

AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES & DETAILS

STEP 1: LEARN MORE

An optional question and answer session will be offered at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6. To receive an invitation with a webinar link, please submit your interest to sustainability@dzs.org.

STEP 2: SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL (STAGE ONE)

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 of 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, 2023**

- **Stage One Submittal 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 one-page written description of the project (size 11 Arial font),
 - A two-minute video describing the project or
 - 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, 2024.
- **Letter of commitment:** Submit a letter from a faculty member or parent acting as an adviser 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 2023 semester.

STEP 3: WINNERS ANNOUNCED

\$2,000 will be awarded and distributed per county, according to the competition committee’s decision, with \$6,000 to be awarded in total. The committee anticipates awarding three to four awards totaling \$2,000 per county*:

- One honor award: \$1,000
- One to two merit award(s): \$300-\$500

- One honorable mention: \$200

- Notice of Award is anticipated to be communicated by **Dec. 8, 2023**.

STEP 4: HAVE FUN & GET IT DONE (STAGE TWO)

Take your winnings to the next level! Award-winning teams will have the opportunity to be recognized for successfully implementing their project at an awards ceremony at the Zoo** during *GreenFest* on Saturday, April 20, 2024.

Successful implementation of the project includes:

- Meeting notes: Submit proof of participant attendance in Eco-Club / Green Team meetings (monthly at a minimum), including a list of attendees and general topics discussed.
 - A brief presentation (three to 10 slides) explaining the project's goals, outcomes and lessons learned.
 - Three to 10 images showing the process and outcome.
 - Permission granted to DZS for freedom to use all materials received in future marketing, communications or program information.
- Have fun and get it done deadline: **4 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

*Winnings are taxed. A 1099-Misc form will be provided at the end of the year.

**Transportation is to be organized by each school. The DZS will provide entry vouchers for members of award-winning teams only to attend the entire day of the award ceremony at the Zoo. A limited number of vouchers are available. Should the total number of participants exceed the number of tickets, the DZS reserves the right to distribute a quantity of tickets according to their best judgment. Additional tickets will be available at a discounted rate to family, friends and additional team members that exceed the voucher quantity.