



Leading, Educating, Achieving and Fostering
healthy, green schools for all.

School _____ District/Town _____
Contact Person _____ Email _____
Telephone _____ Date _____

2012-13 CT Green LEAF Schools Program Self-Assessment Tool

This self-assessment tool **should be completed by the Green Team at your school** to track progress in meeting the goals of the CT Green LEAF Schools Program. Each step along the way can be assigned points in the three phases: Assessment, Planning and Implementation. Be sure to include notes about indicators of your success for each step. The total score will provide an indication of where your school is on the way to becoming green and healthy. **Please submit a copy of this tool to ctgreenleaf@ctgreenschools.org within a month of signing on to the program. This will help us track your participation and help you with the resources you need to be successful!**

Level 1: Planting Seeds



Beginning: 0 - 39 total points and at the assessment phase for many steps.

Assess initial baselines at the school. The first step is to determine where your school is starting from in achieving each goal.

Emerging: 40 - 59 total points and at the planning phase for many steps.

Development of plans to improve the health of students and staff and incorporate environmental and sustainability literacy into the school curriculum. Include students, staff, families and members of the community in the planning process to ensure ownership. You are well on your way to being a Connecticut Green LEAF School!

Level 2: Growing Green



Progressing: 60 - 74 total points and at the implementation phase for many steps with at least 15 points toward each goal.

Partial implementation of your green and healthy school plans. Start with small changes and share successes to build support throughout your school community. Your school may be ready to be nominated for CT Green LEAF status.

Exemplary: 75 - 100 total points and at the implementation phase for many steps with at least 20 points toward each goal.

Full implementation of your green and healthy school plans. Your school may be able to serve as a model for others to follow. Your school should qualify for CT Green LEAF status and to be nominated for federal Green Ribbon School recognition!

As you complete this self-assessment, please indicate 1) goals or action steps needed to create a greener and healthier school this year; 2) areas where you need further information and assistance, and 3) best practices or programs that could be shared with other schools. For further information about the CT Green LEAF Schools program or if you have questions about the use of this self-assessment tool, please contact Laurel Kohl at KohlL@easternct.edu or ctgreenleaf@ctgreenschools.org

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Step	Action	Assessment	Planning	Implementation	Score
Green and Healthy Outlook					
1	Maintain a green and healthy outlook including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in CT Green LEAF Schools activities • Maintain a Green Team at your school • Participate in another green school program • Utilize NAAEE Guidelines for Excellence • Partnerships with the local community • Share successes and best practices with community and other schools Indicators of success:	Initial assessment of green and healthy outlook completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to improve green and healthy outlook. (2 points)	Maintain green and healthy outlook including many of the key elements. (3-5 points)	
Environmental and Sustainability Literacy					
2	Incorporate developmentally-appropriate environmental & sustainability literacy into curricular and instructional practices (including meaningful outdoor learning experiences, STEM connections, career pathways, and civic engagement). Indicators of success:	Assessment of env. & sust. literacy in curricular and instructional practices completed. (1-2 points)	Plan developed to incorporate env. & sust. literacy into curricular and instructional practices (3-5 points)	Incorporation of env. & sust. literacy across subjects. Outdoor learning, STEM connections, career pathways and/or civic engagement included. (6-15 points)	
	Measure outcomes of program effectiveness and assess student learning about environmental & sustainability literacy. Indicators of success:	Initial assessment of program effectiveness and env. & sust. literacy of students completed. (1-2 points)	Plan developed to improve program effectiveness and student env. & sust. literacy. (3-5 points)	Implementation of plan to improve env. & sust. programs. Strong env. & sust. literacy demonstrated by students. (6-10 points)	
	Support professional development about environmental & sustainability literacy for all staff. Indicators of success:	Assessment of PD needs of all staff completed. (1-2 points)	Plan developed to provide PD for all staff. (3-5 points)	PD provided to all staff on environmental and sustainability concepts. (6-10 points)	

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Goal: Improve the health and wellness of students and staff

This goal includes an integrated school environmental health program, high standards for nutrition, fitness, and quality outdoor time. Key concepts related to these issues should be incorporated into the curriculum.

Step	Action	Assessment	Planning	Implementation	Score
Healthy School Environment					
3	Implement and maintain EPA's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools (IAQ TFS) program. Indicators of success:	Assessment of use of IAQ TFS program completed. (1-2 points)	Plan developed to implement IAQ TFS program. (3-4 points)	Implement and maintain IAQ TFS program. (5-7 points) Written comprehensive Integrated Environmental Quality (IEQ) policies and management plan implemented. (8-10 points)	
	Comply with or exceed all CT school-based environmental health laws. Indicators of success:	Assessment of compliance with CT school-based env. health laws completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to comply with or exceed all CT school-based env. health laws (2 points)	Comply with (3 points) or exceed (4-5 points) all CT school-based env. health laws.	
Healthy Nutrition					
4	Comply with nutrition standards in National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. Indicators of success:	Assessment of compliance with nutrition standards completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to comply with nutrition standards. (2 points)	Compliance with nutrition standards in School Bfst/Lunch Programs (3-5 points)	
	Encourage healthy eating practices including vegetarian/vegan options and use of school-grown or local, organic foods. Incorporate healthy nutrition into the curriculum. Indicators of success:	Assessment of healthy eating practices at the school completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to improve healthy eating practices at the school. (2 points)	Healthy eating practices in place. Inclusion of healthy eating issues in curriculum. (3-5 points)	
Physical Well-Being					
5	Assess and promote physical health including outdoor opportunities for all students and staff. Incorporate into curriculum. Indicators of success:	Assessment of physical health incl. outdoor opportunities at the school completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to improve physical health including outdoor opportunities at the school. (2 points)	Plan for improved physical health including outdoor opportunities implemented. Incorporate into curriculum. (3-5 points)	

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Step	Action	Assessment	Planning	Implementation	Score
Goal: Reduce environmental impact and costs					
This goal includes initiatives for building energy use, water quality and efficiency, alternative transportation use, green purchasing, and waste reduction. Key concepts related to these initiatives should be incorporated into the curriculum.					
Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation					
6	Complete Energy Star Benchmarking	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Energy Star benchmarking completed. (5 points)	
	Reduce building energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Use of renewable energy sources. Incorporate energy concepts into the curriculum. Indicators of success:	Not Applicable	Plan developed to reduce energy & GHGs, use renewable energy, and incorporate in the curriculum. (2 points)	Energy & GHG emissions reduced. Renewable energy used. Inclusion of energy concepts in the curriculum. (3-5 points)	
	Reduce energy use from transportation by encouraging walking, biking, public transportation and carpooling to/from school by students & staff. Indicators of success:	Assessment of energy use from transportation completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to reduce energy use from transportation. (2 points)	Energy from transportation to & from school reduced. (3-5 points)	
	Conserve water and ensure a clean water supply. Incorporate water issues into the curriculum. Indicators of success:	Assessment of water quality and use completed. (1 point)	Plan developed to reduce water use, improve water quality and incorporate into curriculum. (2 points)	Water conservation and quality measures in place. Inclusion of water issues in the curriculum. (3-5 points)	
Green Purchasing and Waste Management					
7	Assess the school community's purchasing policies and adopt a green policy. Indicators of success:	Assessment of purchasing policies completed. (1 point)	Green purchasing policy developed. (2 points)	Green purchasing policies implemented across the school community. (3-5 points)	
	Implement a plan to measure and reduce waste. Incorporate waste management issues into curriculum. Indicators of success:	Assessment of waste production completed. (1 point)	Plan developed for improved waste management. (2 points)	Waste production reduced. Hazardous materials eliminated. Recycling & composting utilized. Inclusion of waste management issues in curriculum. (3-5 points)	

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TOTAL SCORE: _____ **CATEGORY:** ___Beginning (0-39) ___Emerging (40-59) ___Progressing* (60-74) ___Exemplary* (75-100)

* Our school will complete a narrative application for CT Green LEAF status and/or nomination for federal Green Ribbon recognition. ___ Yes ___ No

Please complete the following as part of the self-assessment at your school.

Step	Goals or action steps to create a greener and healthier school this year.	Areas where further information or assistance are needed.	Best practices or programs we can share with other schools.
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

The completed self-assessment tool should be returned via email to Laurel Kohl at KohlL@easternct.edu.

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