OVERVIEW

The Detroit Zoological Society (DZS) is looking to reward students who are making their schools — and the world — greener with GreenPrize!

GreenPrize is a sustainability-focused award program meant to encourage student-led green programs and “Green Teams” in schools. Green Teams or similar clubs focused on environmental sustainability are full of motivated students who can give back to create long-lasting change within schools and impact the greater community. For this program, Green Teams should develop and implement a sustainable and impactful project in their school or community. The winning team will receive a monetary award toward their project.

GreenPrize is open to all middle and high schools in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. If a school does not have a Green Team or related group, the DZS encourages interested students to find a champion to help prepare for when the competition opens this fall semester. This group will also need a staff or faculty advisor to serve as a contact for the project. Advisors will be a go-to for the students and hold students accountable as the project moves through its phases.
AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES & DETAILS

1. PREREGISTER

Use this link to preregister your Green Team, confirm your Green Team meeting dates and submit your advisor contact information.

Preregistration deadline: Oct. 7, 2022

2. LEARN MORE

After you preregister, a virtual meeting invitation will be sent for an optional learning session to take place at 3 p.m. Oct. 14. There you can ask us questions and learn more about the GreenPrize Award Program.

3. SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL

Competitive proposal entries will be evaluated based on how the project will meet a need of the school/community, potential positive regenerative impact (to a reasonable extent), feasibility to implement and, especially, creativity!

Projects may include one-day events, semi-permanent installations or permanent installations. They can also be an initial phase to a much larger project. Green Teams are encouraged to use GreenPrize funds as match dollars to eligible grants.

Proposal entry deadline: 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 11, 2022

Entry requirements:

Poster: Submit a digital “poster” to communicate the proposed project. Contestants are encouraged to minimize the use of words and explain the project using pictures, diagrams or other illustrations. The DZS may choose to publicly share entries on the DZS website, social media or other digital platforms.

Narrative: Submit either a) a one-page written description of the project (size 11 Arial font), b) a two-minute video describing the project or c) a slideshow presentation of no more than three slides describing the project.

Budget: Submit a breakdown of anticipated expenses to demonstrate thoughtfulness of the project and ability to implement

Schedule: Submit an anticipated schedule to prepare and execute the project. Projects are encouraged to be completed by April 1, 2023.

Meeting notes: Submit proof of participant attendance in Green Team meetings (monthly at a minimum) and general topics discussed.

Letter of commitment: Submit a letter from a faculty member or parent acting as an advisor stating their commitment to help lead the Green Team and implement the project.

Submitting entries: The DZS will provide a link with instructions for submitting entries when the competition opens at the beginning of the fall 2022 semester.
WINNERS ANNOUNCED
$1,500 will be awarded and distributed per each county, according to the competition committee’s decision, with $4,500 to be awarded in total. The committee anticipates awarding five awards totaling $1,500 per county:

- One honor award: $500
- Three merit awards: $300
- One honorable mention: $100

Award notifications are anticipated to be submitted by Dec. 9, 2022.

Funding is expected to be distributed by Dec. 16, 2022.

HAVE FUN & GET IT DONE
Take your winnings to the next level! All award winners will have the opportunity to win a second prize: a day at the Zoo! Each winning Green Team that successfully uses their winnings to execute their proposal will be treated to a complimentary day at the Zoo.

Evaluation: Green Teams will be evaluated based on the successful implementation of the project and participation in meetings (monthly at a minimum). Teams are encouraged to monitor impacts, adjust methods as needed and record results.

Requirements: Create a short slideshow presentation explaining the project results and submit your presentation to the DZS for judging. The top three projects will be chosen from each county and awarded their final prizes, including being featured on the DZS website!

Have fun and get it done deadline: 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Questions?
Email us at sustainability@dzs.org