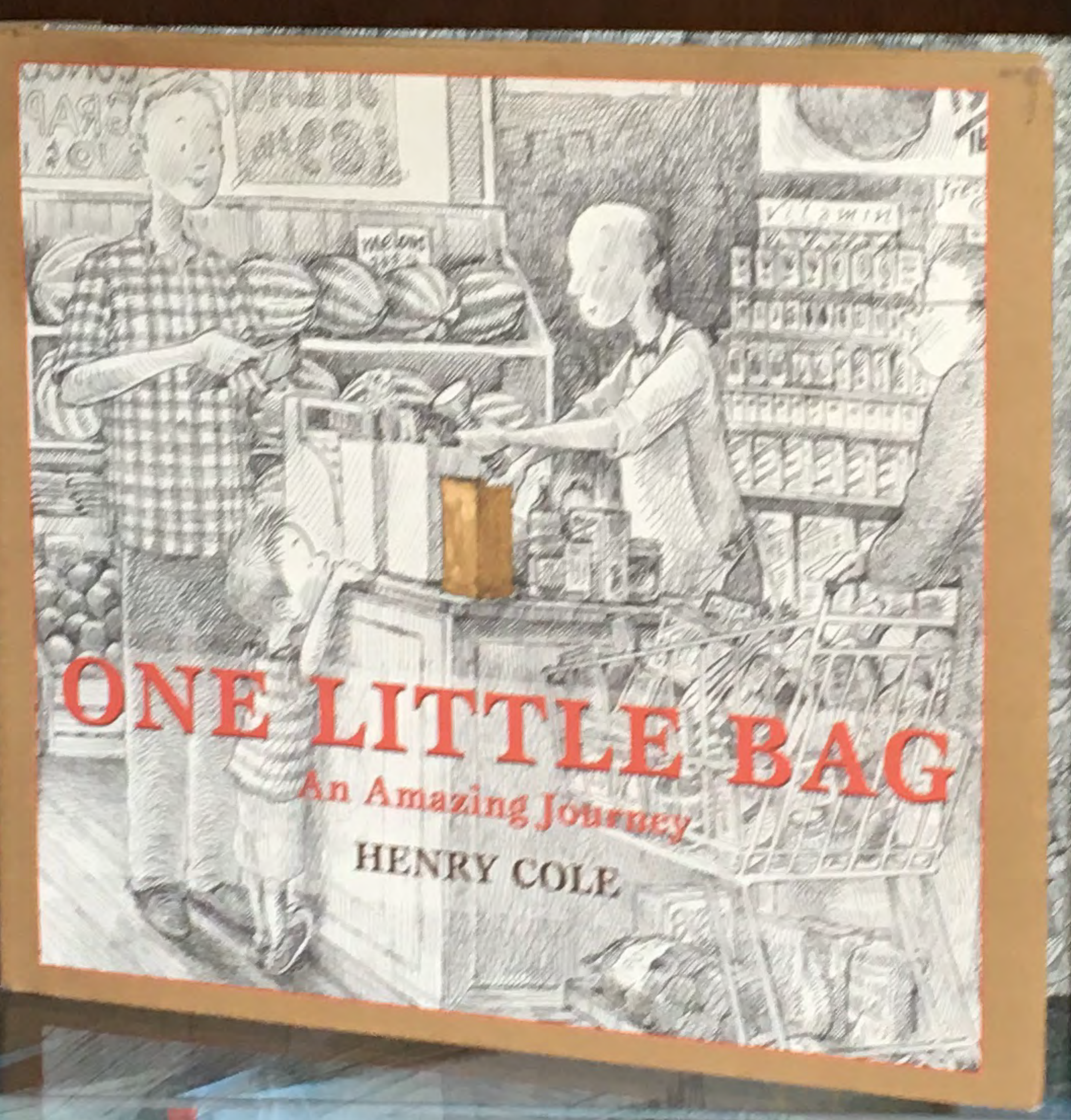
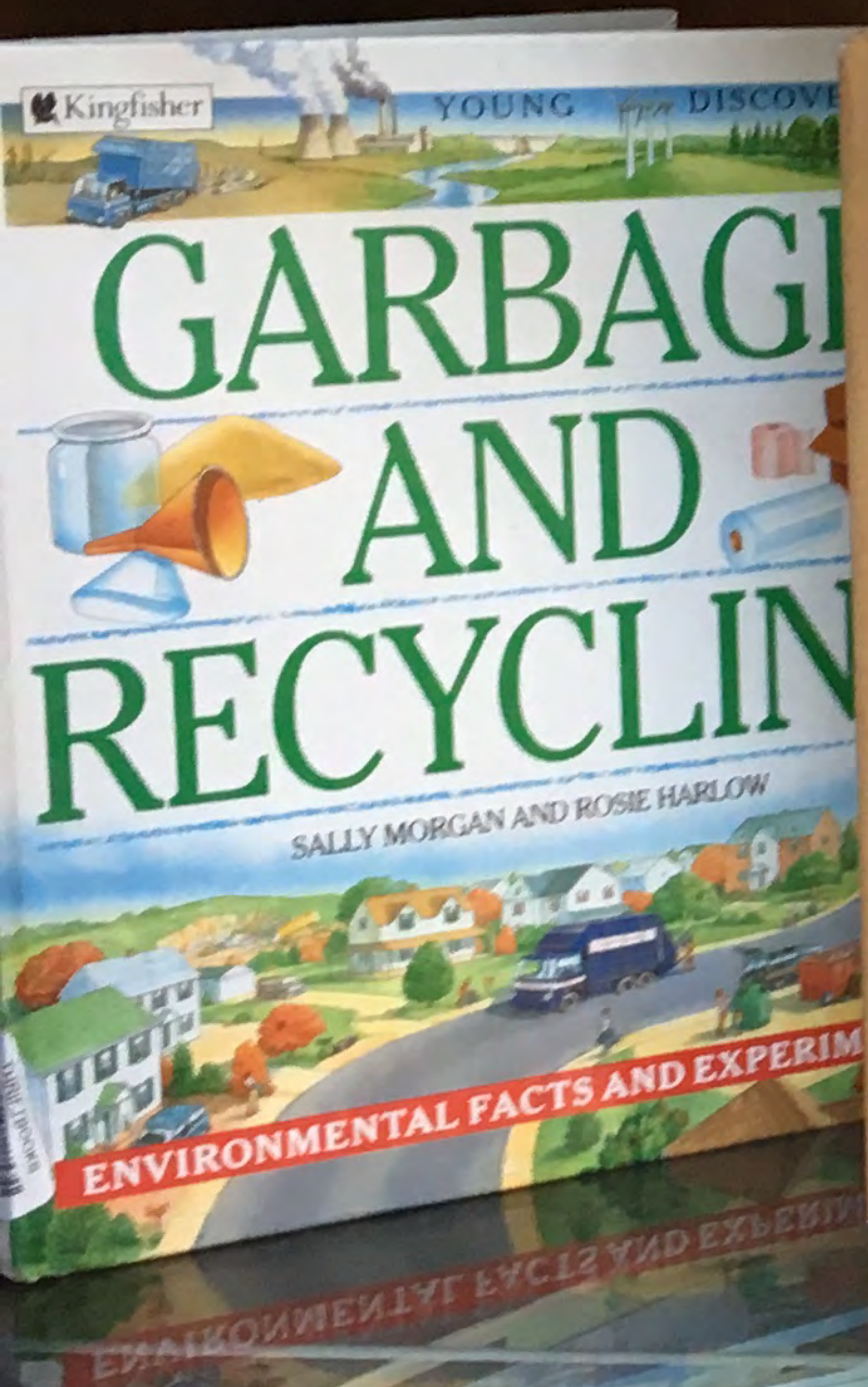
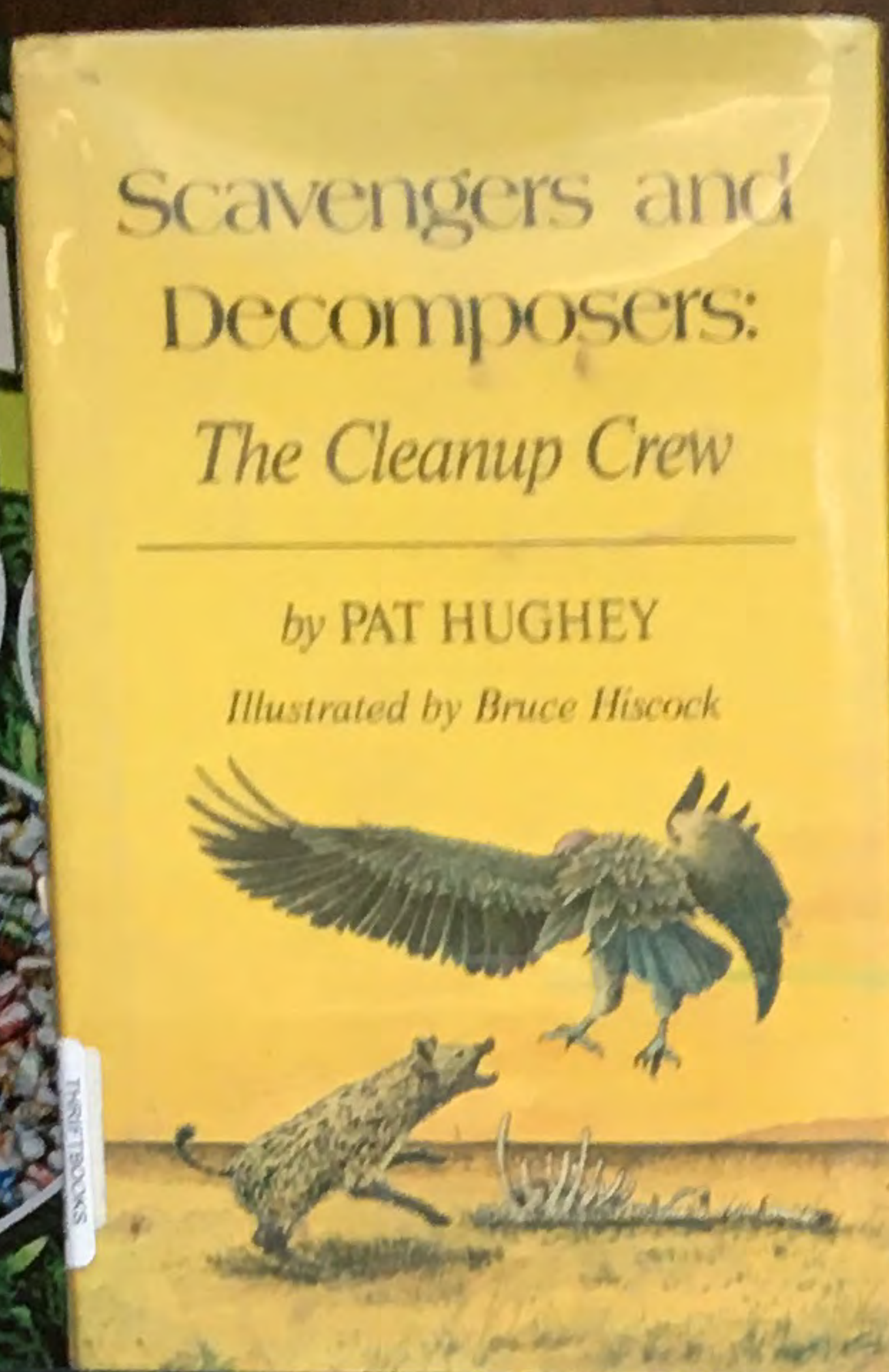
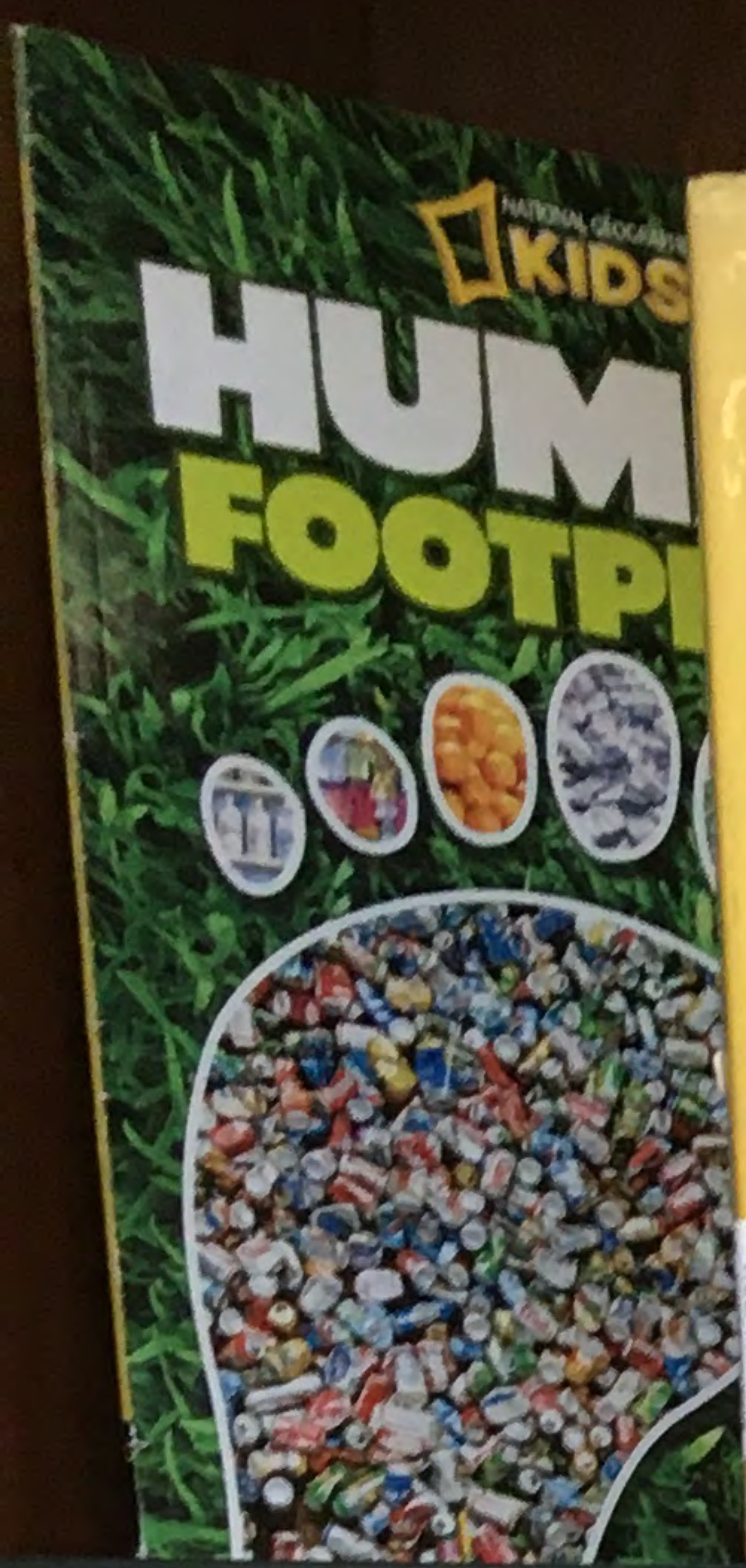
PROPOSALS:

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.





BOOKS to share
recycling
composting
sustainability



LUCY SIEGLE
TURNING
How Humanity
THE
(And You)
TIDE
Can Make
ON
Our Globe Clean Again
PLASTIC

From the
expert on plastic,
as seen on
The One Show



GENERATION
GREEN

The Ultimate Teen Guide to Living an Eco-Friendly Life
— WRITTEN BY LINDA SIVERTSEN AND TOSH SIVERTSEN —

School Recycling Grant Final Report

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Email *

shawa@portlandschools.org

School Information

Name and Physical Address of School / Child Care Program *

King Middle School, 92 Deering Ave, Portland, ME

In 1-2 sentences, briefly describe your school's grant project. *

Our project is to replace the plastic utensils in our cafeteria with a more sustainable option, such as metal sporks. We purchased a countertop dishwasher, sporks, flatware organizers, and bus tubs in order to do so.

Grant Summary

Please use this section to provide a detailed summary of progress during the 2020-21 school year

Please provide a narrative summary of the funded project, including accomplishments, challenges, and unexpected findings. (500 word max) *

ECO Team piloted Project Spork with the Sebago 7th grade team (about 76 students). Each student was offered 1 metal spork, instead of the usual plastic fork, to use for school lunch. The Eco Team educated* students and staff on the daily use, cleaning, and storing of the utensils (*presentation attached to this report). Things went quite well for two days; then there was a sudden halt. The Food Service Interim Director of Portland Public Schools informed us that we could not replace the plastic utensils with the metal sporks because our countertop dishwasher did not reach the temperature requirements for school food services. This issue did not come up in our communications last spring with the previous Food Service Director.

In February, the ECO Team sat down and met with Portland Public Schools Interim Director of Food Services and the Food Service Manager. The ECO Team emphasized the importance of moving away from plastic utensils and asked for help and guidance in doing so, since our purchased dishwasher was not up to food safety standards.

We just recently received the following exciting email from the Interim Director of Food Services: "I apologize for the delay in communicating what we've been working on in regards to a dishwasher at King. We were hoping to be able to confirm the completion of the following exciting news, we're working on funding and quotes for a commercial dishwasher for the King food service kitchen. We're confident in the funding, quotes for the dishwasher are complete, we're waiting on plumbing & installation quotes, and then we'll be able to formally submit the request to move forward. We'll keep you updated on our progress." Success!

Please provide a full list of purchases made and the total amount of funding used during the project. (Ex: Recycling Bins - \$147; Poster Materials - \$53; Gloves and Protective Equipment - \$59) *

Sporks - \$271.15 (\$15.95 for 5 pack); Countertop Energy Star Dishwasher - \$350; 6 Stainless Steel Flatware Organizers - \$342 (\$57 each), 6 Bus Tubs - \$30 (\$5 each)

Classroom Integration

Please use this section to describe how this project was folded into student learning.

How did your school incorporated this grant into classroom learning? (3-4 sentences) *

This project connects to our Human Impact science standard. As part of our fall 7th grade science unit on food webs, we looked at how humans impact the sustainability of specific ecosystems. Additionally, we learned about the negative impacts of plastics on our ecosystem and what happens to our waste (trash vs. recycling vs. compost). Members of ECO Team presented to 7th graders about the negative impacts that plastic waste has on the environment and its organisms, including bioaccumulation of plastic in the food web. In science class,

Program Sustainability

Please use this section to describe any efforts being made to maintain this project into the future.

In 2-3 sentences, please describe what steps, if any, have been taken to continue this project in future years? *

Our meeting with the Portland Public Schools Interim Director of Food Services and the Food Service Manager led to some institutional change. A commercial dishwasher will now be installed at our school, allowing the switch to metal utensils and a longterm continuation of the project.

Partnership with ecomaine

How have you worked with ecomaine on this grant? How would you like to do so in the future?

Have you utilized the following resources from ecomaine? *


	Yes	No	Unsure
Do/Don't Recycle lists for students	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Subscribed to monthly email newsletter	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online virtual tour programming	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Virtual or on-site presentations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Customized signage	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please use this space to describe any other specific educational supports your school would benefit from.

ECO Team was lucky to have Katrina Venhuizen visit for an on-site presentation. We would love to have her back to King to present to the rest of the students on our 7th grade team and the other 5 teams of students.

We'd love to highlight the great work being done at our schools! Please provide any additional materials, if appropriate. Examples include presentations, photos, data spreadsheets, videos, etc. (100 MB limit)

 Project Spork Pr...

 ECO Team Meeti...

 Project Spork Ph...

 Plastic Problem -...

Please include any links here, if applicable. Links may include (but are not limited to) press releases, YouTube videos, school websites, etc.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

ECO Team Meeting

With PPS Interim Director of Food Services and PPS Food Service Manager

February 13, 2023

Agenda Item	Details
Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Millie	Who we are (The King Eco team) Our goal for the dishwasher and sporks.
Effects of plastic (health issues) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Norah	Harmful Chemicals in plastic <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Obesity- Organ problems- Reproductive harm/decreased fertility- Prostate or breast cancer- Diabetes- Neurodevelopment disorders
Effects of plastic (environmental) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amelia	Fish swallowing it, climate change
Show dishwasher and sporks, and talk about the grant from EcoMaine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maeve	We got a grant from eco maine to get the dishwasher, the sporks and other things like storage for sporks.
Working together <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kaya	We would love it if you would like to help us but our goal is to get rid of plastic by the end of the year
How they can help/what we need to do to be up to food code standards. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maeve	Dishwasher
Should we switch to compostable cutlery <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amelia	How much the cost of compostable cutlery would be
Closing & Thank You <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maren	

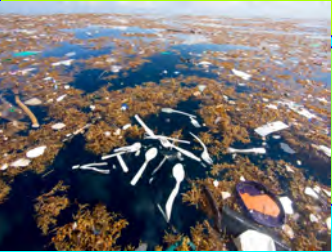
The Majestic Plastic Bag

The Plastic Problem

What is the **BIGGEST** problem with plastic?

¿Cuál es el **MAYOR** problema con el plástico?

Qual é o **MAIOR** problema com o plástico?



The Problem: Plastic is
Indestructible.

Every item of plastic that has ever been created is still with us on the planet today. In the mid 50's we were told that plastic was suitable for single use and could simply be thrown away. We now know that to be untrue yet we continue to treat it as such.

El plástico es indestructible.

O plástico é indestrutível



The Plastic Problem

What is plastic made of?

¿De qué está hecho el plástico?

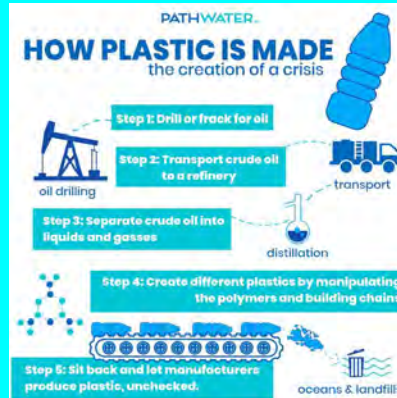
Do que é feito o plástico?

De petróleo y productos químicos

De petróleo e produtos químicos

Plastic is made from oil with a combination of chemical ingredients to form different types of plastics.

PROCESSING OF PLASTIC FROM CRUDE OIL



The Plastic Problem

Nurdles:

The pre-production raw pellets formed when you turn oil into plastic. People, animals and birds can confuse them for eggs/food. They are also known as mermaid tears.

Los gránulos crudos se forman cuando conviertes el petróleo en plástico.

Pelotas brutas formadas quando você transforma petróleo em plástico.

What is a “*nurdle*”?

¿Qué es un “*nurdle*”?

O que é um “*nurdle*”?

Nurdles have been found on every single beach scientists have studied... even on the most remote islands of the planet. They were found in every surface trawl made during the filming of *A Plastic Ocean* and scientists have evidence that they have even made their way to the pristine waters of Antarctica.



Video



The Story of Plastic

Plastic Alternative: Bring Your Own Bag



Plastic Alternative: Use Bar Soap & Shampoo



Plastic Alternative: Bring Your Own Utensils



Plastic Alternative: Bring Your Own Water Bottle



Plastic Alternative: Bring a Reusable Mug



Plastic Alternative: Use a Metal Straw



Plastic Alternative: Store Food in Reusable Containers



Plastic Alternative: Skip Plastic Produce Bags





Plastic Alternative: Refill!



Pass On single-use plastic

Pass On takeaway coffee cups

Pass On plastic bags

Pass On plastic cutlery

Pass On plastic straws

Pass On microbeads

Pass On plastic bottles

Pass On excess packaging

Pass On plastic cotton buds

#PassOnPlastic





**skip_{the}
straw!**



Project Spork™

Project Spork's goal is to reduce plastic waste in the cafeteria and bring awareness to the amount of plastic we use

Project Spork will kick off Fall of 2022

What Is Project Spork?

Project spork is a Eco team lead initiative which is focused on replacing plastic silverware with clean reusable metal sporks. Why? You may ask. Well, allow me to explain, you get yourself a school lunch, good for you, now there isn't any pizza left for the other kids. Now since you're a civilized person you want to eat your pizza with a fork and knife, so you go and grab a plastic fork wrapped in plastic and a plastic knife wrapped in plastic. Good job, now we're past the tipping point everything's on fire, or underwater and all because of some plastic. You don't want to grab that plastic fork wrapped in plastic. This tactic is called "fear mongering" and also "extreme exaggeration" and when they go hand in hand it works flawlessly! So we need to get metal sporks and by spork I mean one end is a fork the other is a spoon "perfectly balanced as all things should be"

So I hope you enjoyed this short about section.



Why are we getting rid of plastic?

One of the major reasons that we are getting rid of the plastic-covered plastic utensils is the amount of plastic that it is putting in to the earth is so bad.

FUN FACT:

Every single piece of plastic that has ever been made is still on our earth today. Starting in the mid 50's people were told that plastic was right for single use and easily thrown away. Now we know that plastic does not go away but most still treat it like it just goes away like that.

-Maeve



Petroleum-Based
Plastic
Thrown Away

Use It



Toss It



Trash It



Gets Dumped



20 Years Later*



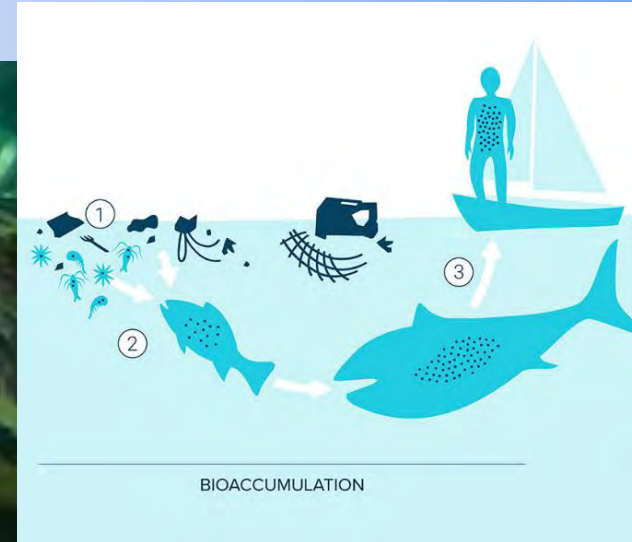
* Traditional plastics
can take decades or
centuries to break down

Effects on Sea Life

Sea creatures have been affected by plastic in the ocean by getting tangled, trapped or eating the plastic and dying from it. Some species are going extinct. By using sporks this will be a smaller threat to sea life.



Seabird



Timeline

NOV 2022- THE SEBAGO 7TH GRADE TEAM WILL PILOT PROJECT SPORK

JAN 2023- THE MOXIE 7TH GRADE TEAM WILL RECEIVE SPORKS

MAR 2023- THE TWO 8TH GRADE TEAMS WILL RECEIVE SPORKS

MAY 2023- THE TWO 6TH GRADE TEAMS WILL RECEIVE SPORKS



Spork Routine



We have made a routine to make it easier to keep track of and clean the sporks. The following are steps of this process:

1. Each team will have a set of sporks available for cafeteria use.
2. A member of the ECO Team will bring down your team spork containers to the caf right before lunch every day.
3. After you have gotten your lunch, you will grab a spork from the napkin area and go to your table.
4. Once you're done eating, you will put your spork into a tub right before the trash can. **DO NOT THROW AWAY YOUR SPORKS!!!!!!!**
5. A member of the eco team will bring the tub upstairs and put it the sporks in the dishwasher in Ms. Shaw's room.



Care for sporks

Do

- Take care of them
- Only eat food with them
- Put them in the tub when you're done eating

Do Not

- Throw them out
- Bend or ruin them on purpose
- Take them home
- Put them in the microwave
- Harm or threaten others with the sporks



**King Middle School
ECO Team**

Containers ?

486

Here are some positive environmental impacts from your CLYNK usage.



You have saved enough energy to light 0.6 lightbulbs -- 24 hours a day -- for a year.



You have saved the emissions equivalent of driving your car 115 miles.



You have diverted enough containers to fill 3.6 lobster traps.

Thank you for taking time out of your day to listen to this presentation about using different utensils to benefit our earth and its climate. This is Project Spork™ and we are The Eco Team™

School Recycling Grant Final Report

Congratulations on a successful proposal to ecomaine's School Recycling Grants program! We're so excited to have worked with so many wonderful schools and child care programs this year!

Please use this form to provide the committee with a final update on your progress. Use as much detail as possible to describe the completion of your project, and include any photos or attachments.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact us at info@ecomaine.org for more information.

Email *

capobiancoc@westbrookschoools.org

School Information

Name and Physical Address of School / Child Care Program *

471 Stroudwater Street, Westbrook, ME 04074

In 1-2 sentences, briefly describe your school's grant project. *

Create a student led recycling program throughout the middle school. Emphasis on students advocating and leading education for program to other students in building.

Grant Summary

Please use this section to provide a detailed summary of progress during the 2020-21 school year

Please provide a narrative summary of the funded project, including accomplishments, challenges, and unexpected findings. (500 word max)

*

8th graders at Westbrook Middle have participated in civic minded community service projects. They have worked to educate younger students within the building on the environmental impact waste has on our community and town. Students visited classrooms to educate other students on what happens to items left in landfills and what damage litter can cause to plants and animals and how to be less wasteful. Westbrook Middle School, specifically 8th graders, educated fellow staff, students, families and community members on how recycling and composting could be a part of their daily lives.

8th graders led the charge in educating students in addition to collecting data. They collected, sorted and weighed recycling, compiling data sheets to keep track of classrooms' contributions. This data was used to encourage students, with reusable shopping bags and water bottles as prizes, to participate in the challenge.

Please provide a full list of purchases made and the total amount of funding used during the project. (Ex: Recycling Bins - \$147; Poster Materials - \$53; Gloves and Protective Equipment - \$59) *

1 - Surface Mount Bottle Filler / - Approximately \$700.00 (Amazon)
Elkay EZH20 17-7/8" Wall Mounted Retrofit Single Station Hands Free Bottle Filler

1 - Taylor Precision Products Digital Scale, 11.8 x 11.8 Inches, Charcoal Grey- Approximatley \$22.00 (Amazon)

1 - Mount-it Dolly for Moving (220 capacity) Approximately \$45.00 (Amazon)

2 - ACKTRA Coated Nylon Safety WORK GLOVES 12 Pairs, Approximately \$50.00 (Amazon)

15 - Rubbermaid Commercial Products 14-Gallon Blue Recycling Bin (15) Approximately \$345 (Amazon)

2 - Rubbermaid Commercial Products FG262073BLUE Brute Heavy-Duty Round Recycling/Composting Bin, 20-Gallon, Recycle, (2) Approximatley \$60.00 (Amazon)

2 - Rubbermaid Commercial 1788376 BRUTE Heavy-Duty Round Waste/Utility Container, 32-gallon Bottle/Can Recycling lid, Blue Apprximatley \$30.00 (Amazon)

2 - Rolling Sands BPA-Free 24 Ounce Water Bottles, Bulk 100 Pack, Made in USA - Approximaltey \$420 (Amazon)

1 -pop-resin recycling logo stickers , 500 per roll - Approximately \$13 (Amazon)

2 - Vinyl stickers for water bottles, earth day - Approximatley \$7 (Amazon)

* Clynk Bags (500 bags) - Approximatley \$85.00 (Hannaford)

Classroom Integration

Please use this section to describe how this project was folded into student learning.

How did your school incorporated this grant into classroom learning? (3-4 sentences) *

Our School has returned to recycling building wide, which had not been done since pre-covid.. With the bins, reusable water bottle station, and continued school momentum, we will be able to continue our program for years to come. Money collected for Cylnk cans will be held to contribute to the cost of continuing the program's future expenses.

Program Sustainability

Please use this section to describe any efforts being made to maintain this project into the future.

In 2-3 sentences, please describe what steps, if any, have been taken to continue this project in future years? *

We have worked with custodians and local waste management company to continue the implementation of the program even when students have not been in school. Every classroom, office and meeting place in the building has a bin that has successfully been used on a daily basis.

Partnership with ecomaine

How have you worked with ecomaine on this grant? How would you like to do so in the future?

Have you utilized the following resources from ecomaine? *

	Yes	No	Unsure
Do/Don't Recycle lists for students	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Subscribed to monthly email newsletter	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online virtual tour programming	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Virtual or on-site presentations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Customized signage	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please use this space to describe any other specific educational supports your school would benefit from.

none at this time... Nate has been a great guide and support for our work this year!

We'd love to highlight the great work being done at our schools! Please provide any additional materials, if appropriate. Examples include presentations, photos, data spreadsheets, videos, etc. (100 MB limit)



WMS & Recyclin...

Please include any links here, if applicable. Links may include (but are not limited to) press releases, YouTube videos, school websites, etc.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/av9GEdNLnZXChozF9>

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_CrNKwJ-2k_9OzbKsu6EugOaPeDcNeLzSc6BQsXj7nk/edit?usp=sharing

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RECYCLE



WMIS
Recycles!













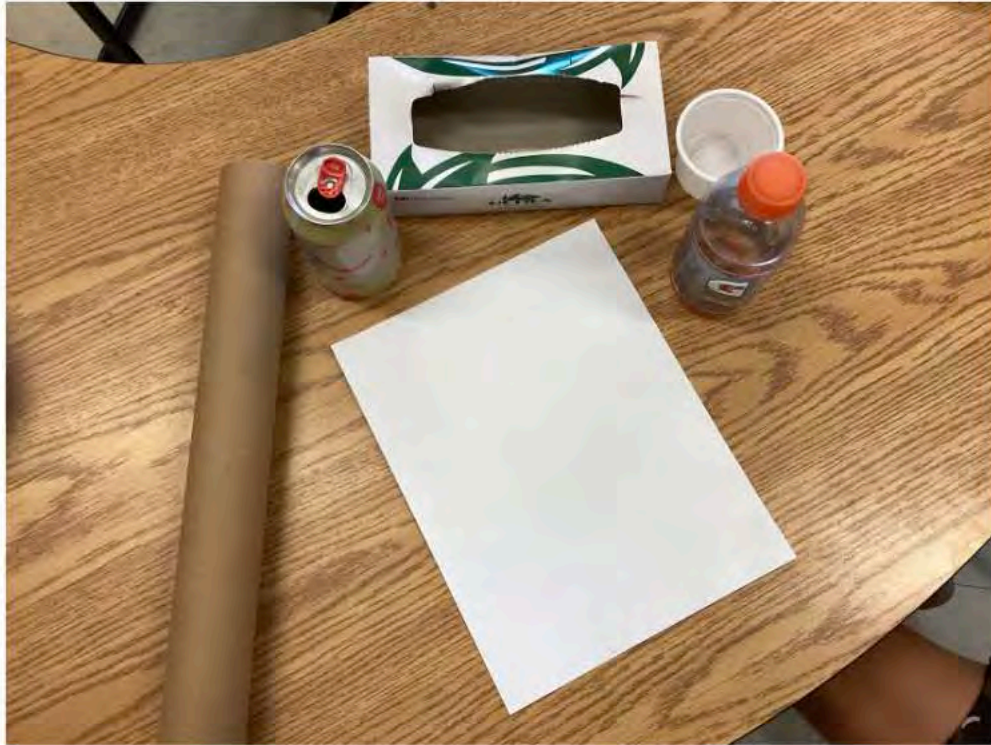
DON'T recycle these things...

Chip bags, granola or candy wrappers, plastic snack bags, tin foil lids on juice, straws, paper towels, tissues...



Recycle things like these....

Cleaned plastic bottles, empty cans, cardboard, paper, empty & clean plastic...





**REUSE
REDUCE
RECYCLE**

WMS Recycling

The Items Listed In The Green Circles Below
Are Acceptable
In Your Curbside Recycling Bin!



PLASTIC CONTAINERS
(with necks only)



CARTONS &
JUICE BOXES



EMPTY AEROSOL
CANS



ALUMINUM CANS



CEREAL BOXES



CARDBOARD BOXES
(FLATTENED)



CLEAN PIZZA BOXES



GLASS BOTTLES
& JARS



TIN/STEEL CANS



PAPER
(BROWN BAGS,
HIGH-GRADE PAPER)



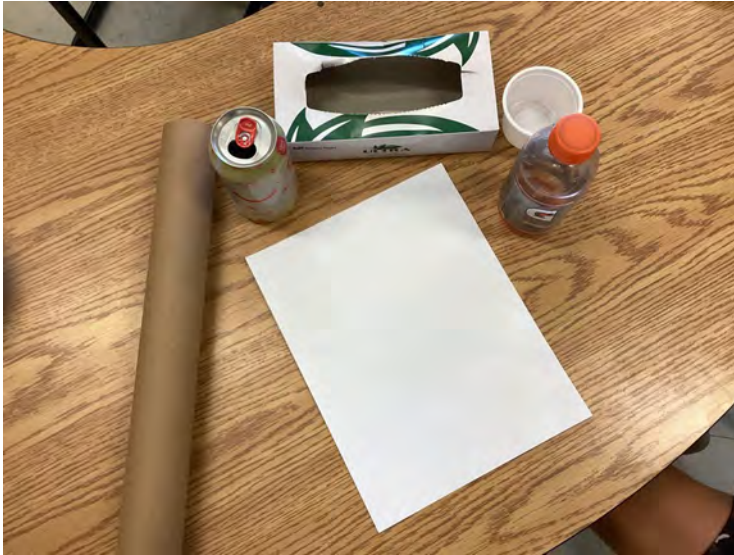
JUNK MAIL



MAGAZINES
& NEWSPAPERS

Recycle things like these....

Cleaned plastic bottles, empty cans, cardboard, paper, empty & clean plastic containers...



DON'T recycle these things...

Chip bags, granola or candy wrappers, plastic snack bags, tin foil lids on juice, straws, paper towels, tissues...





Follow these 3 steps

Yes!

- 1.empty the milk carton
- 2.clean the milk carton
- 3.recycle



DO recycle

PAPER

- All clean cardboard, paperboard, & pizza boxes (**NO FOOD**)
- Newspaper & inserts
- Magazines
- Mail & catalogs
- Paper bags
- Office paper, envelopes, & window envelopes
- Wrapping paper
- Phone books
- Books
- Paper plates (*clean*)
- Milk & juice cartons
- Drink boxes & aseptic containers
- Shredded paper
(*put in clear plastic bags - this the ONE exception to our 'no plastic bags' rule!*)

PLASTIC

- Water bottles
- Milk jugs
- Detergent bottles
- All rigid containers marked #1-7 (*except Styrofoam*)

METAL

- Tin cans
- Aerosol cans (*empty*)
- Aluminum cans & foil
- Pots & pans

GLASS (all colors)

- All glass bottles & jars
- All rigid containers must be EMPTY (not perfectly clean)**



This is not a complete list! Search more than 1,300 items at ecomaine.org/101

DON'T recycle

NO PLASTIC BAGS!



Plastic bags & wrap:

- Trash & shopping bags (*empty or full*)
- Plastic wrap or film
- Bubble wrap or mailers
- Tyvek or plastic envelopes
- Bread bags
- Potato chip & snack bags
- Sandwich baggies
- Animal food bags
- Frozen vegetable bags
- Pellet bags
- Newspaper bags
- Boat wrap or tarps
- Straws & cup lids
- Styrofoam (*even if it's #6!*)
- Paper towels, napkins, or tissue
- Needles & sharps
- Large metal parts
- Gas tanks (*propane, helium, oxygen, etc.*)
- Wood & lumber
- Pipes (*metal or plastic*)
- Clothing & shoes
- Bedding & pillows
- Batteries:
alkaline
button-cell
rechargeable & lithium-ion
- Light bulbs (*any type*)
- Garden hoses
- Diapers (*baby or adult*)
- Food or plants (*compost these*)
- Kitty litter
- Knives & blades
- Toys
- Vinyl siding
- Wax-coated paper & boxes
- Rope, string, chain



Do not bag recyclables

No garbage



No plastic bags or film

Return to retailers

(Check out www.plasticfilmrecycling.org)

ecomaine's

THREE RULES OF PLASTIC RECYCLING

1. It must be rigid plastic - nothing that can be crumpled
2. It must be a container - like a bottle, jug, or box
3. It must have a #1-7 and a recycling symbol



No clothing or linens

Use donation programs



No "tanglers"

No cords, electronics, hoses, ropes, etc.



No hazardous waste

No explosives - No sharps



No food or liquid

Empty all containers

Questions? Look up more than 1,300 items on **ecomaine's** FREE Recyclopeda app!
www.ecomaine.org/101



In conclusion...

Thanks for recycling in WMS!

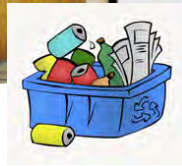
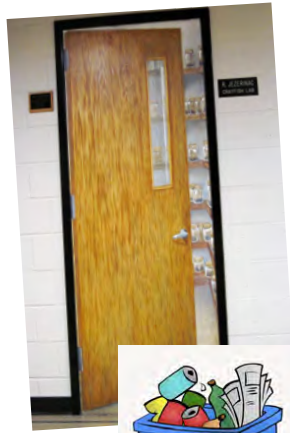
WMS & Recycling

How will it work?

Every classroom, faculty room,
and work space in WMS will be
given a designated recycling bin.
Each bin will have a sticker with its
room number.

**Don't have one? Email me!
Want another? Email me!*





Your "bin" will be assigned **a** collection **day** (M,T,Th,F). On this day, please have your "bin" placed outside your classroom door by 1:00.

A group of 8th grade students will go to each room, collect the bin and return it to you empty.

**This may go slowly at first, but will speed up once they get the hang of it.*

Each bin will be weighed & recorded. We'll use this data to determine which classroom is awarded **Top Recyclers** of the month. This room will be awarded with a trophy, as well as eco-conscious prizes for your students !





The # of prizes may change per month...expect roughly **20-25 per room**. Give them out to your advisees, most deserving students, or use them as an incentive for next month's round. Feel free to do whatever works best for you.



This class of 8th graders will also be calculating the amount of recycling collected each month. A visual representation will be created, so WMS and visitors can see how much waste has been "saved" throughout the year.

Finally, this group of 8th graders will be trained by ecoMaine to become **recycling ambassadors** throughout the building. They'll be creating a mini presentation that can be played for your students as a way to **educate** and **advocate** for the program.

As this is the first time implementing this program there will absolutely be some kinks that need to be worked out. We appreciate your feedback and will be open with communication and adjustments.

It may take a bit of time to refresh our habits and likely **lots** of reminders needed for our students. So in advance, **thank you** for your support and encouragement of this program.

***any questions or concerns email me!**

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Appletree School

44 Two Lights Rd, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

Proposal Contact: Sarah Spidle, Administrator, appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com

Principal: Pamela Mullin, appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Yes...

2020 (\$308 for two composting tumblers), 2021 (\$275 for compostable paper towels during the pandemic to replace cloth ones), & 2022 (\$680 for raised bed wood from a local lumber company and Coast of Maine composted soil).

2023 Proposal:

\$384 as follows.

52, 6oz Stainless steel stacking cups- \$86

- Small, reusable, non-breakable cups for the children to use during outdoor cooking adventures. Reusable stainless-steel cups would delete the need for plastic or disposable cups.

2 dual compartment recycling step trash cans \$290

- Replacement for old, used containers; the lids do not work on one of our double bins, so the trash is always open, which isn't ideal or attractive as it is in a visible location. Receiving new double bins will streamline our spaces and enhance the recycling and composting patterns for the children and staff. (We have compost buckets that we utilize already.)

Recycle/trash label stickers \$8

- The children are quite proud to help clean our spaces and frequently ask which bin is trash or recycling. Parents have commented that their children will "teach" them about recycling and composting from their "3R's" experiences at school.

School's Investment:

Part of the way that we run our outdoor classroom is to reduce the purchase of new items when possible. We are fortunate to have a great swap shop at our transfer station where we find pots, pans, spoons, lids etc. for cooking on the camp stove (and for our popular mud kitchens). If we need an item (like right now we need a ladle), the staff will regularly first check the swap shop before buying a new one. We feel that this approach not only saves funds, but it shows the children alternative ways to get the things we need and avoids more trash in landfills.

Measures of Success:

Having trash/recycling containers that function well might seem like a small thing, but it can make the day have a smoother feel. As we have 40 children and two kitchens, a decent supply of cups will be utilized daily without the risk of running out of one for each child. (Children use their own water bottles for daily hydration, these new cups would be used for other situations.)

Project Sustainability:

Both of these items will last a long time and continue for years to come. We will continue our recycling habits and enjoy our outdoor snack adventures!

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Chelsea Elementary School

566 Togus Rd. Chelsea, Me. 04342

Proposal Contact: Rosanna Gargiulo, Garden Coordinator, rosanna.gargiulo@foodcorps.org

Principal: Allison Hernandez, ahernandez@svrsu.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Unsure. [ecomaine note: Yes, \$450 in 2018 for a field trip to ecomaine and reusable coffee pods for the teacher's room]

2023 Proposal:

\$930 for a compost system that diverts compostable cafeteria waste to our school garden, while providing leadership and social and emotional learning opportunities for students. Many 3-5 students objected to lunchtime food waste and asked for the school to invest in a compost system. "Food Waste Free ME" will be the central project of our Garden Curriculum next year.

Materials required to conduct waste audit surveys, create a compost station in the cafeteria, and build a 3-bin compost system in our school garden area. We're requesting 3 smaller (13-gallon) compost bins so students can participate in their removal, plus some home composting grade biobags for when our outdoor water is shut off in the winter to make cleaning the bins easier.

1"X6"X8' cedar boards,	29 @ \$10.98 = 318.42
2"X4"X8' pine	8 @ \$3.35 = 26.8
2"X2"X8' furring strips	4 @ \$3.38 = 13.52
5' u-post	8 @ \$8.18 = 65.44
50'X4' chicken wire	1 roll @ \$51.21 = 51.21
2" deck screws	1 box @ \$10.98 = 10.98
5-gallon buckets, Lowes	6 @ \$4.78 = 28.68
8'X6' tarp	3 @ \$9.98 = 29.94
32" spading fork	2 @ \$43.98 = 87.96
13-gallon Toter compost bin	3 @ \$54.99 = 164.97
Shipping	1 @ \$30.68 = 30.68
Biobag 280 pack	1 @ \$80.44 = 80.44
Shipping	1 @ \$20.9 = 20.9

School's Investment:

Resources contributed by our school include staff time, expert guest teacher visits, volunteer support, professional development workshops, and tools and materials.

Measures of Success:

In the fall, select classes will participate in a cafeteria food waste entry survey to gauge opinions toward cafeteria food waste and better understand the sources of food waste at our school. In the spring, the same classes will be asked to complete an exit survey to gauge how opinions toward food waste and food practices have changed. We will also administer staff entrance and exit surveys with the same goal in mind.

Project Sustainability:

The project represents an ongoing commitment to improve our school's food system and will be integrated into curriculum carried into the future. With a compost system in place, composting will become part of our garden curriculum which all grades will participate in. Sustaining the project in future years will be the special prerogative of our Cafeteria Club and 5th grade students, as composting fits so well with their mission and curriculum.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

HB Emery Memorial School
908 Cape Road, Limington, ME 04049
Proposal Contact: Tiff Stanley, Administrative Assistant, tstanley@bonnyeagle.org
Principal: Charlotte Regan, cregan@bonnyeagle.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Yes, 2017: \$5,000 for hauling of silver bullet bin to EcoMaine from Limington, ME and back, also to pay for materials being recycled at EcoMaine. About four times a year.

2023 Proposal:

\$5,000 for the continuation of recycling at the school for its 215 students.

EcoMaine Material Charge (average of .8 - 1 ton of materials)	\$120.00
Casella - Pine Tree Waste (transportation of bin from Limington to EcoMaine and back)	\$300.00
Total per transaction	\$420.00*
Projected cost per year:	
EcoMaine Material Charge (average of .8 - 1 ton of materials) x 11	\$1,320.00
Casella - Pine Tree Waste (transportation of recycle bin from Limington, ME to EcoMaine and back) x 11	\$3,300.00
Total for 11 transactions per year	\$4,620.00*

* Figures may be +/- with the fluctuating cost of recycled materials and fuel.

School's Investment:

The school has invested in four recycle stations placed strategically around the school. Each station has one 33 gallon rolling recycle container, one 33 gallon trash container and one large bucket for liquids.

All employees at HB Emery Jr. Memorial School participate in the recycling program along with help guiding the students at lunch and breakfast to use the right receptacle. Some of our staff have created posters with photos showing examples of what material goes in the appropriate bin.

Measures of Success:

Our volume of materials recycled at the school has tripled so far in six months. This was gauged by how the number of trips to EcoMaine we had to schedule for the dumpster increased dramatically. If the number of trips declines or the span between trips grows we will then research why.

Project Sustainability:

Each year we will continuing on with the recycle stations and applying for the EcoMaine School Waste Diversion Grant.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Intercultural Community Center
36 Patrick Drive, Westbrook, ME 04092
Proposal Contact: Lian Joseph, lianj@iccmaine.org
Principal: Emily Loder, Youth Program Director, emilyl@iccmaine.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

No.

2023 Proposal:

\$5,000 for program & operating support for Project STRIVE (Support Toward Refugee and Immigrant Voices and Education), which will provide accessible, free, and well-rounded sustainable development through eco-friendly education and practices for immigrant and refugee students grades 5-8 within the Power School afterschool and summer program. Undoubtedly first-generation, low-income, and immigrant students face significant barriers, whether these barriers are cultural, financial, or language based, ICC recognizes this and strives to narrow said inequities by providing accessible and free youth programming to qualified students. This project will serve over 60 students and incorporate sustainable development education and practices within our current youth programming.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Monthly composting from Garbage to Garden | \$19 x 12 months = \$228 |
| 2) Materials (gloves, trash bags, hand sanitizer, first aid supplies) | \$222 |
| 3) Staff time - \$20 an hour x 5 staff = \$100 x 3 hours a day | \$300 x 4 days a week =
\$1,200 x 3 weeks = \$3,600 |
| 4) Water bottles - \$5 a bottle x 150 bottles | \$750 |
| 5) Gas (to/from recycling facility) | \$200 |

School's Investment:

Intangible contributions provided from the Intercultural Community Center will include staff time and support for students projects, ideas, Garbage to Garden monthly subscription, and community engagement field trips. Tangible contributions from ICC will include, but not limited to: transportation costs, materials for projects/clean ups, guest speakers, water bottles, composting buckets, and tools necessary for any community engagement field trips.

Measures of Success:

ICC will use surveys, attendance data, and conversations with students to acquire feedback. From there, ICC will measure the project's impact both quantitatively and qualitatively:

- 1) Attendance: Project STRIVE will serve and engage at least 60 students in grades 5-8. Attendance will also be taken for field trips to community cleanups and eco-friendly projects.
- 2) Quality: students will provide feedback through conversation with staff and develop ideas, projects, and field trips through the sustainability committee. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss with staff what they would like to incorporate into Power School and have influence in the decision making process of developing future sustainable content and practices.

Project Sustainability:

The overall goal for Project STRIVE is to be a foundational part of the educational curriculum of our youth program and consequently will continue to be sustained after the 2023-2024 academic year. Through education and the sustainability committee, staff will ensure that sustainability practices are accessible and easily understood by all students. This will create a sustainable path toward the continuation of Project STRIVE, as students will be the ones spearheading ideas, projects, and community engagement field trips.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Readfield Elementary School (Maranacook Schools)

84 South Rd Readfield Maine 04355

Proposal Contact: Heather Keegan, Teacher, Heather_keegan@maranacook.com

Principal: Jeff Boston, Jeff_Boston@maranacook.com

Received previous ecomaine grant?

No

2023 Proposal:

\$5,000 to start/expand school's recycling program

My project is to bring a recycling and food waste program to my elementary school. I am looking to have it in place for the start of the 2023-2024 school year. With the help of UMaine extension, the town manager and myself will be launching this program with the hope that it will become a program the students, staff, and community will all become involved in. I took a course with Purdue University and the Dept. of inland fisheries and wildlife which covered food waste and recycling in the schools, and I have plans aligned with the common core to go with the start and continuing education of this project. The specific needs are recycling bins in each classroom and throughout the schools and I spoke with an EcoMaine rep who said she would do a school wide presentation to help launch this program. I am looking for financial support to start this up.

I am working closely with the town manager and the town recycling facility to make this long term sustainable. I just need assistance with getting it up and running, buying bins and providing some education. My long term hope is the rest of the district will follow suit and my school will be recycling and composting. I want to have a garden from our composted soil where we grow food that is used in the school kitchen. I know this is a long term goal but I will get there. Step one is to bring recycling to the building and lowering the amount food waste currently produced.

I am not 100% sure of what I would choose [for specific resources/deliverables]. I am working with the town and school to get this program up and running, and my goal is to provide recycling, cans, and compost bins to the school. I don't want to decide which bins to purchase without working with the team I have helping me. I want a sorting station in 2 cafeterias and teacher's room.

School's Investment:

Staff time and support in student education. I have a science curriculum which goes with recycling and food waste and I plan to work with each grade level to align these lessons into their science curriculum and I want to get students involved with composting- garden developing and growing of their own food(very long term goal)

Measures of Success:

Town and district budgets will be a very good indicator.

Project Sustainability:

The sustainability will be saving the school and town money. The town is in full support of this project and is willing to assist where it's needed to keep it going and help me build to other schools. I am looking to see if with what the school will save they are willing to give me a small yearly budget to help with up keep. I also will seek support from the townspeople.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

North Yarmouth Academy
148 Main Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096
Proposal Contact: Bryce Hach, Biology/ AP Environmental Science Teacher,
brycehach@gmail.com
Principal: Ben Jackson, bjackson@nya.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Unsure. [*ecomaine note: none found dating back to FY14.*]

2023 Proposal:

\$2,275 to re-institute composting program with Garbage to Garden.

The North Yarmouth Environmental Club has had a very impactful role on our campus this year. We launched a pilot recycling program that was supported solely by the work of the members of our Environmental Club. The Club is now looking to start a composting program and hoping to expand our recycling program for next school year.

The required budget to start a composting program through Garbage to Garden would be a total of \$2,275. They charge \$7 for transporting our food waste to their facilities and then \$0.22 per gallon of food waste. We are looking to start the program by placing four 64-gallon bins in our cafeteria where our elementary, middle, and highschoolers eat, meaning that if all bins were full each week, then it would cost \$65 per week to compost through Garbage to Garden. We are in school for an average of 35 weeks each year which would lead us to spending \$2,275 per year on a composting program.

School's Investment:

We will use volunteer efforts on the part of many students in the student work program with leadership from the student-led Environmental Club.

Measures of Success:

We will monitor the volume of food waste that will be converted into compost and quantify this to show progress as a statement for its continuation at the school.

Project Sustainability:

With this project secured and underway, the NYA Environmental Club will be shifting most of our time and attention away from starting these projects and now focusing on increased fundraising to help continue these projects. Specifically, we will be focusing on fundraising for continued composting because that is the most expensive service for a year of compost and starting to build up funds. Fundraisers can include anything from bake sales to schoolwide raffles. The NYA Environmental Club has weekly full-group meetings and these meetings ensure that we will continue to plan future advancements for our club and continue to work towards preservation of the environment. With the successful implementation of the composting program, we aim to bring in internal school grants and ultimately transition this into a regular line item expense in the school budget for future years.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Saco Middle School

40 Buxton Road, Saco, ME 04072

Proposal Contact: Jessica Hamilton, 6th grade Project Based Learning Teacher,

jhamilton@sacoschools.org

Principal: Marie Soucy, msoucy@sacoschools.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Unsure. *[ecomaine note: Yes, in 2019. \$900 for gloves, bins, bags, and signage for its compost program.]*

2023 Proposal:

\$2,600 for a full year of full-school composting – reinstating, post-pandemic. (\$260/month)

We started using Garbage to Garden service for composting, securing two 32-gallon containers to be emptied weekly. This costs our school \$86 monthly. With our hope to expand to the 7th and 8th grade next year, we would need three times the containers we have now, upping our cost to about \$260 monthly. Since the start of our project in January, we have reduced our trash consumption greatly, and composted nearly 400 gallons of food scraps instead of sending them into the trash.

School's Investment:

Student & staff time

Measures of Success:

Trash weight data via our Maintenance Department, composting gallons received by Garbage to Garden weekly.

Project Sustainability:

The ability to replicate the project next year will be easy-our current 6th graders will be 7th graders, who will teach our future 6th graders and 8th graders about composting during lunch, and each grade level will have student monitors during lunch to help the process go smoothly when students dump their trays.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

St. Michael School, 56 Sewall Street, August, ME 04330

Contacts: Ami Bass, amipbass@gmail.com; Principal: Kevin Cullen, Kevin.cullen@portlanddiocese.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

No.

2023 Proposal:

\$1,215 - \$5,000 for a school composting program.

St. Michael School is seeking funding to cover the cost of hiring ScrapDogs for at least one year, as well as the cost of creating signage to clarify what can and cannot go in the bins. Also considered in the amount requested is the need for heavy duty tarps to keep the compost protected from the elements until it is sold. Please find an itemized list included here:

- ScrapDogs' services for one year: \$1,035
- Laminated signage, printed from Food Rescue Maine's website: \$50
- A wall-mounted hand-sanitizer dispenser for students after separating food scraps: \$25
- Heavy-duty tarps for protecting the compost from the elements: \$100

Total minimum request: \$1,215

Total maximum request: \$5,000, to cover startup plus at least 4 years of ScrapDogs' services.

School's Investment:

St. Michael School has shown their commitment to initiating and sustaining a successful food waste diversion program through the donation of time and space. Principal Cullen, faculty, staff, and interested parents have already dedicated many hours over the past year to meetings and email correspondence to create a sustainable program that matches the needs of the school. Cafeteria staff and faculty have volunteered to oversee the proper separation of food scraps as well as the daily cleaning of the food scrap buckets. Another essential contribution is the time of parent volunteers, who will coordinate and execute a successful annual compost sale, to pay for the subsequent year of ScrapDogs' services. Several parents have already pledged their commitment to supporting a compost sale for their children to benefit from the food waste diversion program. Finally, Principal Cullen has offered space on the school grounds for keeping the compost until it is sold.

Measures of Success:

According to the National Farm to School Network, each student in the U.S. throws out 36.5 lbs. of food per year at school. If we assume that is true for St. Michaels' students, food waste diversion has the potential to rescue over 6,000 lbs. of food from a landfill per year. ScrapDogs estimates and logs the weight of the food scrap totes at each pick-up, including it as part of the school's customer profile. Therefore, St. Michael School will be able to evaluate at the mid-year and final reports how much food waste is being diverted away from Hatch Hill by this project.

Project Sustainability:

Selling compost can pay for the future of the program at a minimum of \$7.50 per 5-gallon bucket load. After the 4 cubic yard bulk compost is delivered to the school, the students' families will be invited to bring their own bucket to the school to buy compost. Early enthusiasm from parents suggests that a volunteer-led compost sale can be successful. While any funds generated by a compost sale will be earmarked for the food scrap diversion program budget, receiving the maximum amount of ecomaine's grant would allow for a financial cushion if it takes a few years to establish a gainful compost sale. Any surplus in the food scrap diversion program budget would allow for the school to consider ways to expand the program.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

South Portland High School

637 Highland Avenue, South Portland, ME 04106

Proposal Contact: Tania Ferrante, Ecology Teacher/Sustainability Leader, ferranta@spsdme.org

Principal: Scott Tombleson, tomblesc@spsdme.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Yes, 2019. \$1,500 for compostable products

2023 Proposal:

\$1,600 to create a pollinator garden in the courtyard space and to increase awareness of the role pollination plays in our food system. Students in ecology class would work with a local landscaping company who specializes in sustainability practices. The landscaper would educate students on local pollinator plants and the important role they play in the food system.

Timeline: We have already begun consulting with a landscaper. This spring a design would be implemented and spring and fall would be the implementation of the garden. Fall would educate school about the pollinator garden.

The South Portland School District continues to be a leader in composting and recycling. Our city also leads the way in many sustainability initiatives including banning Styrofoam, the food waste recycling program, and the reusable bag ordinance. We know that local native plants and in particular pollinator plants are important for our food system. This would lead into understanding the importance of food systems and lead to discussions about the importance of composting and reducing food waste so that biodiversity can continue to be preserved in our community.

Plants = \$800

Mulch and soil = \$300

Landscape design plan and implementation = \$500

School's Investment:

Tools, staff time

Measures of Success:

Educate students through homebase which meets every day. Survey homebase.

Project Sustainability:

Students in the ecology class would be the stewards for maintaining the garden and educating the school about the pollinator garden. Students could add to the garden each year by adding a mural or a sign to educate the student body about the garden.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Friends School of Portland

11 U.S. Route One, Cumberland, ME 04110

Proposal Contact: Brooke Burkett, Development Director, brooke@friendsschoolportland.org

Principal: Sara Primo, sara@friendsschoolportland.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Unsure. [*ecomaine note: none found dating back to FY14.*]

2023 Proposal:

\$1,670 for reusable serving ware.

Friends School of Portland is a small independent elementary and middle school. We host ongoing special events within classes and as a whole school community. We are mindful of our use of plastics and have made efforts to purchase and use compostable ware. However, recent student projects, around recycling and PFAS, have led our school community to consider further reducing our use of one-time plastics and compostable ware. Eighth-grade student Riley's year-end project was on pollution and waste reduction in her community. For part of her project, she researched, spoke with school faculty, and co-wrote this proposal.

We do not have a school cafeteria and do not currently have enough reusable plates, glasses, and silverware beyond daily use by staff and faculty. We are requesting the funds for a new energy-efficient dishwasher, silverware, dishes, mugs, and cups. We plan to collaborate with our Art Teacher to decorate the mugs with messages about why waste reduction is important.

- Cost of 100 sets of silverware: \$300
- Cost of 100 mugs: \$300
- Cost of 100 plates: \$150
- Cost of 100 cups: \$120
- Cost of New Energy Efficient Dishwasher: \$800

School's Investment:

With this initial purchase of reusable wares, Friends School will be able to set aside money each year that would have been spent on single-use items to be spent on reusable items. The cost of a new dishwasher and installation will exceed the \$800 allotted and any additional would be covered by Friends School as well.

Measures of Success:

We think that by working with Art classes to create signage and messages on the mugs that we would be able to share the importance of our waste reduction. During the first events that the school hosts, we would plan to share how many plates, silverware, cups, and mugs that we've used. By sharing an ongoing count, we can share successes that might otherwise go unseen.

Project Sustainability:

After an initial purchase of reusable wares for events in the 2023-2023 school year, we will be able to add to it each year. We typically purchase single-use wares to be used throughout events during the year. However, after an initial purchase, we would be able to divert our budget for single use to continue to replenish and add to our stock of reusable wares.

THESE ARE ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES! THE COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGED TO READ EACH PROPOSAL IN FULL FOR A FULL PICTURE OF EACH PROJECT!

Contact:

Cape Elizabeth High School
345 Ocean House Rd, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107
Proposal Contact: Thomas Farmer, Environmental Club Advisor,
tfarmer@capeelizabethschools.org
Principal: John Springer, jspringer@capeelizabethschools.org

Received previous ecomaine grant?

Unsure. [ecomaine note: Cape Elizabeth Middle School & Pond Cove Elementary, \$2,000 in 2017 for cafeteria waste receptacles, but not CEHS.]

2023 Proposal:

\$1,800 for:

- Installation of two recycling stations in the CEHS cafeteria;
- Coordination and expansion of Clynk bottle return to include all classrooms and common areas;
- Educational workshops and campaigns to promote waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, especially during lunch periods;
- Monitoring and reporting of waste reduction efforts;
- We are dedicated to ensuring the success and longevity of this initiative by engaging students, staff, and community members (parents, building staff) in its implementation and maintenance.

Specifically:

- 2 Cafeteria waste collection stations including (\$750 x 2):
 - Liquids Collection
 - Recyclables (yogurt containers, milk cartons)
 - Compost
 - Bottle Return
 - Landfill
- 52 Clynk collection boxes at \$5/box (\$260) and
- Clynk bag collection bin (\$40)

School's Investment:

Staff time, additional funds from Cape Facilities Department

Measures of Success:

Weighing and volume estimate of current landfill waste from high school cafeteria, comparison over time starting this spring with limited Garbage to Garden composting.

Project Sustainability:

Waste collection areas in the cafeteria area will ideally be built this summer with the help of Cape Elizabeth Facilities Department. The local wood company Lumberly has expressed interest in helping with this project. We will continue researching compost options this spring with Garbage to Garden side-by-side with Agricycle.

2023-24 School Recycling Grants

Grant proposals are accepted each year from any public or private school in ecomaine's member communities. If you would like information about the grant application process or need project support, get in touch at 207-773-1738, extension 1 or info@ecomaine.org.

You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Sara Spidle

Position / Title *

Administrator

Phone number *

207-799-4225

Email Address *

appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com

Mailing Address *

44 Two Lights Rd, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Cape Elizabeth



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Appletree School

Physical Address *

44 Two Lights Rd, Cape ELizabeth, ME 04107

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Pamela Mullin

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

2020, 2021, 2022

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with * semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability.

\$308; \$275; \$680

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland * High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels).

Appletree School has been fortunate over the past three years to receive outdoor 2 composting tumblers, compostable paper towels during the pandemic to replace fabric hand cloths, raised bed wood from local lumber co and some Coast of Maine composted soil.

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

This year we have two sections to our grant request.

We often hike into the woods or gather outside to share a warm drink, soup or rice and beans that the teachers have cooked over the camp stove. There is a need for small, reusable, non breakable cups for the children to use during these cooking times together in nature. The soups are often made from our own garden veggies or "teas" made from our mint or orange slices with cinnamon. The curriculum incorporates choosing and following recipes, writing the steps, eating peacefully while observing the natural surroundings. Reusable stainless steel cups would delete the need for plastic or disposable cups.

The second request is to update our highly used and somewhat battered trash/recycling containers and apply sticker labels for trash or recycling. The children are quite proud to help clean our spaces and frequently ask which bin is trash or recycling. The lids do not work on one of our double bins, so the trash is always open which isn't ideal or attractive as it is in a visible location. Receiving new double bins will streamline our spaces and enhance the recycling and composting patterns for the children and staff. (We have compost buckets that we utilize already.) Parents have commented that their children will "teach" them about recycling and composting from their "3R's" experiences at school.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

52 6oz Stainless steel stacking cups- \$86; 2 dual compartment recycling step trash cans \$290;
recycle/trash label stickers \$8

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$384.00

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Part of the way that we run our outdoor classroom is to reduce the purchase of new items when possible. We are fortunate to have a great swap shop at our transfer station where we find pots, pans, spoons, lids etc for cooking on the camp stove (and also for our popular mud kitchens). If we need an item (like right now we need a ladle), the staff will regularly first check the swap shop before buying a new one. We feel that this approach not only saves funds, but it shows the children alternative ways to get the things we need and avoids more trash in landfills.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

The impact of good materials in our school adds a sense of order to a very busy day. Having trash/recycling containers that function well might seem like a small thing, but it can make the day have a smoother feel. Also, not having to scramble to find various cups (such as washed yogurt cups) for our expeditions into the woods for a snack will add valuable time to the teacher's day. As we have 40 children and two kitchen areas, the decent supply of cups will be utilized daily without the risk of running out of one for each child. (The children use their own water bottles for daily hydration, these new cups would be used in other situations.)

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

Both of these items will last a long time and continue for years to come. We will continue our recycling habits and enjoy our outdoor snack adventures!

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Sara Spidle


Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *


appletreeschoolcapeelizabeth@gmail.com


Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials

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SCHOOL

TRASH

RECYCLE





2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

rosanna.gargiulo@foodcorps.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Rosanna Gargiulo

Position / Title *

Garden Coordinator

Phone number *

207-504-2002

Email Address *

rosanna.gargiulo@foodcorps.org

Mailing Address *

1000 River Rd. Dresden, Me. 04342

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Chelsea



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Chelsea Elementary School

Physical Address *

566 Togus Rd. Chelsea, Me. 04342

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Allison Hernandez

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

ahernandez@svrsu.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

Project Outline:

The aim of Chelsea Elementary School's "Food Waste Free ME" project is to create a compost system that diverts compostable cafeteria waste to our school garden, while providing leadership and social and emotional learning opportunities for students. This year, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students at Chelsea Elementary School formed a Cafeteria Club with a goal to improve students' mealtime experience. While this year's project was focused on the cafeteria environment, not the food system, many students also objected to lunchtime food waste and asked for the school to invest in a compost system.

Timeline, student involvement, & curriculum integration:

"Food Waste Free ME" will be the central project of our Garden Curriculum next year. We will launch in the early fall with a waste audit per the USDA and EPA's Guide to Conducting Student Food Waste Audits. The food waste audit will be led by Cafeteria Club members with the assistance of 6th grade buddies, school nutrition staff, and teachers. 5th grade students, who are learning about decomposition and vermiculture, will work with our Garden Coordinator and Garden Committee to build an outdoor three bin compost system for our school garden. Mid-school year, our Cafeteria Club will redesign the cafeteria waste area, adding compost bins and educational signage. They will also visit Kindergarten to 4th grade classes for student-led lessons on our new cafeteria composting system. In the spring, Cafeteria Club members and their 6th grade buddies will complete a second waste audit to estimate the volume of waste diverted to compost. We'll end the '23-'24 school year with Green Gala: a family engagement event where students will display the results of their project and demonstrate composting. This event will be held in conjunction with our Garden Committee's annual plant and seedling sale and PTA spring fundraiser and will include food, beverages, and a raffle.

School Commitment, Project Replicability & Sustainability:

Our school district is dedicated to improving our food system and thereby improving student wellbeing, environmental health, and community connections. We've been a FoodCorps Service site for three years and have sustained garden programs at three of the five elementary schools in our district. A Master Gardener Volunteer is installing a garden at a fourth school this summer. Additionally, a 6-member team composed of administrative staff, teaching staff, and RSU 12 community members will be participating in the Maine Farm and Sea to School Institute's (MFSTSI) year-long training program to improve the quality of school lunch offerings, which aims to reduce waste along with improving nutrition. One of our team's goals at MFSTSI is to develop a food system curriculum that explores the school food cycle: from food production and acquisition to food preparation, and composting and reuse in gardens. This curriculum will be made available to all schools in our district on an ongoing basis to encourage similar programs at our other schools.

Project Justification:

We believe our project is compelling and worthy of funding because we have established support at every level of our organization, from our students to our superintendent. We are a Title 1 school operating in a town with an annual personal income below the state average: approximately \$27,000 per year. We believe the ability to produce food and reuse home food waste are key skills for ensuring greater food security in

economically marginalized communities such as ours. We believe it is vital to our students' well-being that they learn these skills.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

Our budget covers materials required to conduct waste audit surveys, create a compost station in the cafeteria, and build a 3-bin compost system in our school garden area. We already possess tools for incorporating compost into our garden. Other tools and materials will be donated as outlined in the following section. We're requesting 3 smaller (13-gallon) compost bins so students can participate in their removal. We're also requesting some home composting grade biobags for when our outdoor water is shut off in the winter to make cleaning the bins easier.

Item, Quantity @ Cost per item = Item total

1"x6"x8' cedar boards, 29 @ \$10.98 = 318.42

2"x4"x8' pine, 8 @ \$3.35 = 26.8

2"x2"x8' furring strips, 4 @ \$3.38 = 13.52

5' u-post, 8 @ \$8.18 = 65.44

50'x4' chicken wire, 1 roll @ \$51.21 = 51.21

2" deck screws, 1 box @ \$10.98 = 10.98

5-gallon buckets Lowes, 6 @ \$4.78 = 28.68

8'x6' tarp, 3 @ \$9.98 = 29.94

32" spading fork, 2 @ \$43.98 = 87.96

13-gallon Toter compost bin, 3 @ \$54.99 = 164.97

Shipping, 1 @ \$30.68 = 30.68

Biobag 280 pack, 1 @ \$80.44 = 80.44

Shipping, 1 @ \$20.9 = 20.9

Pre-Tax Total = \$929.94

Link to budget spreadsheet: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cSVkW0dX2EcjUv-efRC-IX1g7cnjX2qzy-5bclHO4h4/edit?usp=sharing>

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$930

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Resources contributed by our school include staff time, expert guest teacher visits, volunteer support, professional development workshops, and tools and materials.

Custodial staff, nutrition staff, and teaching staff have offered to contribute time (including class time) to ensure the success of “Food Waste Free ME.” Our Garden Committee, which is composed of school staff and community members, is overseeing this project and will continue caring for our school garden and compost system over summer vacation. We’ve engaged Jock Robie, the educator behind Mainely Worm Bins, UMaine Master Gardeners, and Age Friendly Chelsea as guest teachers and volunteers to support our project.

Our Garden Coordinator participates in professional development training throughout the school year and has signed up for composting courses with Maine nonprofits. She is currently waitlisted for the UMaine Cooperative Extension’s Maine Compost School for ‘23 and will be enrolled early for ‘24 if a spot does not become available sooner. We have copious composting books, and we have garden tools and materials, such as wheelbarrows and gloves, available.

Our school will provide all materials for educational signage and compost-related curriculum. We’ll also provide gloves, masks, tables, scales, clipboards, and cleaning supplies as needed for our waste audits. Our Garden Committee will provide funds to host the Green Gala family engagement event, which will provide food, beverages, and a raffle to win countertop home compost bins, books about composting, and compostable picnic basket kit.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

We will measure the qualitative and quantitative impacts of the project in the fall and spring.

In the fall, select classes will participate in a cafeteria food waste entry survey to gauge opinions toward cafeteria food waste and better understand the sources of food waste at our school. In the spring, the same classes will be asked to complete an exit survey to gauge how opinions toward food waste and food practices have changed. We will also administer staff entrance and exit surveys with the same goal in mind.

The fall and spring food waste audits will provide quantitative information about the volume of food waste diverted from the waste stream, which can be used to project how much waste could be diverted over longer periods of time.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

Chelsea Elementary's "Food Waste Free ME" project represents an ongoing commitment to improve our school's food system and will be integrated into curriculum carried into the future. The project represents a broad collaboration between our school's students, Garden Coordinator, and Garden Committee; administrative, custodial, nutrition, and teaching staff; and community partners such as Age Friendly Chelsea and the UMaine Extension Master Gardener volunteer program.

With a compost system in place, composting will become part of our garden curriculum which all grades will participate in. Sustaining the project in future years will be the special prerogative of our Cafeteria Club and 5th grade students, as composting fits so well with their mission and curriculum. Our Garden Coordinator and Garden Committee will ensure ongoing care. Camp Chelsea, our after school program, recently notified staff that they might no longer be able to manage paper recycling from classrooms. Our hope is that a school composting program could also divert suitable "brown" material. In future years, the project could expand to include a collaboration with the Chelsea Town Office, which is located adjacent to Chelsea Elementary School, and is an ecomaine recycling drop off location.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Rosanna Gargiulo

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

rgargiulo@svrsu.org; rosanna.gargiulo@foodcorps.org

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials



Camp Chelsea Fi...



IMG_5892 - Rosa...



IMG_4830 - Rosa...



menu - Rosanna ...



Bernie - Rosanna...

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MENU

- Homecut Fries
With oyster mushroom
Salt and a option of
peprica.

TODAY'S Special.

- Sauteed Lion's
Mane with Baby
Chives + Basil.

ENJOY!

2023-24 School Recycling Grants

Grant proposals are accepted each year from any public or private school in ecomaine’s member communities. If you would like information about the grant application process or need project support, get in touch at 207-773-1738, extension 1 or info@ecomaine.org.

You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

tstanley@bonnyeagle.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Tiffany Stanley

Position / Title *

Admin Assistant

Phone number *

207-637-1601

Email Address *

tstanley@bonnyeagle.org

Mailing Address *

908 Cape Road, Limington, ME 04049

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Limington



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

H.B. Emery Jr. Memorial School

Physical Address *

908 Cape Road, Limington, ME 04049

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Charlotte Regan

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

creagan@bonnyeagle.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

2017

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with * semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability.

unsure (2017); \$3,895.00 (2019)

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland * High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels).

Elementary School received funds to pay for hauling of silver bullet bin to EcoMaine from Limington, ME and back, also to pay for materials being recycled at EcoMaine. About four times a year.

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

For the past six years HB Emery Jr. Memorial School has been using EcoMaine Grant money to fund our school recycling plan. In 2017 a large silver bullet recycling bin provided by EcoMaine was brought to HB Emery Jr. Memorial School. Our recycling efforts were underway, with materials mostly consisting of paper and cardboard. When the bin was full we would contact a hauler to bring the materials to EcoMaine and return the bin back to the school in Limington, Maine.

This transaction happened about four times a year and all invoices from EcoMaine for materials received, Pine State Disposal and most recently Casella - Pine Tree Waste for transportation were paid by using the EcoMaine Grant funds.

In the Fall of 2022 HB Emery embarked on increasing our recycle program. School wide we are recycling not only paper and cardboard but all our breakfast and lunch food containers / paper trays. With some handy new instructional signage from our Math interventionist Julie Lariviere we have created four new recycling stations in the school for students and staff to sort their containers and paper goods.

From the start of this new expanded program in September 2022 with great support and effort from all the students and staff we have increased the amount of materials being recycled and transportation trips for the silver bullet bin to triple in volume.

With all lessons in life, learning when you are young is the key. At HB Emery we have grades Pre-K through 5th Grade and all our students ages 4 - 11 years of age participate in our recycling program. Last Fall we had a whole school assembly explaining the importance of recycling and had a demonstration showing what materials would go in the recycle bins, liquid bins and regular trash.

The likelihood of our recycling program being successful and sustainable is seeming to be very positive as our students took right to the new recycling regiment we created and now it is the normal breakfast and lunch trash disposal routine.

With 215 students at HB Emery from the small town of Limington, Maine we have a great opportunity with our recycling education program to create change and grow the idea that recycling is beneficial to help save our environment and is a simple task to do even at home. Having the funding to continue on with our program would be amazing.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

Here is the current breakdown and cost per disposal of materials and transportation trips.

EcoMaine Material Charge (average of .8 - 1 ton of materials)	\$120.00
Casella - Pine Tree Waste (transportation of bin from Limington to EcoMaine and back)	\$300.00
Total per transaction	\$420.00*
Projected cost per year:	
EcoMaine Material Charge (average of .8 - 1 ton of materials) x 11	\$1,320.00
Casella - Pine Tree Waste (transportation of recycle bin from Limington, ME to EcoMaine and back) x 11	\$3,300.00
Total for 11 transactions per year	\$4,620.00*

* Figures may be +/- with the fluctuating cost of recycled materials and fuel.

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$5,000.00

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

The school has invested in four recycle stations placed strategically around the school. Each station has one 33 gallon rolling recycle container, one 33 gallon trash container and one large bucket for liquids. All employees at HB Emery Jr. Memorial School participate in the recycling program along with help guiding the students at lunch and breakfast to use the right receptacle. Some of our staff have created posters with photos showing examples of what material goes in the appropriate bin.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

Our volume of materials recycled at the school has tripled so far in six months. This was gauged by how the number of trips to EcoMaine we had to schedule for the dumpster increased dramatically. If the number of trips declines or the span between trips grows we will then research why.

The biggest gauge to see how the education of our students learning how to recycle is working will be seeing the older students helping the younger ones navigate the different receptacles and hearing from students on how they have started recycling at home.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

Each year we will continue on with the recycle stations and applying for the EcoMaine School Waste Diversion Grant.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Tiffany Stanley


Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

tstanley@bonnyeagle.org

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials

 _Recycle Grant - ...

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HB EMERY JR. MEMORIAL SCHOOL

RECYCLE PROGRAM 2022-23



**HERE AT HB EMERY
WE ARE MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

OUR PROJECT

In the Fall of 2022 HB Emery embarked on increasing our recycle program. School wide we are recycling not only paper and cardboard but all our breakfast and lunch food containers / paper trays. With some handy new instructional signage from our Math interventionist Julie Lariviere we have created four new recycling stations. Students and staff use these stations to sort their trash, un-opened containers, paper goods and empty liquid containers.

From the start of this new program in September with great support and effort from all the students and staff we have increased the amount of materials being recycled and transportation trips for the silver bullet bin to triple in volume.



HB EMERY JR. MEMORIAL SCHOOL
908 CAPE ROAD • LIMINGTON, ME 04049
207-637-2056



IN 2017 ECOMAINE LOANED HB EMERY THE SILVER BULLET RECYCLING BIN. IN THE FALL OF 2022 WE INCREASED OUR RECYCLING PROGRAM TO NOT ONLY REYCLE PAPER AND CARDBOARD BUT TO ALSO INCLUDE SEPARATION OF OUR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH ITEMS. WE CREATED FOUR NEW RECYCLE STATIONS WITH SIGNAGE.





PRE-K THROUGH 5TH GRADE ALL PARTICIPATE IN OUR RECYCLING PROGRAM.



WITH THE ECOMAINE 2023-24 SCHOOL WASTE DIVERSION GRANT
WE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WITH OUR PROGRAM AND COVER RECYCLE BIN
TRANSPORTATION AND RECYCLE MATERIAL COSTS.

2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

lianj@iccmaine.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Emily Loder

Position / Title *

Youth Program Director

Phone number *

570-780-2538

Email Address *

emilyl@iccmaine.org

Mailing Address *

36 Patrick Dr

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Westbrook



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Power School

Physical Address *

36 Patrick Dr

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Emily Loder, Youth Program Director

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

emilyl@iccmaine.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

Project STRIVE (Support Toward Refugee and Immigrant Voices and Education) will provide accessible, free, and well-rounded sustainable development through eco-friendly education and practices for immigrant and refugee students grades 5-8 within the Power School afterschool and summer program. Undoubtedly first-generation, low-income, and immigrant students face significant barriers, whether these barriers are cultural, financial, or language based, ICC recognizes this and strives to narrow said inequities by providing accessible and free youth programming to qualified students. This project will serve over 60 students and incorporate sustainable development education and practices within our current youth programming.

Our youth program staff are committed to building the foundation of a sustainable curriculum by educating students about the benefits of greener environmental practices, such as: composting, recycling, upcycling, and waste reduction (ex: water bottles to reduce plastic use). In order for this project to be successful and sustainable, we will center the voices of students by creating a sustainability committee. The purpose of the sustainability committee is to allow students to create agency for themselves through their choices and decision-making regarding sustainable development within Power School.

To ensure the ease of project replication for both staff and students, our team will introduce sustainable education as accessible as possible for students. To create accessibility, staff will provide interactive educational content, conversations, and model how to properly recycle and compost. Through this approach and education, the ultimate goal is to pass on this knowledge and awareness to students, so they can collectively keep each other accountable for upholding Power School's sustainability mission. Accessibility and making sure content is easily understood by both students and staff will allow our project to continue being both a success and sustain itself for years to come.

Furthermore, the sustainability committee will be responsible for developing sustainable projects, new ideas and a sustainability mission statement for ICC with staff to support them. Examples of projects can include, but are not limited to, community clean ups, weekly composting, weekly recycling, upcycling artistic projects and family education. The sustainability committee will also be responsible for assisting our driver to weekly recycling drop off so they can familiarize themselves with the process and importance of recycling drop off centers. Additionally, the sustainability committee will make sure students are properly composting snacks and putting out the compost bins for weekly pickup from Garbage to Garden. Through these assigned tasks and responsibilities, students from the sustainability committee will develop leadership skills and have the opportunity to have their voices heard.

Finally, funding from the ecomaine's School Recycling grant will go directly towards building the foundation of sustainable education and practices for over 60 New Mainer youth. Through sustainable education this develops the foundation for building upon more sustainability efforts and responsibility for students within the coming years. Centering the voices of youth creates a space where students feel valued, heard, and inspired to create ideas and solutions of their own. Essentially, this project will educate the next generation of youth to understand the importance of sustainability, the ease of incorporating into everyday life, and most importantly, become eco-conscious stewards within their own communities.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

1) Monthly composting from Garbage to Garden - \$19 x 12 months = \$228

2) Materials (gloves, trash bags, hand sanitizer, first aid supplies) - \$222

3) Staff time - \$20 an hour x 5 staff = \$100 x 3 hours a day = \$300 x 4 days a week = \$1,200 x 3 weeks = \$3,600

4) Water bottles - \$5 a bottle x 150 bottles = \$750

5) Gas (to/from recycling facility) = \$200

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$5,000

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Intangible contributions provided from the Intercultural Community Center will include staff time and support for students projects, ideas, Garbage to Garden monthly subscription, and community engagement field trips. Tangible contributions from ICC will include, but not limited to: transportation costs, materials for projects/clean ups, guest speakers, water bottles, composting buckets, and tools necessary for any community engagement field trips.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

In order to measure the impact of Project STRIVE, ICC will use surveys, attendance data, and conversations with students to acquire feedback. From there, ICC will measure the project's impact both quantitatively and qualitatively utilizing the following performance measures:

1) Attendance: Project STRIVE will serve and engage at least 60 students in grades 5-8. Attendance will also be taken for any field trips for community cleanups and eco-friendly projects.

2) Quality: students will provide feedback through conversation with staff and develop ideas, projects, and field trips through the sustainability committee. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss with staff what they would like to incorporate into Power School and have influence in the decision making process of developing future sustainable content and practices.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

The overall goal for Project STRIVE is to be a foundational part of the educational curriculum of our youth program and consequently will continue to be sustained after the 2023-2024 academic year. Through education and the sustainability committee, staff will ensure that sustainability practices are accessible and easily understood by all students. This will create a sustainable path toward the continuation of Project STRIVE, as students will be the ones spearheading ideas, projects, and community engagement field trips. Through these efforts, ICC staff will support students' efforts to create a more sustainable future and educate incoming students with hands-on educational experiences.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Emily Loder and Lian Joseph

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

emilyl@iccmaine.org and lianj@iccmaine.org

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

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2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

Heather_keegan@maranacook.com

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Heather Keegan

Position / Title *

Teacher

Phone number *

2074468726

Email Address *

Heather_keegan@maranacook.com

Mailing Address *

84 South Rd

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Readfield



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Readfield Elementary School

Physical Address *

84 South Rd Readfield Maine 04355

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Jeff Boston- Principal

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Jeff_Boston@maranacook.com

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

My project is to bring a recycling and food waste program to my elementary school. I am looking to have it in place for the start of the 2023-2024 school year. With the help of UMaine extension, the town manager and myself will be launching this program with the hope that it will become a program the students, staff, and community will all become involved in. I took a course with Purdue University and the Dept. of inland fisheries and wildlife which covered food waste and recycling in the schools and I have plans aligned with the common core to go with the start and continuing education of this project. The specific needs are recycling bins in each classroom and throughout the schools and I spoke with an EcoMaine rep who said she would do a school wide presentation to help launch this program. I am looking for financial support to start this up.

I am working closely with the town manager and the town recycling facility to make this long term sustainable. I just need assistance with getting it up and running, buying bins and providing some education. My long term hope is the rest of the district will follow suit and my school will be recycling and composting. I want to have a garden from our composted soil where we grow food that is used in the school kitchen. I know this is a long term goal but I will get there. Step one is to bring recycling to the building and lowering the amount food waste currently produced.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

I am not 100% sure of what I would choose. I am working with the town and school to get this program up and running, and my goal is to provide recycling, cans, and compost bins to the school. I don't want to decide which bins to purchase without working with the team I have helping me. I want a sorting station in 2 cafeterias and teachers room.

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$5000 (I am starting this recycling food waste program from nothing.

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Staff time and support in student education. I have a science curriculum which goes with recycling and food waste and I plan to work with each grade level to align these lessons into their science curriculum and I want to get students involved with composting- garden developing and growing of there own food(very long term goal)

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

Town and district budgets will be a very good indicator.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

This project will be sustainable and I am fighting for expansion to other schools as well as developing a composting and gardening component.

The sustainability will be saving the school and town money. The town is in full support of this project and is willing to assist where it's needed to keep it going and help me build to other schools. I am looking to see if with what the school will save they are willing to give me a small yealy budget to help with up keep. I also will seek support from the towns people.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Heather Keegan

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

Heather_Keegan@Maranacook.com

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials

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2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

brycehach@gmail.com

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Bryce Hach

Position / Title *

Biology/ AP Environmental Science Teacher

Phone number *

970-412-1290

Email Address *

bhach@nya.org

Mailing Address *

148 Main Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Yarmouth



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

North Yarmouth Academy

Physical Address *

148 Main Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Ben Jackson

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

bjackson@nya.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

The North Yarmouth Academy (NYA) Environmental Club would like a grant from EcoMaine so that we can re-institute our composting program with Garbage to Garden. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent shutdown, we had been working with Garbage to Garden to provide a place to compost food waste for the school. Unfortunately, during the time that we spent doing remote school at the height of the pandemic, the composting and recycling programs slowly faded away. This past year the NYA Environmental Club was able to restart a recycling program on campus, and we have received lots of help and encouragement from the student body, faculty, and staff in our efforts. For us, the next step is to revive the composting program, and to do this as we need the proper funds.

This project is something that all levels of the school are on board with and something we as the Environmental Club believe will be extremely successful based on the track record for the recycling program, considering the composting set up will be even easier for students to learn and manage. The student body has been very receptive with all of our sustainability and waste reduction programs, and so we believe composting will also be received very well. In fact, after the re-introduction of recycling we have had many students and faculty asking, "So when is composting coming back?"

As a school, we want to be doing everything we can to help the environment, and composting is the next step. While we are saddened that our previous program did not survive the pandemic, we are excited and driven to start a new program as soon as possible. We are committed to doing as much as possible to do our part to help protect the environment and the planet as a whole.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

The North Yarmouth Environmental Club has had a very impactful role on our campus this year. We launched a pilot recycling program that was supported solely by the work of the members of our Environmental Club. The Environmental Club is now looking to start a composting program and hoping to expand our recycling program for next school year. The required budget to start a composting program through Garbage to Garden would be a total of \$2,275. They charge \$7 for transporting our food waste to their facilities and then \$0.22 per gallon of food waste. We are looking to start the program by placing four 64-gallon bins in our cafeteria where our elementary, middle, and highschoolers eat, meaning that if all bins were full each week, then it would cost \$65 per week to compost through Garbage to Garden. We are in school for an average of 35 weeks each year which would lead us to spending \$2,275 per year on a composting program.

The total amount requested of the \$5,000 grant at \$2,275

The NYA Environmental Club has the support of the headmaster, the faculty and staff, and the student body of NYA.

The success of composting will be gauged through how full compost bins are at the end of the week when they are picked up at to their respective locations.

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$2,275

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

We will use volunteer efforts on the part of many students in the student work program with leadership from the student-led Environmental Club.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

We will monitor the volume of food waste that will be converted into compost and quantify this to show progress as a statement for its continuation at the school.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

With this project secured and underway, the NYA Environmental Club will be shifting most of our time and attention away from starting these projects and now focusing on increased fundraising to help continue these projects. Specifically, we will be focusing on fundraising for continued composting because that is the most expensive service for a year of compost and starting to build up funds. Fundraisers can include anything from bake sales to school wide raffles. The NYA Environmental Club has weekly full-group meetings and these meetings ensure that we will continue to plan future advancements for our club and continue to work towards preservation of the environment. With the successful implementation of the composting program, we aim to bring in internal school grants and ultimately transition this into a regular line item expense in the school budget for future years.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

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Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Bryce Hach


Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

bhach@nya.org

Supplemental Materials

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2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

jhamilton@sacoschools.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Jessica Hamilton

Position / Title *

6th grade Project Based Learning Teacher

Phone number *

2075907563

Email Address *

jhamilton@sacoschools.org

Mailing Address *

40 Buxton Road, Saco, ME 04072

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Saco



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Saco Middle School

Physical Address *

40 Buxton Road, Saco, ME 04072

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Marie Soucy (Principal)

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

msoucy@sacoschools.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

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Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

This school year, our 6th grade Project Based Team has developed a composting program and piloted it with the other two 6th grade teams (approximately 190 students). This was developed by the students and for the students. They identified a problem and recognized that there was a huge amount of trash produced in our classes and our lunch room each day, with lots of it being food waste. With a few of the students composting at home, they saw the opportunity to compost here and provide a solution to the food waste problem we were seeing.

We consulted EcoMaine to provide educational experiences for the students-Alexandria Miller met virtually with our team to answer questions students had surrounding composting and recycling, and Alexandria Kane visited us to conduct a Waste Audit on one day's worth of classroom trash. That experience was truly eye opening for the students!

Students proposed composting during their lunch time and teaching all 6th grade students the process and importance of composting. Currently, there are four 6th grade composting monitors daily who assist students in items that can be composted versus recycled versus trash when they finish up their lunch. The ability to replicate the project next year will be easy-our current 6th graders will be 7th graders, who will teach our future 6th graders and 8th graders about composting during lunch, and each grade level will have student monitors during lunch to help the process go smoothly when students dump their trays.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

We started using Garbage to Garden service for composting, securing two 32-gallon containers to be emptied weekly.

This costs our school \$86 monthly. With our hope to expand to the 7th and 8th grade next year, we would need three times the containers we have now, upping our cost to about \$260 monthly.

Since the start of our project in January, we have reduced our trash consumption greatly, and composted nearly 400 gallons of food scraps instead of sending them into the trash! As we will be beginning our composting at the start of our next school year, we will be eligible to receive finished compost to use in the community garden we are currently building on the Saco Middle School campus! The bulk amount allotted to us depends on the volume of scraps we accumulate throughout the year, with the smallest facilities earning 50 gallons, and the largest accounts earning up to 2 yards. The students have truly enjoyed seeing their food waste recycled and really look forward to next year, when their waste can be reused for that garden.

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

Our school seeks a grant of \$2,600 to fund the composting costs for our 10-months school year.

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Staff time, student time

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

Trash weight data via our Maintenance Department, composting gallons received by Garbage to Garden weekly

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

The ability to replicate the project next year will be easy-our current 6th graders will be 7th graders, who will teach our future 6th graders and 8th graders about composting during lunch, and each grade level will have student monitors during lunch to help the process go smoothly when students dump their trays.

Timeline and Reporting

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☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Jessica Hamilton

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

jhamilton@sacoschools.org

Supplemental Materials

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Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

amipbass@gmail.com

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Kevin Cullen

Position / Title *

Principal

Phone number *

(207) 623-3491

Email Address *

Kevin.cullen@portlanddiocese.org

Mailing Address *

56 Sewall St.; Augusta, ME 04330

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Augusta



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

St. Michael School

Physical Address *

56 Sewall St.; Augusta, ME 04330

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Kevin Cullen

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Kevin.cullen@portlanddiocese.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

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2023-24 Project Description

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- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

Current statistics report that Americans throw out 30-40% of the food they produce. According to the Food and Drug Administration, “food is the single largest category of material placed in municipal landfills,” constituting nearly a quarter of municipal solid waste (Food Loss and Waste, 2023). Food loss and waste in the U.S. is estimated to add the equivalent of greenhouse gasses from 36 million passenger vehicles into the atmosphere each year (Jaglo, Kenny, & Stephenson, 2021). Turning food waste into compost benefits the environment by capturing and recycling nutrients into the ecosystem, enriching the health of soil, making it more drought and flood-resistant while storing vast amounts of carbon that might otherwise contribute to the greenhouse gasses driving climate change. Diverting food waste from landfills to compost is, therefore, a key step in the hierarchy of preserving the environment. Food waste diversion is especially important in Augusta, Maine, as our municipality is facing a troubling and costly problem; our landfill is estimated to be full within the next four years.

St. Michael School is a private, not-for-profit Catholic Pre-K-through-8th-grade school with 181 students in Augusta, Maine. Within the past couple of years, the school has explored options for reducing the amount of waste that goes to the landfill, in order to support environmental and Catholic values of integrity and respect for the environment. Last year, the principal and staff met with Susanne Lee, faculty fellow from the University of Maine Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions in an effort to initiate a food waste diversion program, but lack of funding proved to be an insurmountable obstacle. Fortunately, the school has a very active Parent Association, which has created a strong culture of parent- and family-involvement in school fundraisers and events, which will be a critical part of initiating and sustaining a food scrap diversion program.

ScrapDogs Community Compost has been addressing food waste diversion needs in Maine since 2018 and are expanding their operation to central Maine this summer, with the support of a Department of Environmental Protection grant. ScrapDogs would be able to provide four large rolling bins as well as six five-gallon buckets to the school with which to collect up to 120 gallons of food waste from St. Michael School per week, diverting it to their facility in Washington, Maine to be composted. At present, ScrapDogs is the only option for food scrap diversion in Augusta, as Augusta Public Works and other waste collection operations do not have the labor available to add a separate food waste collection to their services. ScrapDogs will charge \$22.50 per weekly pick-up, and with approximately 46 weeks of school, including the summer camp, that would cost the school, annually, a total of \$1,035 to pay for the service. As part of their service, ScrapDogs can promise a single, four cubic-yard bulk delivery of compost each year, which has a resale value between \$400 and \$1750, depending on how the school chooses to portion and sell it. The money earned from selling the compost will be applied to paying for the next year’s food scrap collection service. The school would need to sell about \$1200 worth of compost to be able to pay ScrapDogs \$1,035 for the subsequent year, as well as allow for \$165 extra for unforeseen costs, such as replacement of signage or equipment. This is possible by selling 160 five-gallon buckets of compost for \$7.50 each. There is a chance that it will take some trial-and-error to plan, advertise, and successfully execute a compost sale that will generate \$1200 of revenue, which is why it would be helpful to receive the maximum amount of grant funding to cover the cost of ScrapDogs’ services for the initial years.

The school principal, staff, teachers, and parents have expressed interest in, and a commitment to a

program that will reduce the impact of food waste on the environment, while also using it as a teaching opportunity for the students on environmentally responsible waste management. As "Project Based learning" is a central focus of the school's curriculum, a school-wide program to gather food waste each day for composting would be an ideal tool for teaching the basics of environmental science to all 181 students. While cafeteria staff and faculty will oversee compliance, students from grades 4-8 can volunteer as "food waste super heroes," to help the Pre-K-3rd grade students separate their food scraps successfully.

According to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, organic waste accounts for over forty percent of the weight in the solid waste stream (Composting, 2023). Augusta's landfill, Hatch Hill, is already projected to be full in four years and the city is considering pricey solutions to expand the landfill. A much less expensive and environmentally-sound solution is diverting the organic waste to composting facilities. The obstacles to this solution so far have been the shortage of labor at Augusta Public Works and Riverside Disposal to collect the food scraps and the already overburdened Hatch Hill staff, who would not be able to support the increase in traffic created by using available Hatch Hill land to collect food waste for composting. While a much more comprehensive food scrap collection program is desirable in Augusta in the future, it is important to start small and sustainable. Ecomaine's grant funding would not only enrich experiential learning for the students of St. Michael School and divert meaningful amounts of food waste to compost, but it would also set the stage for larger, more comprehensive food waste diversion programs in Maine's capital. We thank you for your time and consideration of our proposal and we hope to earn your support.

References

Composting. (n.d.). Accessed March 2023. <https://www.maine.gov/dep/sustainability/compost/index.html>

Esparza, E. (30 October, 2018). Plate Waste Warriors: How Schools Are Reducing Food Waste. Accessed March 2023. <https://www.farmtoschool.org/news-and-articles/plate-waste-warriors-how-schools-are-reducing-food-waste>

Food Loss and Waste. (14 February, 2023). Accessed March 2023. <https://www.fda.gov/food/consumers/food-loss-and-waste#:~:text=In%20the%20United%20States%2C%20food,worth%20of%20food%20in%202010.>

Jaglo, K., Kenny, S., and Stephenson, J. (November 2021). From Farm to Kitchen: The Environmental Impacts of U.S. Food Waste. Accessed March 2023, https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-11/from-farm-to-kitchen-the-environmental-impacts-of-u.s.-food-waste_508-tagged.pdf

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

St. Michael School is seeking funding to cover the cost of hiring ScrapDogs for at least one year, as well as the cost of creating signage to clarify what can and cannot go in the bins. Also considered in the amount requested is the need for heavy duty tarps to keep the compost protected from the elements until it is sold. Please find an itemized list included here:

ScrapDogs' services for one year: \$1,035

Laminated signage, printed from Food Rescue Maine's website: \$50

A wall-mounted hand-sanitizer dispenser for students to use after separating food scraps: \$25

Heavy-duty tarps for protecting the compost from the elements: \$100

Total minimum request: \$1,215

Total maximum request: \$5,000, which would cover the supplies needed to start the program plus at least four years of ScrapDogs' services.

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$5,000

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

St. Michael School has shown their commitment to initiating and sustaining a successful food waste diversion program through the donation of time and space. Principal Cullen, faculty, staff, and interested parents have already dedicated many hours over the past year to meetings and email correspondence in an effort to create a sustainable program that matches the needs of the school. Cafeteria staff and faculty have volunteered to oversee the proper separation of food scraps as well as the daily cleaning of the food scrap buckets. Another essential contribution is the time of parent volunteers, who will coordinate and execute a successful annual compost sale, to pay for the subsequent year of ScrapDogs' services. Several parents have already pledged their commitment to supporting a compost sale in order for their children to benefit from the food waste diversion program. Finally, Principal Cullen has offered space on the school grounds for keeping the compost until it is sold.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

According to the National Farm to School Network, each student in the U.S. throws out 36.5 pounds of food, per year, at school (Esparza, 2018). If we assume that is true for the students at St. Michael's, then a food waste diversion program has the potential to rescue over 6,000 lbs of food from heading into the landfill each year. ScrapDogs estimates and logs the weight of the food scrap totes at each pick-up, including it as part of the school's customer profile. Therefore, St. Michael School will be able to evaluate at the mid-year and final reports how much food waste is being diverted away from Hatch Hill by this project.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

Implementing and replicating this program will involve the commitment of the school to properly separate food scraps in the cafeteria as well as successfully sell compost to pay for the future of the program. If awarded the generous funding provided by ecomaine's grant, St. Michael School will be able to hire ScrapDogs to collect and compost the food scraps, as well as acquire the additional materials needed for the program. However, if the bins are contaminated with non-compostables, ScrapDogs will alert the school, and if contamination continues, ScrapDogs will cancel their service to the school. Educating the students and staff about what can and cannot be thrown into the food waste bins, as well as initial oversight to ensure compliance, will be imperative. Education about the program will be provided initially by ScrapDogs' founders in a one-day training. Laminated signage to remind students and staff of what can go in the bin will be installed and cafeteria staff and school faculty will offer daily support to ensure the students are sorting their lunch food scraps correctly. Additionally, older students, in grades 4-8, can volunteer to be "food waste superheroes" and assist the younger students with separating their food scraps successfully at the end of lunch. Finally, the program will be limited to the school cafeteria at lunch time, which will not only generate the most food scraps, but will also keep the program simple enough to implement and maintain. At the time of the writing of this proposal, no formal agreement has been made with the University of Maine's Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, but due to a recent effort to collaborate, there may be potential to invite student interns from that program to assist with further food waste education, as well as project evaluation, at St. Michael School.

Essential to this project's success is that it does not cost the school money from its budget. Selling the compost to pay for the future of the program will require parent volunteers willing to donate their time to sell the compost for at least \$7.50 per 5-gallon bucket load. After the 4 cubic yard bulk compost is delivered to the school, the students' families will be invited to bring their own bucket to the school to buy compost. Families associated with the school have already expressed interest in supporting the program through purchasing the compost. Furthermore, the school's parent-run beautification committee is ready and willing to volunteer their time for a compost sale. This early enthusiasm and engagement by parents suggests that a volunteer-led compost sale can be successful. While any funds generated by a compost sale will be earmarked for the food scrap diversion program budget, receiving the maximum amount of ecomaine's grant would allow for a financial cushion in the event that it takes a few years to establish a gainful compost sale. Any surplus in the food scrap diversion program budget would allow for the school to consider ways to expand the program.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Ami Bass

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

amipbass@gmail.com

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

ferranta@spsdme.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Tania Ferrante

Position / Title *

Ecology teacher/sustainability leader

Phone number *

207-713-4244

Email Address *

ferranta@spsdme.org

Mailing Address *

637 Highland Avenue, South Portland, ME

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

South Portland



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

South Portland High School

Physical Address *

637 Highland Avenue, South Portland, ME 04106

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Scott Tombleson

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

tomblesc@spsdme.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

2019

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

1500

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

compostable products

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

Project outline and school commitment:

The goal of this project is to create a pollinator garden in the courtyard space and to increase awareness of the role pollination plays in our food system. Students in ecology class would work with a local landscaping company who specializes in sustainability practices. The landscaper would educate students on local pollinator plants and the important role they play in the food system.

Ease of project replication

Students would each year in the ecology class be able to study the plants in the pollinator garden and be educated on the role that the plants play in food systems. Students could add pollinator plants each year to the garden.

Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding:

The South Portland School District continues to be a leader in composting and recycling. Our city also leads the way in many sustainability initiatives including banning styrofoam, the food waste recycling program, and the reusable bag ordinance. We know that local native plants and in particular pollinator plants are important for our food system. This would lead into understanding the importance of food systems and lead to discussions about the importance of composting and reducing food waste so that biodiversity can continue to be preserved in our community.

Timeline: We have already begun consulting with a landscaper. This spring a design would be implemented and spring and fall would be the implementation of the garden. Fall would educate school about the pollinator garden.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

plants=800

mulch and soil=300

landscape design plan and implementation=500

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

1600

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Tools, staff time

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

Educate students through homebase which meets everyday. Survey homebase

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

Students in the ecology class would be the stewards for maintaining the garden and educating the school about the pollinator garden. Students could add to the garden each year by adding a mural or a sign to educate the student body about the garden.

Timeline and Reporting

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Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Tania Ferrante

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

ferranta@spsdme.org

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials

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Google Forms

2023-24 School Recycling Grants

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

brooke@friendsschoolportland.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Brooke Burkett

Position / Title *

Development Director

Phone number *

207-558-6214

Email Address *

brooke@friendsschoolportland.org

Mailing Address *

11 US Route One Cumberland Foreside, ME 04110

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Cumberland



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Friends School of Portland

Physical Address *

11 US Route One, Cumberland Foreside, ME 04110

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

Sara Primo

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

sara@friendsschoolportland.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

Friends School of Portland is a small independent elementary and middle school. We host ongoing special events within classes and as a whole school community. We are mindful of our use of plastics and have made efforts to purchase and use compostable ware. However, recent student projects, around recycling and PFAS, have led our school community to consider further reducing our use of one-time plastics and compostable ware.

Eighth-grade student Riley's year-end-project was on pollution and waste reduction in her community. For part of her project, she researched, spoke with school faculty, and co-wrote this proposal.

We do not have a school cafeteria and do not currently have enough reusable plates, glasses, and silverware beyond daily use by staff and faculty. We do have a residential dishwasher. We are requesting the funds for a new energy-efficient dishwasher, silverware, dishes, mugs, and cups for classes and our larger community to use at large classroom and community-wide special events.

The reusable wares would be stored in our kitchen for event use. We plan to collaborate with our Art teacher to decorate the mugs with messages about why waste reduction is important.

We have a small community that cares about each other, the environment, and the choices that we make. By having tools and utensils to host our larger community when we gather, we will be able to more fully demonstrate our stewardship commitment and continuing understanding of our impact we each have on the environment.

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

Cost of 100 sets of silverware: \$300

Cost of 100 mugs: \$300

Cost of 100 plates: \$150

Cost of 100 cups: \$120

Cost of New Energy Efficient Dishwasher: \$800

Total Request: \$1,670

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

Total Request: \$1,670

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

With this initial purchase of reusable wares, Friends School will be able to set aside money each year that would have been spent on single-use items to be spent on reusable items. The cost of a new dishwasher and installation will exceed the \$800 allotted and any additional would be covered by Friends School as well.

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

We think that by working with Art classes to create signage and messages on the mugs that we would be able to share the importance of our waste reduction. During the first events that the school hosts, we would plan to share how many plates, silverware, cups, and mugs that we've used. By sharing an ongoing count, we can share the successes that might otherwise go unseen.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

After an initial purchase of reusable wares for events in the 2023-2023 school year, we will be able to add to it each year. We typically purchase single-use wares to be used throughout events during the year.

However, after an initial purchase, we would be able to divert our budget for single use to continue to replenish and add to our stock of reusable wares.

Timeline and Reporting

ecomaine requires that grant recipients complete mid-term and final reports during the course of their specified project. Please identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for completing the reports, and provide their contact information.

Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Brooke Burkett

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

brooke@friendsschoolportland.org

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

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Google Forms

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You can also review our Grant Guidelines and find a downloadable copy of the application here: <https://bit.ly/3kdGvr5>

Application Form Deadline: May 12, 2023

Email *

tfarmer@capeelizabethschools.org

Project Contact Information

Name of Staff Leader for Proposed Project *

First and last name

Thomas Farmer

Position / Title *

Environmental Club Advisor

Phone number *

(207) 310-1814

Email Address *

tfarmer@capeelizabethschools.org

Mailing Address *

Cape Elizabeth High School, 345 Ocean House Rd, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

School Information

Name of ecomaine Community *

Cape Elizabeth



If other, please specify:

Name of School / Child Care Program *

Cape Elizabeth High School

Physical Address *

345 Ocean House Rd, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

Name and Title of Superintendent / Principal / President *

John Springer

Email of Superintendent / Principal / President *

jspringer@capeelizabetschools.org

For administrators: Do you agree to accept any grant money received from ecomaine on behalf *
of the school and support the recycling / waste reduction plans described in this application?

Note: Grant projects need authorization from school administrators to receive funding from ecomaine.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Has your school ever received a School Recycling Grant from ecomaine? Note: Being a *
previous grant recipient does not disqualify your school from receiving additional funding.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Unsure

Previous Grant Information

In what year(s) did your school receive grant funding from ecomaine? *

How much money was your school awarded? If multiple grants received, please separate with semicolons (ex: \$2,000; \$3,000). If unsure, write "unsure" or estimate to the best of your ability. *

Provide a brief description of the project(s) that received funding from ecomaine (ex: Portland High School received hand dryers to reduce the consumption of paper towels). *

2023-24 Project Description

In this section, you will provide a project description that explains your plan / program for reducing waste and / or increasing recycling. Your project description must address each of the following points:

- Project outline and school commitment
- Ease of project replication
- Likelihood of success and program sustainability
- Why the project is compelling and worthy of funding

Please provide a full description of the project for which you are requesting grant funding. *

Include information about the project timeline, any student involvement, education and curriculum integration, support needed from ecomaine or others, potential benefit(s) to the school, specific needs or considerations, and any other additional information to support your application.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1azdKAu3HY64KYBVCHo2h5vjrl08LxPP-IVxNki0Qtg/edit?usp=sharing>

For what, specifically, will the money be used? *

Please provide a detailed budget of all expenses. See our guidelines for more information on eligible and ineligible expenses. (ex: Compost tumbler - \$120; Gloves - \$35; Title of Composting Book - \$27)

2 Cafeteria waste collection stations including (\$750 x 2):

- Liquids Collection
- Recyclables (yogurt containers, milk cartons)
- Compost
- Bottle Return
- Landfill

52 Clynk collection boxes at \$5/box (\$260) and
Clynk bag collection bin (\$40)

Total amount of grant funding requested (whole dollar amount) *

\$1,800

What resources will be contributed by the school? *

This includes tangible and intangible contributions like staff time, tools, matching funds, materials, etc.

Staff time, additional funds from Cape Facilities Department

What measurements will be taken to gauge and evaluate the impact of the project? *

Weighing and volume estimate of current landfill waste from high school cafeteria, comparison over time starting this spring with limited Garbage to Garden composting.

How will the project be sustained (or expanded) after the 2023-24 academic year? *

Waste collection areas in the cafeteria area will ideally be build this summer with the help of Cape Elizabeth Facilities Department. The local wood company Lumbery has expressed interest in helping with this project. We will continue researching compost options this spring with Garbage to Garden side-by-side with Agricycle.

Timeline and Reporting

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Mid-term reports should be completed no later than December 15, 2023. Final reports should be completed no later than April 30, 2024. The final payment will be contingent upon receipt and approval of your reports, and any future awards may be contingent upon timely reporting.

Do you agree to submit timely mid-year (December 15, 2023) and final (April 30, 2024) reporting and provide any additional updates to ecomaine as necessary? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Name of individual(s) responsible for mid-year and final reporting *

Thomas Farmer

Email address(es) for individuals responsible for reporting *

tfarmer@capeelizabethschools.org

Supplemental Materials

Please use this section to upload any additional materials you might have. Items may include (but are not limited to) charts, graphs, images, and/or short videos. Supplemental items can also be emailed to info@ecomaine.org (Attn: Matt Grondin) for review.

Use this space to submit any additional materials

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Cape Elizabeth High School Waste Reduction Initiative

Grant Amount Requested: \$4,800

Budget:

Cafeteria waste collection stations including: (\$750/station est. Qty 2)

- Liquids Collection
- Recyclables (yogurt containers, milk cartons)
- Compost
- Bottle Return
- Landfill

52 Clynk collection boxes at \$5/box (\$260)

Clynk bag collection bin (\$40)

TOTAL REQUESTED: \$1800

The Cape Elizabeth High School Waste Reduction Initiative aims to reduce the amount of trash sent to landfills by implementing waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting measures. This project will provide the necessary resources and infrastructure to improve waste management at Cape Elizabeth High School, resulting in environmental benefits, financial savings, and educational opportunities.

1) Project Outline and Statement of Commitment

Cape Elizabeth High School is committed to reducing the environmental impact of its operations and fostering responsible waste management practices. The Waste Reduction Initiative will include the following components:

- Installation of two recycling stations in the CEHS cafeteria;

- Coordination and expansion of Clynk bottle return to include all classrooms and common areas;
- Educational workshops and campaigns to promote waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, especially during lunch periods;
- Monitoring and reporting of waste reduction efforts;
- We are dedicated to ensuring the success and longevity of this initiative by engaging students, staff, and community members (parents, building staff) in its implementation and maintenance.

2) Ease of Project Replication

The Waste Reduction Initiative is designed to be easily replicated by other schools and institutions. We've taken primary ideas for this request from efforts shared by Tania Ferrante at South Portland High School and Josh Olins at Falmouth Elementary School. The key components can be adapted to fit the needs and resources of a variety of settings, and the materials and resources developed for educational workshops and campaigns can be shared and customized. Furthermore, the lessons learned from our project can be used as a model for others to follow, facilitating the spread of environmentally responsible waste management practices.

3) Waste Reduction, Reuse, Recycling, and Composting

The Waste Reduction Initiative will focus on reducing waste sent to landfill by:

- Encouraging the use of reusable items, such as water bottles, lunch containers, and bags;
- Consolidating our bottle return program (we currently have 8 separate and inconsistently collected accounts with Clynk), providing an incentive for bottle recycling, much of which currently gets put in trash. Cash return for bottles will offset composting costs;

- Continuing to experiment with a composting program for food waste and other compostable materials using either Garbage to Garden (preferred) or Agricycle of Scarborough if necessary. This will divert significant amounts of organic waste from landfills and reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- Educating, training, and retraining the school community on waste reduction, reuse, and recycling best practices.

4) Likelihood of Success and Program Sustainability

The Waste Reduction Initiative is designed to be both successful and sustainable, with the following factors contributing to its likelihood of success:

- Strong commitment from school leadership, staff, and students, notably the CEHS environmental club;
- A comprehensive approach addressing waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting;
- The involvement of community partners, such as local waste management companies, environmental organizations, and municipal authorities including the town energy and recycling committees;
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the program's effectiveness;
- Additionally, the cost savings generated by reduced waste disposal fees and the bottle return program will help ensure the financial sustainability of the initiative.

Note: As we move forward, we will continue to explore school cafeteria dishwashing options to clean trays and silverware rather than composting these and/or adding these to landfills. Though dishwashing is ideal with respect to waste reduction, staffing issues post-pandemic have made this option difficult.

5) Compelling and Worthy of Funding

The Cape Elizabeth High School Waste Reduction Initiative is a compelling and worthy investment for the following reasons:

Environmental Impact:

By reducing waste sent to landfills, the initiative will contribute to a cleaner environment and help combat climate change.

Educational Value:

The project will provide students with hands-on learning opportunities in waste management, instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and responsibility for future generations.

Community Engagement:

The initiative will foster a sense of pride and ownership among the school community and serve as a model for other institutions looking to implement similar programs.

Cost Savings:

The project will generate financial savings from reduced waste disposal fees and the bottle return program, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the initiative.

The Cape Elizabeth High School Waste Reduction Initiative is a continued shot at deepening the recycling systems we've had in place and lost traction on during COVID and post-COVID. Your investment will keep the school and community moving in the right direction. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Manager's Report – Communications & Education Communications, Public Relations, & Education Accomplishments through April 2023

P.R. & Community Outreach...

- Through April 2023, we reached **60,964 people** through educational outreach.
 - FY22 at this point was at 69,808 reached. FY21 was 26,645.
- **ecofest 2023**, held on Earth Day – Saturday, **April 22, 2023** – at the North Yarmouth Community Center, was a great success. There were more than 700 attendees who visited and learned about ecomaine's operations, as well as those of our exhibitor partners. Please see the attachment at the end for a summary of a post-event survey.
- **ecomaine's FY23 Annual Meeting** will be held June 15 at 11:30 at Halo at Thompson's Point (note the slight change in venue!) with Michael E. Hoffman, Managing Director of Stifel (industry economic analysts) as our keynote speaker.
- Personnel: Matt Grondin has accepted a position at the Maine Community Foundation and his last day is June 2; recruitment is underway for his position, as well as an Environmental Educator, and new tagging interns. Nate Cronauer has been promoted to Senior Environmental Educator – deservedly so! An offer has been made to Abigail Hart, an impressive candidate, for the Social & Digital Media Specialist position. KMA's work has produced good candidates for the two FT positions; we are still very much lacking applicants for the tagging internship, however.

Media Mentions (17 in April; 96 total in FY23)

[Finalists for 2023 ecomaine Upcycle Challenge get creative](#) (Penobscot Bay Pilot)

[Community News: ecomaine announces finalists for 2023 Upcycle Challenge](#) (South Portland Sentry)

[Community News: ecomaine announces finalists for 2023 Upcycle Challenge](#) (Scarborough Leader)

[Businesses, advocates vie over proposed homeless shelter site in Portland](#) (Portland Press Herald)

[Proposed shelter location in Portland up for debate](#) (News Center Maine)

[Ecomaine Cautions City Against Planned Immigrant Shelter at 90 Blueberry Road](#) (Munjoy Hill News)

[Recognizing Recycling Excellence](#) (Resource Recycling Magazine April issue)

[Ecofest to be held in North Yarmouth on Earth Day](#) (The Forecaster)

[Ecomaine celebrates Earth Day with ecofest in North Yarmouth](#) (Times Record)

[There are some seriously fun ways to celebrate Earth Day in southern Maine](#) (Portland Press Herald)

[UNE to welcome delegation of Kenyan environmentalists April 12 to 15](#) (UNE.edu)

[Waterville to consider changing provider for solid waste disposal, recycling](#) (Waterville Morning Sentinel)

[Woolwich town meeting warrant offers ambulance service choices](#) (Wiscasset Newspaper)

[Marktanalyse und Prognose für Müllkraftwerke 2023 bis 2030](#) (steirerblatt.at)

[Marktgröße für Müllkraftwerke und Anteil der Top-Unternehmen 2023: Zukünftiges Wachstum und Prognose 2030](#) (steirerblatt.at)

[Letters to the Editor: City is on a slippery slope](#) (South Portland Sentry)

[Community Calendar: April 7-14](#) (The Forecaster)

Online & Social Media Metrics...

Recyclopedia:

- In April, the Recyclopedia saw **4,500** items searched. This is significantly lower than April 2022 (66,000). Upon investigating with our vendor, staff have determined that **the significant spike in traffic on the Recyclopedia from January 2022-January 2023 can, in part, be attributed to dedicated paid media/advertising – this is good data to help inform future efforts.** The total number of items searched over the lifespan of the database is 1,727,600.
- The widget on web pages was viewed **475,635** times in April on ecomaine's site and others who have embedded it.
- Total app downloads to date stand at **5,512** (an increase of 46 in April.)
- The top 10 searches are: Styrofoam, mattresses, milk cartons, glass olive oil bottles, plastic bags, baby bottles, electronic waste, fiber berry containers, shower heads, and rice cookers.

ecomaine.org:

- Total April web traffic was up 10% compared to March; compared to April 2022, this is up 24%.
- Total Page views increased 14% from March to April; this is up 14% from April 2022.

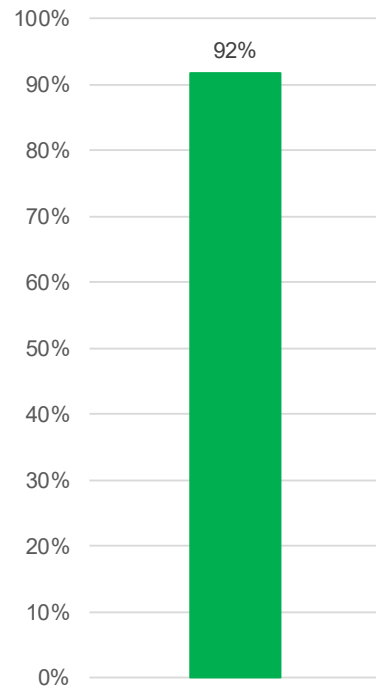
Social Media Stats:

- **Facebook:**
 - Gained 56 new followers in April (3,808 total)
 - Our top post in April, with a reach of more than 12,000 users, was a post promoting the finalists & voting on the Upcycle Challenge.
 - Our average post reach was 1,140 users in April.
- **Instagram:** We had 27 Instagram posts in April, which had a **reach of 18,995**. We gained 30 new followers for a total of 2,867.
- **Twitter:** Twitter has not been as much of a focus this year, with growth on other platforms and uncertainty around the platform's future. With the site rapidly shedding users since Elon Musk's purchase, our audience is relatively level at 949 (3 lost this month). ecomaine had 47 Tweet impressions from only re-tweeting other accounts. *(We are holding on to our account for the time being, so impersonators do not take it over, and it may be that the platform rebounds/is re-sold in the future...waiting and seeing.)*

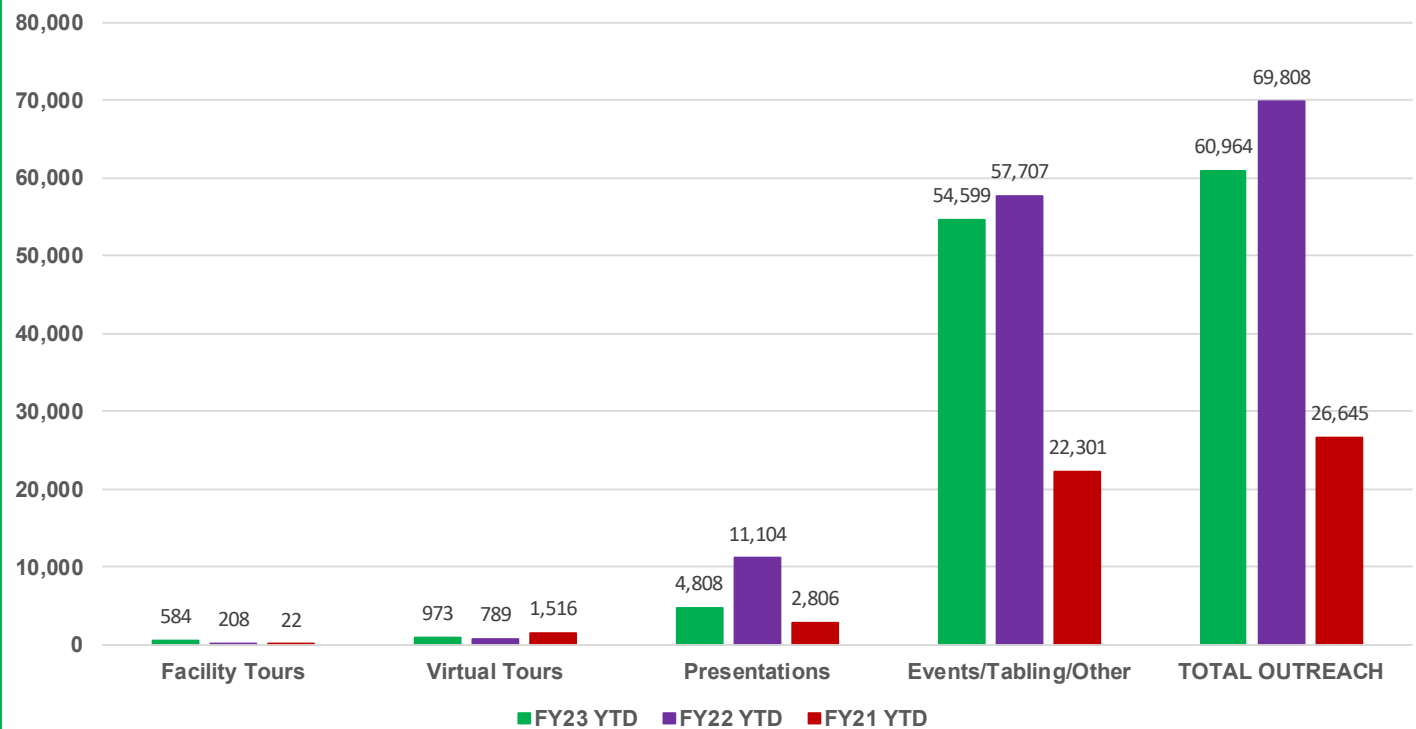
FY23 **ecomaine** Outreach Summary

	FY23 YTD	FY22 YTD	FY21 YTD	FY23 GOAL
Facility Tours	584	208	22	500
Virtual Tours	973	789	1,516	1,000
Presentations	4,808	11,104	2,806	10,000
Events/Tabling/Other	54,599	57,707	22,301	55,000
TOTAL OUTREACH	60,964	69,808	26,645	66,500

Progress to FY23 Outreach Goal



People Reached Through **ecomaine** Education



Attachment D – Manager’s PR & Outreach Report

April 2023 Outreach

4/1/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	Maine Green Home & Energy Show	250	Other	Nate	All Ages
4/2/2023	Presentations	GNG Adult Ed	8	Gray	Nate	Adult
4/3/2023	Virtual Tours	Shapleigh School	45	Kittery	Katrina	Elementary
4/6/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	STEM Expo	300	Portland	Katrina	High School
4/7/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	Toad & Co Tabling	25	Freeport	Katrina	All Ages
4/9/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	Maine Mariners On Ice & Tabling	3640	Other	Katrina	All Ages
4/10/2023	Facility Tours	Small School	43	South Portland	Katrina	Elementary
4/11/2023	Presentations	GNG Adult Ed	8	Gray	Nate	Adult
4/12/2023	Presentations	Celtics Crusher Assembly - Wentworth School	360	Scarborough	Katrina	Elementary
4/12/2023	Facility Tours	Brown Elementary School Bus Visit	64	South Portland	Nate	Elementary
4/13/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	STEM Fair Tabling	500	Portland	Nate	High School
4/13/2023	Facility Tours	UNE visiting Kenya delegation tour	5	Other	Nate	Adult
4/13/2023	Presentations	Saco Library Adult Ed	6	Saco	Katrina	Adult
4/14/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	Patagonia Tabling	30	Freeport	Katrina	All Ages
4/15/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	Green ME Up - Girl Scouts	300	Freeport	Katrina	All Ages
4/18/2023	Presentations	Sebago Technics L&L	25	South Portland	Katrina	Adult
4/18/2023	Presentations	Scarborough Public Library	22	Scarborough	Nate	All Ages
4/21/2023	Virtual Tours	Tom's of Maine Staff	25	Other	Katrina	Adult
4/22/2023	Events/Tabling/Other	ecofest (held in North Yarmouth)	700	North Yarmouth	Other	All Ages
4/24/2023	Facility Tours	Freeport HS	19	Freeport	Nate	High School
4/25/2023	Facility Tours	Freeport HS	17	Pownal	Nate	High School
4/26/2023	Presentations	Celtics Crusher Assembly - Wentworth School	112	Scarborough	Nate	Elementary
4/26/2023	Presentations	OOB Adult Ed RCY 101	6	Old Orchard Beach	Nate	Adult
4/26/2023	Facility Tours	Homeschool Group	14	Other	Nate	All Ages
4/27/2023	Facility Tours	Portland Leadership Group Tour	23	Portland	Nate	Adult
4/28/2023	Presentations	Gorham HS earth week event	50	Gorham	Nate	All Ages
4/28/2023	Presentations	First Parish/Gorham "Fast Fashion" Textiles	22	Gorham	Nate	Adult

Attachment: Summary of Post-Event Survey, 2023 ecofest

What was your impression of the event location (Wescustogo Hall & Community Center)? (1 star = entirely unsatisfactory; 10 stars = the best I could possibly imagine)

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

9.1★
average rating



Comments:

- Excellent venue!!!!
- 10 Stars, great location.

What was your impression of the event's exhibition tables and vendors? (1 star = entirely unsatisfactory; 10 stars = the best I could possibly imagine)

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

9.0★
average rating



Attachment D – Manager’s PR & Outreach Report

What was your impression of the overall flow, layout, and management of the event? (1 star = entirely unsatisfactory; 10 stars = the best I could possibly imagine)

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

9.1★
average rating



Comments:

- Excellent use of the streams such as; recycle, reuse etc.

What was your impression of the activities offered at ecofest? These included papermaking, painting the recycling container, recycling sorting activity, compost demonstration, music, etc. (1 star = entirely unsatisfactory; 10 stars = the best I could possibly imagine. If you did not participate in any activities, please rank it 5 stars.)

Answered: 14 Skipped: 2

7.9★
average rating



Comments:

- Since I was tabling I didn't get to see everything, but from what I saw and what people were carrying around (and the face painting) I think the activities were fantastic! The bingo cards were a fantastic idea, and the demonstrations I could see were engaging and informative - for a wide range of ages!
- 10 stars, I loved the game of which bin does it go in.
- Participants looked like they were having fun while they were educated. Best possible outcome.

Attachment D – Manager’s PR & Outreach Report

What did you think of the food truck selection? (1 star = no good at all; 5 stars = amazing!)

Answered: 10 Skipped: 6

3.2★
average rating



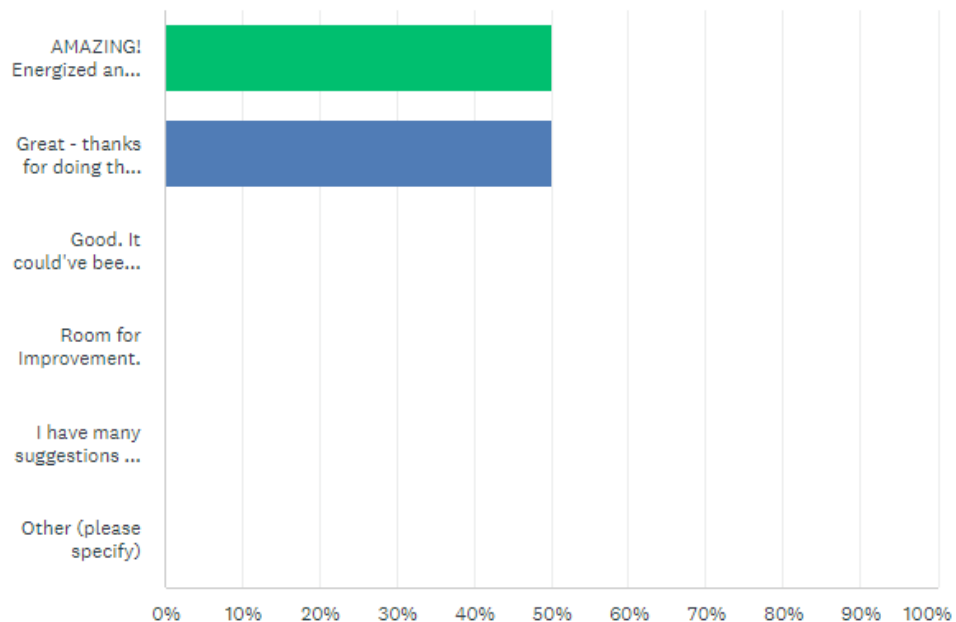
Note different scale of 1-5, not 1-10!

Comments:

- Food trucks were ok. I'd love to see the Tacos Del Seoul truck there. Josh Dionne is based in Cumberland and that truck is amazing. Fresh ingredients and great people. The truck is at area colleges and breweries and is always super popular. <https://www.facebook.com/tacosdelseoul/>
- *Most did not get the chance to interact w/ the food trucks, it seems...*

How did you feel about ecofest upon leaving?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



What would you recommend to improve future ecofests, should they happen?

Comments:

- I thought it was an incredibly well organized and executed event. The venue was terrific, and getting out into a member community I thought had real value. As great as the facility was, if there are other similar places throughout the ecomaine service area, maybe consider developing a rotation among several as a means of getting out into other communities.
- Egg sandwiches :)
- I think you are going to need a bigger space!!!!
- At Habitat, we have a list of other resources where people can donate items (ones we can't take, of course) and I think a list of the vendors/places where you can donate items would be helpful! I noticed there were lists of how to recycle items for trash - but not so much for where to donate items that aren't trash (besides us, Ruth's Reusable Resources, and a couple others). There are other places you can donate items besides even Goodwill and Salvation Army, and I'm happy to share our (not fully encompassing) list we have. Things that come to mind are Fabric Recycling centers (Peace House Studio who was at EcoFest does fantastic work!), places that take/give used Medical Equipment (Such as Partners for World Health) and E-Waste facilities (Ruth's Reusable Resources who was at EcoFest take computers and computer-related electronics, but further resources for other E-Waste). Thank you for your time and hard work for EcoFest! It was a fantastic event and I look forward to the next one. :)
- The event really went off without a hitch. It was very well organized and attended. I really don't have anything coming to mind that could have been improved.