

*“Remember to Celebrate Earth Day in April
and America Recycles Day in November”*



West Central Solid Waste District’s

***Free* “RECYCLED PLASTIC BENCH” GRANT**

**Your school can qualify for a free “recycled plastic bench”
grant by simply doing the following:**

- Establish a plastic lid/cap recycling program
- Collect 400 pounds of plastic lids/caps (#1-7)

Grant funds will be used to purchase a 6 ft. (375 lb) recycled plastic bench for schools/organizations located within the District that collect the designated amount of plastic lids/caps (see list of acceptable caps and lids/caps on pg. 4). Due to limited funds, the maximum grant award available to each public K-12 school is \$225 a year; on a first come, first served basis.

Who is the West Central Solid Waste District?

West Central Solid Waste District (WCSWD) is a government agency serving Montgomery, Parke and Putnam Counties and has been charged through state legislation to reduce the waste stream. WCSWD is dedicated to providing resources to schools in our 3 counties to assist in achieving this goal.

Our mission is "to be the catalyst for achieving the highest level of waste reduction and resource conservation. In realizing our goals, we will strive to be a leader in these areas, focus on education as the vehicle for change, encourage the use of existing entities, and help develop private enterprise whenever possible."

How do we apply for a Recycled Plastic Bench Grant?

1. Complete the grant application and return to the WCSWD Executive Director by fax, mail or email.
2. Decide how and where to collect recyclable plastic lids/caps (#1-7) (classrooms, offices, cafeteria, etc.). Determine how many collection bins/bags are needed.
3. Establish a “Recycling Mentor and Team” (Environmental/Science clubs, FFA, special needs/life skill students, etc.) to weigh and track the collected plastic lids/caps until you reach 400 lbs. Monitor the bins/program making certain the bins do not overflow, that non-plastic recyclables and contaminants are kept out and to keep the outlying collection area picked up and free of litter.
4. Decide who will: (1) transport the 400 lbs. of plastic lids/caps to **Green Tree Plastics** (Evansville, IN) and (2) pick up the 6 ft. bench (weighing 375 lbs) to bring back to your school. *Hint: Enlist the help of a PTA/PTO member or a parent with a truck that would like to help out.*
5. Promote your program through school announcements, newsletters, local newspapers, etc. to encourage participation and reach your ultimate goal! Students and staff may bring lids from home, and/or have a competition between classes or grades. The school cafeteria is an excellent place for lid collection as the lids are larger than average sized food containers, and will make your progress go much faster.

It's that easy!

*To Request an Application,

Email: jcollisi@westcentralswd.com



WCSWD BENCH GRANT APPLICATION FORM (Cover page)

Date: _____



Mail or Fax applications to:
Jane Collisi, Executive Director
West Central Solid Waste District
1007 Mill Pond Lane, Ste. B
Greencastle, IN 46135
Fax # (765) 653-1486

Please read the entire application before beginning to fill out the form. *Commit to the collection program until it is complete. THANK YOU and GOOD LUCK!

***Name of School:** _____

***County:** _____

Authorized Grant Manager

Name:

Phone #:

Title:

Best Time to Call:

Address:

Fax #:

City:

E-Mail Address:

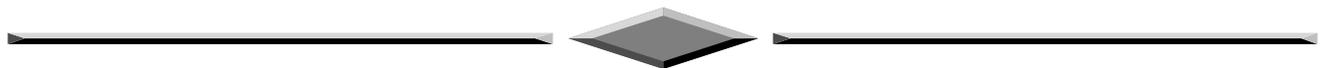
Zip Code:

Overall Administrator (Principal)

Name:

Title:

Email Address:



District Funding Summary

Cost of one 6 ft. Bench (green): \$225 (along with 400 lbs. of plastic lids collected by school)

**Optional school colors may be available for a \$50 fee (to be paid by the school if desired)*

Recycled Plastic Bench Grant “Questionnaire”

***Complete and return this page with the application cover page**

- 1) Where will plastic lids be collected?
- Lounge/ Breakroom
 - Classrooms
 - Offices
 - Cafeteria
 - Other: *Please list* _____

Acceptable types of caps and lids include:

Caps from: Medicine bottles, milk jugs, hair spray, toothpaste, deodorant, drink bottles, flip top caps from ketchup, mustard, mayo bottles, spray paint, ointment tubes, etc.

Lids from: Cottage cheese, yogurt, peanut butter, ice cream buckets, cool whip, coffee, cream cheese, butter

DO NOT INCLUDE: Metal lids, trigger sprayers, fast food drink lids, Styrofoam, soap or lotion pumps

2) How many students / staff will participate in this program? _____

3) A requirement of this grant is that a “Recycling Team” be formed or that an existing group take on responsibility for collecting and tracking the weight of the recyclable plastic lids collected. (*Weight can be determined with a simple bathroom scale by having a student weigh themselves, then reweighing holding the plastic collection bag/container and subtracting the difference*). Be sure to deduct the weight of the container (empty) if not using plastic bags (30-45 gallon size is suggested).

4) Briefly outline the education campaign (posters, announcements, pictures to local newspaper, newsletters, special events, etc.) that will be used to promote this program.

For assistance, please contact Jane Collisi at jcollisi@westcentralswd.com, or 765-653-2150 / 800-211-2750.

All decisions of the WCSWD are final. All applications become the property of the WCSWD

Application Acceptance and Grant Funding

The West Central Solid Waste District has a limited amount of funding for grants each budget/calendar year. Grants are awarded on a first come, first served basis. The highest priority for awarding remaining grant funds will be based on schools that promote recycling programs on a regular basis. First time schools applying for a Recycled Bench Grant will be given priority over a school requesting “additional” bench grants (*which will be determined based on available funding as we serve 3 counties and over 38 public schools*). Check out the Education section of our website for other recycling grant opportunities & resources: www.westcentralswd.com.

Before mailing your completed application, check to be sure the following items are included:

- Grant Application Form / Cover Page** (with completed contact information)
- Questionnaire (page 4)**



Completion of Grant Criteria

If you are a successful grant recipient, the following shall occur:

- (1) WCSWD will issue a \$225 check for the purchase of a 6 ft. recycled plastic bench once:
 - ⇒ School has collected 400 lbs. of plastic lids/caps;
 - ⇒ School has completed and returned a signed claim form to the District Executive Director; **Checks will be made payable to Green Tree Plastics and can take up to 4 weeks to process, so please plan accordingly.*
 - ⇒ School will coordinate delivery of plastic lids (with check) and pick up of awarded bench with Green Tree Plastics (800-397-5742).
- (2) School will promote the completion of this grant with a photo and blurb noting the students’ success and receipt of the bench grant from WCSWD in the school newsletter and a local newspaper through a free public service/news announcement. **School will provide a copy of the newspaper photo/PSA to WCSWD within 30 days after receiving the recycled bench** to complete their grant and help ensure future funding of this program. **Bench grants will continue as long as funding is approved by WCSWD’s Board of Directors and Green Tree Plastics offers the plastic lids = benches program.*

Call Jane at (800) 211-2750 or email jcollisi@westcentralswd.com with any questions.