

Earn the Green Ribbon SchoolsSM Award & Outstanding Student Council Recognition at the SAME TIME.

(Plus be entered in to win some pretty cool prizes along the way!)

Q. What is Green Ribbon Schools?

Green Ribbon Schools (GRS) is an award program recognizing schools that do projects around sustainability, health, and STEM education involving their students, staff and community. The GRS website is a dynamic network of educators and students publishing their projects, sharing project ideas, mentoring each other and accomplishing great things.

Q. How Can Green Ribbon Schools Help Me Earn My Outstanding Student Council Recognition?

Besides being a great way to encourage healthy lifestyle habits and environmental awareness, as well as enhancing students' STEM, college and career skills, Green Ribbon Schools also goes hand in hand with the [Outstanding Student Council Recognition](#).

We have provided a list of suggested projects, that can serve as a guide for you to accomplish both the GRS award and Outstanding StuCo award at the same time. And who doesn't want double the recognition for the same amount of work? Plus with the GRS website you are able to reach out to other schools for help on how they accomplished their projects, search and view other people's project results, and keep an ongoing digital archive of the projects you are accomplishing each year (a great way to leave a legacy of projects for the next group of StuCo leaders to follow as a guide).

Q. How are the Outstanding Student Council Recognition and the GRS Award alike?

The **GRS award** is based around 4 cornerstone: Eco Campus, Health and Fitness, Nature Adventure and Natural Classrooms. To earn the GRS award your school must publish at least one project under each of those 4 cornerstones. These cornerstones align perfectly with the Outstanding Student Council category requirements. By following the suggested activities list we have provided, you will be accomplishing the GRS award qualifications at the same time as completing the Outstanding StuCo requirements. For example, by organizing a campus beautification project you are accomplishing both a School Pride StuCo project as well as an Eco Campus GRS project. Two birds with one stone! And the best part is you can publish the results right on the GRS website, making it easy to share and report.

Q. So How Do I Get Started on earning my Outstanding Student Council Recognition and my Green Ribbon Schools Award?

Follow these steps:

1. Create your Greenprint on greenribbonschools.org. Your Greenprint will help you plan what projects you will be doing this school year to qualify for your Outstanding Student Council recognition. If you complete this by the November 1st, you will be entered into a drawing for some great prizes including a \$50 gift card.

For step by step details on how to create your Greenprint, see the attached Greenprint document or visit www.greenribbonschools.org/tasc.

2. Throughout the year, as your StuCo completes projects in the real world, you will create a new project under your Green Ribbon schools account online. Then you and/or your StuCo students will put together and publish a Results page for each of these projects, on the GRS website. In your published page include a description of the project and its results, including any photos and/or videos. This way you can quickly reference all your projects at the end of the year when you are filling out your Outstanding Student Council Form. (NOTE: remember to tag your projects with the keyword "TASC", when starting them on the GRS website, so other Student Councils can easily search and find your published work!)

3. At the end of the school year, if you have followed the provided suggested projects list, you will have published projects that satisfy the requirements for Outstanding StuCo as well as GRS. This means you would earn the GRS award, the Outstanding StuCo recognition and (if you did Greenprint to plan for the year) the Greenprint "Forward Thinker" Award. That is a lot of recognition and awards for the same amount of work!

Check out the Suggested Projects List and feel free to contact us anytime with questions at grscontact@4empowerment.com or through the Contact Us link on our homepage.

Suggested Projects to Achieve Outstanding Student Council Recognition

Improve School Pride

- Plant a vegetable or flower garden on your campus
- Organize a trash pick-up day for your school campus
- Host a homeroom recycling contest

Educational Project

- Share weekly tips/facts on easy daily changes to live a more green life.

Examples

By turning off the water while you brush your teeth you save an average of 8 gallons of water

Cut your shower by 1 minute and save 5 gallons of water

By turning off your computer at night, you can save as much as \$90/year in energy

- Create signs or announcements educating students on the calorie values in cafeteria. Additionally you can add information on different exercise options you could do to burn those calories.

Example of a McDonald's Meal

Big Mac = 550 Calories

Medium Fries = 380 Calories

Medium Coke = 210 Calories

Total Calories = 1,140 Calories

To burn 1,140 Calories you would have to

Run 9 miles at a 10 minute mile rate

Walk for 4 hours at a "brisk rate"

Bicycle for 2 hours at a 12-14 mph rate

- Have a team of high school students visit local kindergarten classes and teach about healthy eating using the book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

Drugs, Alcohol, Safety & Health Awareness Project

- Promote school-wide participation in the Healthivores Video Game Design Contest
- Host a community wide 5K run/walk fundraiser
- Host a Fitness Night at your school with fun fitness activities like yoga, Zumba, races, intermural sports, etc.

Leadership Project

- Create a Greenprint Leadership team that writes, organizes, and implements your Greenprint/Outstanding Student Council plan through-out the school year.
- Have a team of high school students visit local kindergarten classes and teach about healthy eating using the book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"
- Provide local elementary or middle schools with a team of high school mentors to help implement the Healthivores Video Game

Fund-Raising Project

- Host a school wide clothing swap. Charge a \$5 entrance fee.
- Sell re-usable water bottles
- Host a community wide 5K run/walk fundraiser

GRS Cornerstone

Natural Classroom
Eco Campus
Eco Campus

Eco Campus

Health & Fitness

Health & Fitness

Health & Fitness

Health & Fitness

Health & Fitness

Natural Classroom

Health & Fitness

Health & Fitness

Eco Campus

Eco Campus

Health & Fitness

Public Relations Project

- Dedicate an afternoon to helping in a community garden
- **Organize a Storm Drain Stenciling event. The stencils remind the community to not dump toxic waste down the drains**
- Host an up-cycled craft day at a local senior citizens center

School Service Project

- Organize a locker clean-out event and provide recycle bins. Education student body on what can and cannot be recycled on the week leading up to the clean-out event to promote the correct use of the recycling bins.
- Plant a vegetable or flower garden on your campus
- Organize a trash pick-up day for your school campus

Community Service Project

- Organize a trash clean-up day for a local park or roadway
- Host an up-cycled craft day for children or senior citizens
- **Organize a Storm Drain Stenciling event. The stencils remind the community to not dump toxic waste down the drains**

Energy and Environment Project

- **Launch a "Last Out Lights Out" campaign to decrease campus wide energy consumption**
- **Create a Waste Free Wednesday program in your cafeteria, where all students are encouraged to use re-usable goods or recyclable items for their lunch**
- Create a compost, and provide containers for compostable items in the cafeteria and teachers lounge.

Social or Recreational Project

- **Host a Fitness Night at your school with fun fitness activities like yoga, Zumba, races, intermural sports, etc.**
- Make all of your school dances more green by providing recycling receptacles for recyclable cups and bottles
- Create intermural sports leagues to promote safe after-school activities and fitness

GRS
Cornerstone

Nature Adventure
Nature Adventure

Nature Adventure

Eco Campus

Natural Classroom
Eco Campus

Nature Adventure
Nature Adventure
Nature Adventure

Eco Campus

Eco Campus

Natural Classroom

Health & Fitness

Eco Campus

Health & Fitness

***For examples of how other schools have implemented the above projects at their school, visit www.greenribbonschools.org/tasc.**

For more info on Green Ribbon Schools Visit

www.greenribbonschools.org



/GreenRibbonSchools



#grsfriends



/grsfriends



greenribbonschools.org



grsblog.org



Green Ribbon Schools Greenprint

How to publish your Greenprint?

To publish a Greenprint follow the steps below:

1. Start your Greenprint Project:

- Login to the [GRS website](#) and click on the START NEW PROJECT button (on your MY PROJECTS page)
- In the Project Name blank type "Greenprint Challenge - your school name"
- Choose "Natural Classrooms -> Leadership" from the "Cornerstone: Category" pull down
- Choose "Greenprint" from the SUBCATEGORY pull down.
- Complete all of the other items on this page

2. Build your Greenprint Results Page:

- On the Project Dashboard for your Greenprint project you will see the Results Builder near the bottom. Insert all of the details of your Greenprint in the Results Builder following the Greenprint Guidelines.
- Once you have entered all of your Greenprint information, as well as any supporting images and videos, click the SUBMIT PAGE button.

3. Publish your Greenprint Results Page: (must publish for it to be considered complete)

- When you click the SUBMIT PAGE button in Step 2b you will get a pop up asking for a description of the project, which displays with your published project in the public search results. (Example Description: This project shows the Greenprint for School Name and how we plan to accomplish our GRS Award and sustainability goals this year).
- Teachers Only: Once you have entered the description, click the PUBLISH button and you are done! You can also PUBLISH results for this particular project in the PROJECT PAGES section of this Project Dashboard page. Locate the PUBLISH tab here in the PROJECT PAGES section, and then location the submitted page in the list and clicking PUBLISH in the Actions column.
- To see your published project in the public area of the site, locate your school name in the PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS list and click on it, or search "Greenprint School Name" using the SEARCH blank on the PUBLISHED PROJECTS page.

WHAT NEXT: Throughout the year, for each project you have planned in your Greenprint, you will Start a New Project on the GRS website, create a results page for it and then publish that results page. You will do this for each Greenprint project you achieve in the 4 cornerstones. Make sure to start your Projects under the correct Cornerstone, on the START PROJECT page, using your Greenprint as a guide. Also, make sure to add photos and video of your projects in their results pages, so they qualify for the Green Ribbon Schools 2012-2013 award.

Greenprint Guidelines for TASC

"It's been my experience the most successful students councils begin with a goal and a plan to accomplish that goal."

-Terry Hamm, Director of Texas Association of Student Council

To complete the Green Ribbon Schools Greenprint Challenge and earn the Forward Thinker Award, your plan will need to include at least one project under each of the four cornerstones, Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, and Natural Classrooms. Use the below format to help you put together your plan for each project. Then publish on the GRS website using this same format.

Improve School Pride

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Educational Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Drug, Alcohol, Safety and Health Awareness Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Leadership Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Fund-Raising Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Public Relations Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

School Service Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Community Service Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Energy and Environment Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

Social or Recreational Project

1. What is the name of your project
2. What is the goal/purpose of the project
3. Who will be involved in the project
4. How will you record the project (video, photos, PowerPoint, etc.)
5. Do you have a budget for your project? How will you attain those finances?
6. What is the starting and ending date of your project?
7. What Green Ribbon School Cornerstone does this project fall under (Eco-Campus, Nature Adventure, Health & Fitness, or Natural Classrooms)

