



On Behalf Of



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
Connecting the Community to Waste Solutions

RECYCLING NEWS

TEACHER NEWSLETTER

2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

WE'VE GOT ANOTHER GREAT LINEUP OF FREE RECYCLING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR YOUR CLASS!

We are excited to offer a fantastic set of free class programs, virtual field trips, waste audits, and school assemblies for the 2024-25 school year! Schedule soon for best availability. For questions or scheduling, call 805-782-8424.



Let's do an experiment!

IS YOUR SCHOOL COLLECTING FOOD WASTE AT LUNCH?
FIND OUT
HOW & WHY

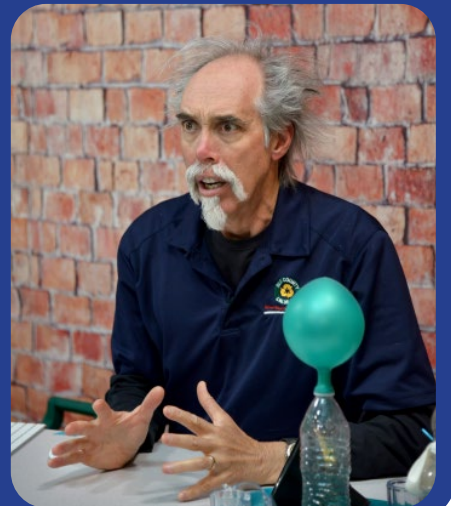


Paper → Trees
Plastic → Oil
Glass → Sand
Aluminum → Bauxite
Food Waste → Plants



CALIFORNIA LAW SB 1383

Click to Play a Video Demonstration of Our Programs!



See details on all programs and field trips below!



2024-25 PROGRAMS



INTRODUCTION TO RECYCLING

Grades K–8, 45 Minute Classroom or Virtual Presentation, FREE

In this program, students will learn about natural resources, what can be recycled, and how to reduce waste at home and school. Interactive and fun with a hands on sorting activity, it's a great program for any grade level. This program is a prerequisite for the virtual field trip to Cold Canyon.



VERMICOMPOSTING

Grades K–12, 45 Minute Classroom or Virtual Presentation, FREE

This program introduces students to the concepts and practices of composting food waste using worms. Students will learn worm anatomy and how worms decompose food scraps. You will have the option to borrow a worm bin on loan for a real interactive learning experience.



THE TREMENDOUS PAPER TALE

Grades K–6, 45 Minute Classroom or Virtual Presentation, FREE

This presentation explores the natural resources needed to make paper. Vivid models show the path from tree to finished paper products so that students will learn how paper is made. Your presenter will make a piece of paper live in our studio or in your classroom. Students will also learn how many pounds of paper they use each year, and how this resource can be conserved.



FOOD WASTE — BE SMART, USE THE GREEN CART

Grades 3-6, 45 Minute Classroom or Virtual Presentation, FREE

This presentation will explore what happens to food waste when it is thrown out with the trash versus when it is put into your green cart for composting. Students can then use this knowledge to assist at home in composting food scraps. The food waste program will teach your class about decomposition, solids, liquids, and gases with a fun experiment that kids love!



HIDDEN HAZARDS

Grades 3–8, 45 Minute Classroom or Virtual Presentation, FREE

This presentation facilitates students to identify items in a typical household that are too dangerous to put in the trash. Hidden Hazards includes activities using colorful images, encouraging students to identify, investigate, and classify items that are considered household hazardous waste.



MARINE DEBRIS...FOLLOWING THE PATH

Grades K-6, 45 Minute Classroom or Virtual Presentation, FREE

Marine Debris has become a global issue, affecting our oceans, marine life, and human health. This program introduces the problem, providing students the opportunity to understand how trash reaches our oceans and what happens to these various materials when they become part of the marine environment. Students will connect how choices made today will impact marine organisms in the future.



VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP TO GOLD CANYON

Grades 3–12, 45 Minute Virtual Only Field Trip Until Further Notice, FREE

Virtually visit the Cold Canyon Landfill and Recycling Facility to be amazed by and educated about what happens to our recyclables and trash. On this virtual field trip, students will see how their recyclables are sorted and processed by various trucks and machines through a live power point presentation with vivid photos and video content. Introduction to Recycling is a prerequisite for this virtual field trip.



DOING THE ROT THING... VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP TO THE ANAEROBIC DIGESTER

Grades 4-12, 45 Minute Virtual Only Field Trip Until Further Notice, FREE

This interactive slide program with video content allows students to see, explore, and understand how the Anaerobic Digester facility in San Luis Obispo converts up to 100 tons of organics each day into electricity and compost. The video clips show heavy equipment moving green waste, the shredding machine, and a look into the digester itself with a view of the “digestate”. Doing the Rot Thing provides all the action, but none of the odor!



BE SMART, USE THE GREEN CART SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Grades K-8, 25 Minutes, FREE

This school assembly program provides an overview about the importance of diverting school food waste from the trash and recycling to the greatest degree possible. Students participate in a true and false quiz during the slide program portion of the assembly.

A highlight of the assembly is the ROT (recycle/organics/trash) Relay where two teams of students are challenged to properly place a variety of school lunch packaging or food into the correct container.

Please Note: This is a school-wide assembly for schools that will be collecting food waste & recyclables in the lunch area. Scheduling the assembly will require approval from your school administration.



SCHOOL WASTE INVESTIGATION

Grades 4-12, Two Visit Series (30 Minutes & 55 Minutes) FREE

The School Waste Investigation, also known as a waste audit, is a fun hands-on activity that helps students learn how much and what kinds of waste their school makes. After performing the audit and analyzing the data, you'll know how and where to improve recycling and composting food waste on your campus!

We supply all the containers, scales, data sheets, and other materials!

The waste investigation will consist of two visits from our education staff.

Visit 1 – 30 Minute introduction to the program

Visit 2 – 55 Minute waste audit with various hands-on jobs for each student



All of our class programs and field trips have been correlated to the Next Generation Science Standards for grades K-6. Please click [here](#) to see correlations.

SCHEDULE YOUR RECYCLING PRESENTATIONS AND FIELD TRIPS

SCHEDULE NOW!

MEET OUR EDUCATION TEAM



JULIAN FARNSWORTH graduated from Humboldt State University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Management. His teaching style has been described as jovial and enthusiastic. Students and teachers enjoy learning with Julian.



CAROLYN ERICKSON is starting her first year with Science Discovery. She holds a BS in Marine Science from California State University, Monterey Bay. Carolyn is passionate about promoting educational equity and has experience in developing curricula and teaching Ocean Education programs to underserved youth.



DEAN THOMPSON has over 30 years of experience teaching environmental education along the central coast of California. He received his B.S. in Natural Resources Management from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and holds a teaching credential. Dean brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our education team.



TRICIA NGUYEN is joining our education team this year as she finishes her masters in Biological Science at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She currently holds a B.S. in Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology from UC Davis. Tricia discovered her passion for education while working as an instructional assistant.



TOSHA PUNCHES graduated from the University of La Verne with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and later earned a multiple-subject teaching credential. Tosha enjoys teaching science-related topics and has over a decade of experience working with students of all ages.



STACEY BEVERIDGE is beginning her 17th year as a school educator. She has a B.S. in education from Eastern Michigan University, and a California teaching credential. In addition to teaching, Stacey also coordinates the scheduling of class programs and field trips.



NICOLE YERENA holds a Bachelor of Science in Earth Sciences from the University of California, Santa Cruz. She enjoys educating students about the world around them, and has previously worked at Moss Landing Marine Labs and has mentored high school students in a summer camp focused on science.



MIKE DI MILO has a degree in Natural Resources Management. He leads field trips and is involved in coordinating all of the education program activities. Mike has over twenty years of experience in developing and administering school education programs.

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SCHEDULE NOW!

ONLINE [IWMA.com/schools](https://www.wma.com/schools)

CALL 805-782-8424 | **EMAIL** ScheduleMyProgram@gmail.com