



2012-2013 PEARL SCHOOLS THANK YOU FOR BEING GREEN

Kermit the Frog once said that "It's not easy being green," but Lynnhaven River NOW's Pearl School program has made it easier for both private and public schools in Virginia Beach to be green. The program, first started in the 2007-2008 school year, rewards schools with points for their efforts to increase awareness and foster stewardship of the earth's resources. With the Pearl School banner and bragging rights as the prize, students, teachers and administrators work hard for the points needed to earn the distinction of being a Pearl School by working on projects that go above and beyond recycling. During the 2012-2013 school year, 51 schools won the distinction of being a Pearl School, including Bayside HS, Strawbridge ES, Windsor Oaks ES, Norfolk Christian Schools-Beach Lower School and Brookwood ES all won the award for the first time. Ten schools even won the five year award. Many schools have found innovative ways to include more than just the environmental club or the science classes in achieving this award. Below are a few highlighted schools and their projects.

Strawbridge Elementary School

Strawbridge Elementary School had very unique projects going on this past year. They collected used plastic bags, but they did not recycle them. Instead they reused them to make plarn. Plarn is actually "yarn-like" strands made from plastic bags that can be knitted or crocheted into all kinds of useful things. Strawbridge crocheted their plarn into sleeping mats for the homeless. They also ironed plastic bags into tarps that were donated to local homeless shelters. Working as a team, across several disciplines and grades, the school reached out to the community and sponsored the first annual Environmental Expo for Strawbridge ES families. They partnered with Back Bay NWF, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Lynnhaven River NOW to make this event a success. Exploration stations and activities were set up around the cafeteria dealing with such diverse subjects as oyster measurement, habitat cubes, composting, sustainable foods, recycling sort, wetlands, climate science and STEM.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2012-2013 PEARL SCHOOLS

Thank you for the great work you are doing with our students!

High Schools

Bayside High School
First Colonial High School
Frank W. Cox High School – 5 Year Award
Landstown High School
Ocean Lakes High School
Renaissance Academy
Tallwood High School

Middle Schools

Bayside Middle School
Brandon Middle School
Corporate Landing Middle School
Great Neck Middle School – 5 Year Award
Kemps Landing Magnet School
Lynnhaven Middle School
Plaza Middle School
Princess Anne Middle School
Renaissance Academy
Virginia Beach Middle School

Elementary Schools

Alanton Elementary School
Arrowhead Elementary School
Bayside Elementary School – 5 Year Award
Brookwood Elementary School
Christopher Farms Elementary School – 5 Year Award
College Park Elementary School
Corporate Landing Elementary School
Creeds Elementary School – 5 Year Award
Glenwood Elementary School
Hermitage Elementary School
John B. Dey Elementary School – 5 Year Award
Kings Grant Elementary School
Kingston Elementary School
New Castle Elementary School
Old Donation Center
Pembroke Elementary School – 5 Year Award
Pembroke Meadows Elementary School
Providence Elementary School

THANK YOU FOR BEING GREEN (continued)

Princess Anne Middle School

At Princess Anne Middle School, a variety of classes and grade levels have worked together to achieve their Pearl School Award. Many of the students participated in the Tidewater Science Fair, bringing home special awards for their projects in Engineering, Animal Sciences and Microbiology and Biochemistry. The Keyboarding students took an on-line Sustainability course from the Green Education Foundation and received college credit. The Business Recycling Club raised money through their school-wide recycling of ink cartridges and cell phones. The Teen Living classes incorporated "The Story of Stuff" and locally produced videos to teach about sustainability and how to go green. The Financial Skills classroom teacher incorporated into the lessons that saving the planet could save families money as well. Several teachers developed a unit entitled "Environmental Detectives" that allowed students across several grade levels to grapple with complex, interdisciplinary scientific investigations dealing with water quality issues.



Landstown High School

Landstown HS took recycling and reusing to a whole new level. Getting the students from the AP Environmental Science Classes, the Fashion Design students and the Advanced Art students together, they put on a Trashion Show. This "fashion" show highlighted garments created by the AP students from items that would normally be thrown away or recycled. Items such as plastic bags, paper shopping bags and water bottles were turned into amazing, wearable must-have clothing. Their fashions covered daytime, athletic and even formal evening attire. More than 100 students had some role in the show, from ticket design, to advertising, deejaying, designing the fashions and of course, modeling. Fashion Design students "upcycled" old clothes and emphasized sustainability through showcasing clothing and accessories from Goodwill. They even incorporated the recycled art "aliens/monsters" from advanced art students into the show. This is the third year they have put on this event to raise money for Lynnhaven River NOW. According to the director of this event, Kasi Daniels, "The kids really look forward to this each year!"



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2012-2013 PEARL SCHOOLS (continued)

- Red Mill Elementary School
- Salem Elementary School
- Seatack Elementary School
- Shelton Park Elementary School
- Strawbridge Elementary
- Thalia Elementary School
- Thoroughgood Elementary School
- Three Oaks Elementary School – 5 Year Award
- Trantwood Elementary School
- W. T. Cooke Elementary School – 5 Year Award
- Windsor Oaks Elementary School
- Windsor Woods Elementary School

Independent Schools

- Baylake Pines School
- Cape Henry Collegiate School – 5 Year Award
- Norfolk Christian Schools, Beach Lower School
- Virginia Beach Friends School

