



MN **Green Apple** Day of Service

100 *Easy* Projects

Green Apple Day of Service gives kids of all ages and community members the opportunity to help transform their school/community into healthy, safe and productive learning environments through local service projects. Help MN celebrate our Green Apple Season (September 22 – October 24) by hosting your own project. Check out these fun project ideas to help you get started:

1. Conduct a [Water Audit](#) in your school, report your findings and suggest small improvements to make a big difference.
 2. Hold a [Biking Clinic](#) with information about bike safety along with health and environmental benefits.
 3. Help the environment and your school garden by creating [DIY Rain Barrels](#) to capture [Rain Water](#).
 4. Do a [Trash Pickup](#) around the school playground and other areas on the school grounds.
 5. Schedule a visit from [TOLBY \(Turn Off the Lights Behind You\)](#) the energy mascot for a fun and engaging presentation on energy conservation.
 6. [Create a Mural](#) to show off your schools sustainability features or to show its commitment to healthy learning environments.
 7. Engage k-12 students in watershed education by following adventurers as they explore our national rivers through [Paddle Forward](#).
 8. Research about storm water management and participate in [Storm Drain Stenciling](#) project.
 9. [Join the U.S. Green Building Council \(USGBC\)](#) to support green school efforts and put every student into a healthy, high-performing school within this generation.
 10. Have a [Veggie Party](#), and prepare healthy and sustainable snacks to celebrate green nutrition.
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11. Do a [Waste Audit](#) at your school to compile data about how well your school is really doing with recycling/organics.
12. Form a [Green Team](#) at your school.
13. Create a [school yard rain garden with Metro Blooms](#) or volunteer opportunity for students to maintain a metro area rain garden site.
14. Hold a [Recycle Crafting Event](#) in your classroom using recyclable materials.
15. Contact your local [MN Master Naturalist Volunteer](#) program to mobilize volunteers for your event or coordinate an interpretive naturalist presentation.
16. Apply to be a [Green Ribbon School](#) or form a team that will aid in the application process.
17. Visit the [Let's Move](#) program to learn how to create a vegetable garden that promotes healthy eating habits.
18. Work with your local watershed by participating in a [Restoration Project](#).
19. Host a conversation with parents or teachers at a local coffee shop to discuss simple ways you can help schools become [healthier, safer, and more efficient places for kids to play and learn](#).
20. Do a [Light Bulb Challenge](#) to test whether new light bulbs are really more energy efficient.
21. Teach healthy body image through the [Love Your Tree](#) art based program, appreciate nature and boost self-confidence in the process.
22. Ask your school custodian to take you on a tour of [How Your School Uses Energy](#).
23. Hold a [poster or video contest](#) at your school to challenge students to promote the environment.
24. Take a field trip to the [Gale Woods Farm](#) or a local farm that uses sustainable practices.
25. Tour the [Full Circle Organics](#) or your local organics facility to learn about the life cycle of compost.
26. Hold an [Essay Contest](#) about the positive impact recycling can bring to your community.
27. Host an [Environmental Career Day](#) at your school.



28. Engage students in the [Journey North](#) program, to track the journeys of dozens of migratory species and share observations with classrooms around the Hemisphere.
 29. Coordinate a Terra Cycling campaign at your school.
 30. Construct [Bat Houses](#) simulating their natural habitat and hang them in the park.
 31. Teach students about the benefits of reusing and recycling by organizing a Recycle Sale.
 32. Adopt a Park through your city to help maintain and keep it beautiful while creating a tie in to academics.
 33. Design and create an [Outdoor Classroom](#) space.
 34. Coordinate a Tree Planting.
 35. Conduct an [Energy](#) or [Lighting Audit](#) in your school to identify opportunities for energy conservation.
 36. Invasive Plant Removal
 37. Involve your classroom in an [Enhanced Recycling](#) campaign; give presentations to other classes on recycling and how to improve it at your school.
 38. Harness the energy of the sun by making a [Solar Oven](#).
 39. Save water in your school by switching out less efficient faucet aerators, while teaching students about [Water Conservation](#).
 40. Start or enhance an [E-Cycling](#) program at your school for electronics.
 41. Observe the greenhouse effect by making your own [Terrarium](#).
 42. Participate in the [MN Energy Challenge](#) through the Center for Energy and the Environment.
 43. Reduce your school's [Paper Waste](#) by finding creative ways to reduce the amount of paper your school uses or reuse the waste paper.
 44. If you already have a green school, create a [Green School Open House](#) to show off your green features.
 45. Use a [Healthy Air Classroom Checklist](#) to identify possible sources of air pollution at your school and find ways to create a healthier learning environment.
 46. Get your class outside by taking an "[On Campus Field Trip](#)."
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47. Publicize your schools energy costs and savings to highlight why [Energy Conservation](#) should be important in your school.
48. Create Light Switch Reminder stickers as a classroom art project and distribute the reminders throughout your school.
49. Assemble an [Indoor Air Quality Team](#), including faculty, staff, and maintenance and health officers and conduct a building walk through to identify findings.
50. Use technology skills in the [SCOTTIES TREES ROCK video contest](#) as a classroom project.
51. Participate in the [Green Your Schools Sign Contest](#) and tell the world how your school is helping to save the environment.
52. Check in with your local library to see if they loan [Kill-a-Watt Meters](#) and use them to measure “vampire power” or power that is drawn even after equipment is turned off.
53. Celebrate being outdoors by building an [Outdoor Fort](#).
54. Tour a [LEED Certified Facility](#).
55. Plan a [Walk/Bike to School Day](#) event.
56. Organize a field trip to a [Nature or Environmental Learning Center](#).
57. Create Signage about the importance of pollinators or plan a metro area presentation with [The Beez Kneez](#) education program.
58. Host a teacher workshop about water science education through [Project Wet](#).
59. Form an [Environmental Detective Team](#) and investigate how green your school/community really is.
60. Create a [Classroom Quilt](#), featuring environmental art, created by students.
61. Plant an [Edible Forest Garden](#) at your school.
62. Teach kids about composting and enjoy a yummy treat, by making [Edible Compost](#).
63. Organize a [Kids Healthy Recipe Competition](#), featuring fresh produce.
64. Conduct a [Radon Test](#) to determine if your school has safe radon levels.
65. [Craft a Reusable Bag](#) out of an old t-shirt.



66. Get your school to eat healthier and move more by participating in the national [Fuel Up To Play 60](#) program.
67. Make a [Nature Journal](#) and take your friends on a nature hike to document your observations.
68. Create your own [Geocaching](#) event to search for treasures.
69. Promote an earth friendly fall by serving as a community [Pumpkin Recycling](#) site.
70. Design a functional wind turbine and compete in the [KidWind Online Competition](#), the ultimate wind energy learning experience for students.
71. [Explore Your Local Pond](#) and determine how healthy it is through water quality testing and aquatic invertebrate identification.
72. Partner with the DNR to convert your school land into a [School Forest](#).
73. Celebrate green spaces at school with a [Tree Planting](#).
74. Learn about [Invasive Plants](#) and help remove invasive plants found near your school or in your community.
75. Use a dichotomous key to assist in a [Tree Identification Project](#), to categorize native and non-native trees in your schoolyard.
76. Plan a [Vacant Lot Beautification](#) project.
77. Create a [Nature Mobile](#) with your favorite finds from nature.
78. Hold a bake sale to [Adopt an Acre in the Rainforest](#).
79. Take a trip to the [Local Landfill](#) to take a visual inventory of items that could have been re-used, recycled or composted.
80. [Calculate your school's Carbon Footprint](#) and develop a plan to reduce impacts.
81. Reduce vehicle emissions and encourage carpooling by coordinating a [Ride Share Program](#) at your school.
82. Campaign for an [Idle Free School Zone](#).
83. Conserve energy by holding an all school ["Black Out"](#) hour.



84. Coordinate a school community [Potluck with a Purpose](#) to discuss a plan for a greener school.
85. Help the MN Green Schools Coalition design their logo for the 2015 Green Apple Day of Service by hosting a logo contest in your classroom/school.
86. Improve [Environmental Literacy](#) in your school by creating a cross-disciplinary resource section in your library.
87. Create environmental awareness by investigating where the [Storm Water Run-Off](#) from your school drains, discover the health of that water body and create a pollution prevention strategy.
88. Go on a hike and [Search for Tree Rings](#) and learn how they are living records of climate.
89. Create a [Wildlife Feeding Station](#) outside your window.
90. Establish a [Classroom Worm Composting](#) bin.
91. Engage kids with an [Edible Aquifer](#) experiment.
92. Take a virtual field trip around the world with [Field Trip Earth](#).
93. Make smarter, healthier consumer choices, by purchasing [PVC-Free School Supplies](#).
94. Teach youth about garbage through the [Trash Trunks](#) program.
95. Create an [Environmental Poetry or Storybook](#) as a class project.
96. Biomass is a rich source of energy, [Convert Trash to Gas](#), by making your own biomass.
97. [Pack A Waste Free Lunch](#) for a week and tell your friends about how much waste you are reducing.
98. Decrease your schools Plastic Waste Consumption by encouraging the use of reusable bags and reusable water bottles.
99. Create awareness by making a poster to highlight facts about the [Plastic Bag Pandemic](#).
100. Join the global movement and start a [Meatless Monday Campaign](#) at your school.



