



Morning announcements over the school PA system are a great way to share information about new recycling programs in your school, highlight your recycling successes, or encourage proper recycling throughout the building.

There are many different ways to assign writing and reading of the announcements: students can submit an announcement to the sustainability coordinator's mailbox, classes can research and write announcements together, or a green team can develop messages to be shared with the school. Make sure to check any facts in the announcement before reading it to the entire school!

Below are some sample announcements. Have students practice reading the announcement out loud before they read it over the PA system. Make sure they are familiar with the pronunciation of all words. Different font styles in the messages help students to know where to place emphasis when reading the message.

Introduction:

Good Morning (name of school). My name is _____ from class _____ and I am here to *remind* everyone that recycling is an **important** and an **easy** way we can all help to make our school, city and planet greener.

Choose One of the Following:

PAPER:

1. *Did you know 40% of waste coming out of schools is recyclable paper?*

It is simple to keep paper separate from all other waste in the classroom, **but NYC can do better!** *We only recycle about half of the paper we could be recycling.*

*Remember, use **both** sides of a sheet of paper and **recycle** all used paper in the green bin (or green labeled bin, or cardboard paper recycling bin) in your classroom...and at home!*

2. *Did you know, recycling paper to make new paper uses 60% less energy, 80% less water and creates 95% less air pollution than making paper from trees?*

So, always put paper in its place: use **both** sides of a sheet of paper and **recycle** all used paper in the green bin (or green labeled or cardboard paper recycling bin) in your classroom...and at home!

3. *Did you know, recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17-18 trees? Each day, Pratt Industries in Staten Island recycles 1000-1200 tons of paper, **saving 17,000-18,000 trees a day.***

Much of that recycled paper is used to make **pizza boxes**—over 1 million pizza boxes a week! Yum!

Remember, use both sides of a sheet of paper and *recycle* all used paper in the green bin (or green labeled bin, or cardboard paper recycling bin) in your classroom...and at home.

ORGANICS:

4. *Did you know, 40% of the waste coming out of schools is compostable food scraps and food soiled paper?*

We collect all food waste in the cafeteria in a special **brown bin**. The waste is taken to facilities where it is made into a nutrient rich soil-like material called *compost* that is used to help plants grow. Food scraps are also being taken to a waste water treatment facility where they are being used to make energy. **Cool!**

Plastic packaging, wrappers, Styrofoam trays and sporks **cannot** be composted. Remember to take all ketchup packets of your tray and *unwrap* all food before adding your scraps to the brown bin.

Thank you for taking care of the environment and for helping (school name), NYC and the planet to be healthier!

METAL, GLASS, PLASTICS, CARTIONS (MGPC):

5. *Did you know, every week, 460,000 pounds of beverage cartons are thrown away in NYC?*

All beverage containers (except for drink pouches) can be recycled in the blue recycling bin in the cafeteria, classroom or hallway.

Recycling plastic, metal, glass and cartons saves natural resources and energy and helps curb greenhouse gas emissions from transporting waste to landfills! So put your used beverage container in the blue bin at school...and at home!

Better yet, switch to a refillable water bottle to reduce the amount of waste you create everyday!

For more NYC waste facts, see our Fact Sheet: www.grownyc.org/files/rcp/NYCWasteFacts.pdf

This handout has two sides. Please print or copy double sided.

For more resources and downloadable Green Team tools,
check out the Recycling Champions webpage:

www.GrowNYC.org/RecyclingChampions