



# Green Practices at the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium

The Zoo strives to be a leader in conservation and green initiatives, not only here in Pittsburgh, but around the world. We work hard to do our part for the environment by recycling as many items as possible. Use these ideas to get you started at your school!

## TEN MORE ZOO CONSERVATION-MINDED EFFORTS:

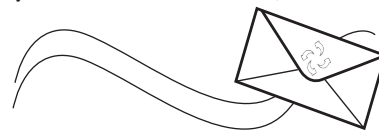
- 1. Adopt-A Highway:** Our employees sponsor a two-mile section of Butler Street.
- 2. Recycled Crafts:** If you join us for a class at the zoo you will likely make a craft of some recycled material like: Compact discs, neckties, paper towel tubes, out-of-date calendars, and more!
- 3. Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium Publications:** Our magazine, calendar, and newsletters are printed on recycled paper.
- 4. Wild Earth Day:** Each year, around the time of Earth Day, our Conservation Education Department hosts this special event for school groups.
- 5. Recycled Office Supplies:** Whenever possible, we purchase office products made from recycled materials. For example, our copy paper is made of 30 percent recycled paper.
- 6. The Green Roof at Water's Edge** conserves water runoff and insulates the building, allowing us to moderate the thermostats by one-half a degree in winter and summer.
- 7. Seafood Watch Program** – The Zoo partners with the Monterey Bay Aquarium to educate visitors about the importance of maintaining healthy ocean ecosystems. Through the use of a wallet-sized card, visitors are able to determine which seafood choices are the best, which choices require caution, and which choices should be avoided.
- 8. One Degree of Change:** An educational program about how very small changes in your lifestyle can have a very big impact on the environment.
- 9. Paper Retriever Recycling program:** We recycle paper that people drop into our parking lot bin to raise money for non-profit institutions.
- 10. Project Polar Bear:** By connecting with zoos across the U.S. and Canada, Polar Bears International gets kids involved in the effort to save polar bears.



### Here are the Top 10 Things We Recycle

1. Plastics (also glass, aluminum, and other metal cans)
2. Office Paper (including newspapers, catalogs, junk mail, etc.)
3. Organic Waste (by composting)
4. Cardboard
5. Computer Cartridges and Toners
6. Cadmium Walkie-Talkie Batteries
7. Other Batteries
8. Light Bulbs
9. Cell Phones
10. Wooden Pallets

REGISTRATION IS EASY,  
JUST FILL OUT THE FORM!



GO GREEN School Contest at the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Project Category:

Check one:

- Frog       Gorilla       Polar Bear

#### Description of your project:

Two to three sentences

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#### Mail to:

Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium/Go Green School Contest  
Education Dept, One Wild Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Forms must be postmarked by March 17, 2010. Or  
e-mail your registration form by March 17 to  
mmarks@pittsburghzoo.org

If you have questions, please call 412-365-2520  
or mmarks@pittsburghzoo.org

May the Greenest Schools win! Good luck!



THE PITTSBURGH ZOO  
& PPG AQUARIUM

# How Green is Your School?



Enter the Go Green contest sponsored by the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium and find out! The Zoo is challenging Western

Pennsylvania-area elementary schools to Go Green in honor of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day (in conjunction with the Arbor Foundation celebration).

**ELIGIBILITY:** The contest is open to all elementary schools (K-6) in the Tri-State area.

**DEADLINE:** School projects must be registered by March 17. Projects must be completed, and results submitted, by April 30.

**WINNERS:** Zoo staff will judge all projects based on creativity, uniqueness, student and staff commitment, and overall results. Winners will be announced the week of May 15.

**PRIZES:** All participating schools will receive recognition on the Zoo's website. The winning schools will receive additional recognition in the Zoo Insider publication.

**GRAND PRIZE:** The winning school in each category will receive a free outreach program during the last two weeks in May. The Zoo will visit your school in one of our Zoomobiles full of exciting live animals and biofacts for an interactive presentation.

**RUNNER-UP:** The runner-up school in each category will receive a gift basket from our zoo concessionaire, Service Systems Associates, with zoo souvenirs and conservation themed books for your school's library.

Winning schools will be invited to showcase their projects at the Zoo on World Environment Day, June 5, 2010.

## PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR PROJECTS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

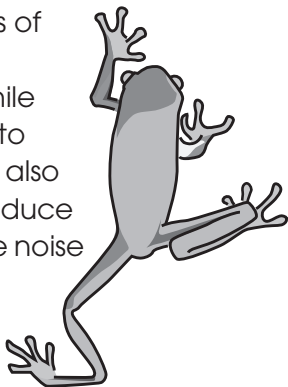
### GREEN TREE FROG AWARD

Is your school yard in need of a green make-over? Do you have a trail or playground in need of some plants? Then this is the category for you!

#### HOW TO ENTER

1. Design and plant a school garden, work with environmental clubs to plant native trees at your school, or find a creative way to raise money for the Arbor Day Foundation (like hosting a plant sale).
2. Keep a tally of native trees and plants installed, or document your fund-raising efforts and submit a receipt from your donation to the Arbor Day Foundation.

Trees remove carbon dioxide and other pollutants from the atmosphere, while providing oxygen. One mature tree can absorb 48 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere each year, while providing enough oxygen to support two humans. Trees also help provide shade and reduce energy for cooling, reduce noise pollution, block wind and erosion, and provide food and shelter for wildlife.



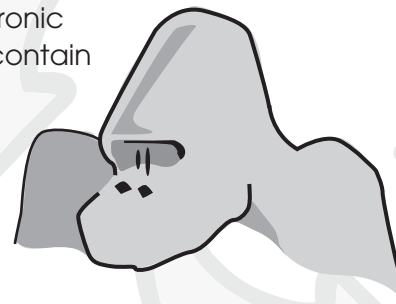
### SILVERBACK GORILLA AWARD

Host a cell phone drive at your school! For the collection, we will accept all cell phones, regardless of age or condition, along with all accessories, including batteries.

#### HOW TO ENTER

1. Design a collection box for your school.
2. Collect cell phones and accessories.
3. Take photos to document your collection activities.
4. Drop off the phones and photos at the Zoo's Education Complex by April 30.

Each year, Americans throw away more than 100 million computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices which contain hazardous substances including lead, cadmium, and arsenic. If not recycled, these substances cause serious threats to the environment and human health.



### POLAR BEAR AWARD

Reduce energy use at your school, and help wildlife in the process!

#### HOW TO ENTER

1. Conduct an energy audit of your school.
2. Take note of the ways that your school has been conserving energy and the change that can be made to increase energy savings.
3. Make those changes!
4. Take photos of the audit and conservation measures in action.

Conserving energy is beneficial in preventing the burning of fossil fuels like coal and oil, which in turn reduces the amount of carbon dioxide and other pollutants released into the atmosphere. Not to mention that saving energy also saves you money.

