Wayne County “Green Schools”  
2019 Program Summary

Wayne County received applications from, and proudly recognized 94 schools into the 2019 Wayne County Green Schools Program. These schools implemented at least 10 environmentally friendly activities during the 2018-19 academic year. Under Wayne County’s Green School program, a school is eligible to receive a green, emerald or evergreen school environmental stewardship designation if the school or students complete activities in a combination of four categories: Recycling, Energy Savings, Environmental Protection and Miscellaneous. A school will receive a Green School designation by successfully completing 10-14 activities. The Emerald School designation is achieved by successfully participating in 15-19 activities and the Evergreen School designation is achieved by successfully participating in 20+ activities. Activities range from establishing a paper recycling program, to implementing an energy savings program, to holding an environmental education event promoting the health of Great Lakes watersheds.

Wayne County’s Department of Public Services has been working with Wayne RESA for 12 years to promote and grow the County’s Green Schools Program. The first year (2008), Wayne County recognized 12 schools, 4 of those schools are still participating in the program; this year, 94 schools were recognized, 17 earned the Green School designation, 28 earned the Emerald School designation and 49 schools participated in 20 or more activities to earn an Evergreen School designation. Of this year’s 94 schools, 1 participated for their 1st year, 3 participated for their 2nd year, 3 for their 3rd, 7 for their 4th year, 9 for their 5th year, 10 for their 6th year, 7 schools for their 7th year of participation, 7 for their eight year, 12 schools have been participating for 9 years, 15 schools returned for their 10th year, 16 for their 11th year and 4 from the original 12 schools in 2008, 12 years ago. Wayne County has 34 school districts; twenty-four (24) of them are represented by at least one Green School. Of this year’s 94, 11 are non-public schools, 6 are public school academies (PSA’s) and 77 are public schools.

In 2015-16 a new activity to the Wayne County Green Schools Program asks to submit a student-created logo design or presentation which represents Wayne County’s Green Schools program. This logo or presentation may be used to promote the Green Schools program including promotional items, website, etc. This year, 38 logo designs were submitted from elementary, middle and high school students. The winner is Aafiyah Bustani, a 5th grader from Oakman Elementary School in Dearborn. Her logo did the best at representing the Wayne County Michigan Green Schools program. The intent of the Green Schools Program is to encourage students to participate in activities which help them learn about preserving natural resources, protect the environment and promote energy efficiency and savings. Aafiyah’s logo shows this with Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, wildlife protection and a healthy green outdoors.