



Dear Teacher,

TDS is thrilled to welcome you to the TDS Eco Academy, a program that educates K-12 students about how to recycle and divert waste, and why it is important. We're here to support your efforts to help students understand how they can minimize waste and develop lifelong habits that keep materials out of the landfill.

We have developed a curriculum that can be tailored to your needs, as well as educational videos and other materials, to make learning fun and enable real-world application.

Enclosed in this tool kit are the following materials to help give you more insight into the program:

- **Curriculum example (Lesson 1)** – The TDS Eco Academy curriculum is separated into six units, each of which includes a short lesson and 1-2 project activities. These lessons can be taught together or separately, as the curriculum is designed for you to develop a program that works best for you and your students.
- **Classroom collateral examples** – You can use the complementary materials (i.e. signage, handouts and giveaway items) we provide to supplement your Eco Academy lessons and get students excited about the program.
- **Fact sheets** – Learn more about TDS and our commitment to preserve natural resources and the environment for future generations.
- **Press release template** – Schools can use this template to develop a press release that can be shared with parents, the community and local media to generate additional excitement and support.
- **Mulch and Compost Fundraiser Packet** – As part of the Eco Academy program, your school can raise money with our Mulch and Compost fundraiser.
- **Eco Academy Articles** – We invite you to take a look at the press the program has received.
- **Eco Academy Ad**

You can track your school's progress through the TDS Eco Academy website at EcoAcademy.org, where diversion data is reported so you and your students can see firsthand how your actions are affecting positive change.

We appreciate your participation and support as we work to make a difference in our community. Please feel free to reach out at any time with questions or feedback.

Yours in learning,

Wendy Bradley

Eco Academy Program Manager