

NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER)

Good day Patti,

Thanks for being on point with your application. Your school earn their certification in 2014. That means that in 2017-2018 school year you will need to recertify. I looked at your Weebly and saw that you archived your old application. What a great idea!

It's great that you have so much information in your Weebly. To organize your Weebly you might want to try to make the three big objects pages and then have pop downs for all the pieces of that objective. How to do that:

1. Go into the Weebly so that you can edit it.
2. On the blue bar at the top of your screen, click on Pages. It will list all your pages together.
3. To make a page a subpage, grab the page and slide it to the right. That page will now become a subpage.

In regards to sustainable practices, we would like to see that the practices are continuing throughout the four years and it is incorporated into your curriculum. We also want to see that you are doing new sustainable practices too. For example, in the first application you made a butterfly garden (application part 2.4) at your school. In the recertification application you made informative signage for that garden (application part 2.5) and use the garden in your instruction (application part 1.1). You also in your recertification build another garden like a five senses garden. Your recertification application would show that you are using your practices in more way than one. Does that example help?

I know that the last time you certified, I was one of the green leaders that assisted you in your process. I am no longer with Living Classrooms, but I can still help. We also have this great partnership with Green Centers. Green Centers fill out a similar application to the Green School but it has a few more components to it. Do you partner with any Baltimore City Green Centers?

I know that there is a lot of information here. If you have any more questions/concerns, please let me know.

Have a nice day,

Christina Gladmon

Program Coordinator

Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education

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On, Thursday, December 10, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act which had been approved and passed by the House and Senate. Environmental Education funding is part of the ESSA. NAAEE's Sarah Bodor stated, "The key language [of the legislation] sits in Title IV of the Every Student Succeeds Act—21st Century Schools. Environmental education is called out as eligible for funding under a \$1.6B "well-rounded education" grants program and environmental literacy programs are eligible for funding as part of the \$1B 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. It's worth noting that the prioritization of STEM activities including "hands-on learning" and "field-based or service learning" to enhance understanding of STEM subjects may provide additional opportunities for environmental science

LOWES. The classroom contains rain barrels, compost bins, and native plants, a pond, and tables and the classroom is utilized by the whole school. Students have broadened their learning experiences on a national level too. On October 27, students from General Smallwood assisted EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy with Energy Star Day in Washington, DC. Energy Star day focuses on how energy usage around homes and buildings affects climate change.

Available Grants and Resources

Lowe's Toolbox for Education

Grant opens on December 18, 2015 and closes on February 12, 2016.

It's almost that easy when you take advantage of Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant program. Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation (LCEF) knows how hard you work for your kids and your community and we're dedicated to helping your parent-teacher group achieve even more for your school. Apply for our Toolbox for Education Grant now and build on your already impressive parent group success with Lowe's.

Please go to the website for more information. <<http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>>

The Bill James Environmental Grant

Deadline: March 31, 2016

This grant offers up to \$1,000 to school groups, science and ecology clubs, and other nonprofit youth groups for proposed environmental education projects. The objectives of the grant is to encourage a sense of stewardship and personal responsibility for the environment; stimulate a better understanding of environmental issues and more. For questions, please click

In-kind Donations<<https://volunteermaryland.wordpress.com/2012/05/04/in-kind-what-tips-on-perfecting-the-ask-for-donations/>>. It never hurts to ask!

Contests and Awards

Carton to Garden:

Show us your students' creativity by re-purposing milk and juice cartons from your school cafeteria to either build or enhance your school garden. Educators can engage students in a hands-on experience creating teachable moments on environmental stewardship, sustainable packaging and healthy living. The best use of cartons in a school garden gives your school the chance to win one of 14 prizes with a grand prize valued at \$5,000. We can't wait to see your students' creations—carton planters, garden art, scarecrows, window boxes, irrigation systems... The more creative, the better!

More info click here<<http://carton2garden.com/contest-details/spring-2016-contest/>> or go to <http://carton2garden.com/contest-details/spring-2016-contest/>

Visualize Your Water Contest: A Mapping Challenge for Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay High School Students
Open from January 13, 2016 to March 1, 2016.

You are invited to participate in an exciting challenge that will equip your students with new technology skills while broadening their understanding of water quality issues and the environment. The U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Education, Great Lakes Observing Systems, and Esri are launching the Visualize Your Water Challenge. For more information, check out: <http://www.esri.com/landing-pages/visualize-your-water>.

Patti,

That is a good question. You have a variety of options. You can do any of the following:

1. Put it in the survey monkey.
2. Make your own file by using the pdf version of the survey monkey.
3. Put the information on field scope.

I think that inputting it into FieldScope would be the best solution because we should be using the program next year. The link is: <http://sustainableschools.fieldscope.org/>.

Let me know if you have any other questions,

Christina Gladmon
Afternoon Patti,

Not a problem, it is my pleasure. Masonville Cove is a Green Center. They are in the process of obtaining new green leaders. As soon as they do, I will put you in touch with someone there.

Have a nice day,