



EARTH MONTH

HISD's Energy & Sustainability department is hosting **EARTH MONTH 2021** to raise awareness of the environmental impact of our campuses and promote sustainable behaviors that reduce the district's ecological "footprint" and save money.

HOW DO SCHOOLS ENROLL?

Select your school's Earth Month Champion. This person will help facilitate and submit all documentation, including the [Earth Month Pledge](#). By taking the pledge and taking action during April, your school will be helping the district and the planet. Pledges can be submitted through Thursday, April 1.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Complete the Earth Month activities of your choice. Track your activities and record the completion through photos and written documentation. A menu of campus and community activities with brief descriptions can be found on Page 2.

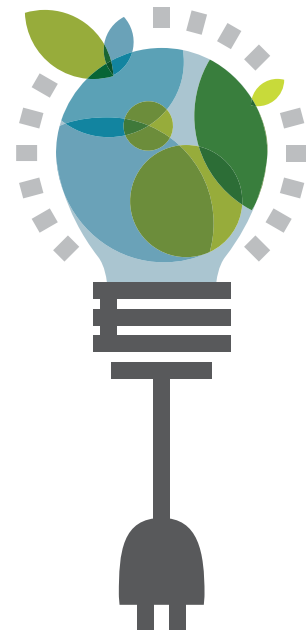
WHAT DO I WIN?

The winning campus will receive access to the comprehensive, bilingual, K-12 Sustainability Intelligence Curriculum and Design Studio from EcoRise. Additionally, students who complete one or more Eco-Audits from the curriculum are eligible to apply for up to \$500 per project to support green campus projects and initiatives.

HOW DO WE WIN?

The campus that accumulates the most points from participating in Earth Month activities wins.

Submit a checklist of completed activities signed by your school's principal to:
Sustainability@HoustonISD.org.



DID YOU KNOW?

HISD SPENDS **OVER \$40 MILLION** PER YEAR ON UTILITIES (E.G. GAS, ELECTRICAL, AND WATER)

UTILITY EXPENDITURES ARE HISD'S **SECOND-LARGEST EXPENSE** AFTER SALARIES

BEING **SUSTAINABLE** IS MORE THAN BEING **"GREEN"**

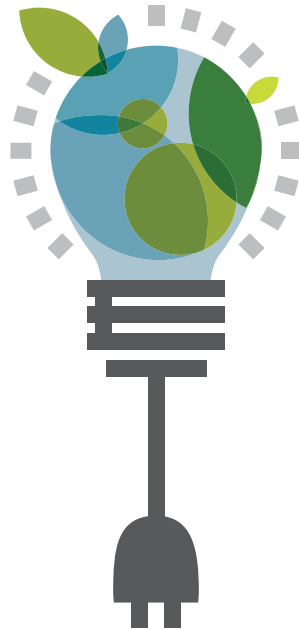
CHANGES IN HABITS CAN RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT **ENERGY SAVINGS**

For more information, email us at Sustainability@HoustonISD.org.



EARTH MONTH

CONTEST RULES



1. Schools must select an Earth Month Champion and take the Earth Month Pledge by April 1, 2021.
2. Schools must select options from the Activity Menu and keep track with photos and written documentation.
3. A checklist of completed activities must be emailed to Sustainability@HoustonISD.org by 5 p.m. on April 28, 2021. Emailed checklists should include the name of the activity, campus, and teacher, as well as a contact email. It should also include the school principal's signature.
4. The campus with the most points will be announced on April 30, 2021.

Tweet your favorite photos/videos from these activities to [@hisd_facilities](#) and tag them [#HISDGoGreen!](#)



EARTH MONTH

ACTIVITY MENU

CAMPUS	POINTS
HOW ECO-FRIENDLY IS YOUR CAMPUS? Write a short paragraph about your campus' eco-features and email to Sustainability@HoustonISD.org .	5/person
WALK/BIKE/SCOOT/CARPOOL TO SCHOOL DAY Conduct a hand-up poll to find out how students and staff arrived at school on the designated day. Feel free to host more than one! Tally up and email your results to Sustainability@HoustonISD.org .	25/person
WHAT EARTH DAY MEANS TO ME STUDENT WRITING OR DRAWING ASSIGNMENT Talk to your class about what Earth Day means to them. Have them write a short paragraph or draw a picture expressing their thoughts and creativity. Hang pictures and essays in the hallways throughout Earth Month. Select one per class and email to Sustainability@HoustonISD.org .	15/person
THE GREAT EARTH DAY BOOK EXCHANGE Encourage students to bring at least one book to class on a designated day to exchange with their classmates and reuse. Request good, gently used books (not freebies) that are grade-level appropriate.	10/person
ECO-FRIENDLY ANNOUNCEMENTS During Earth Month, teachers can encourage their students to research and document interesting eco-facts to share with the school (e.g., facts on recycling, conservation, wildlife habitats, pollution prevention, etc.). These can be read during the morning and afternoon announcements through the month of April to remind students of their connection to our planet and the importance of protecting it for themselves and future generations. Tips here: Eco-Fact.pdf	5/day
TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT OUR EARTH Encourage each class and/or grade level to select and complete eco-friendly actions that are important to them, and tell us about them. Check out project ideas at Kids for Saving Earth .	15/action
COMPLETE A SUSTAINABILITY LESSON Gain instant access to TEKS-aligned, STEM-based K-12 sustainability lessons. Document your participation and complete at least one lesson in April.	5/lesson
CONDUCT AN ENERGY AUDIT Save HISD money and help the Earth by conducting a simple energy audit of your school. Create and implement a simple plan to ensure lights, computers, and other electronic devices are turned off nightly or when not in use. Review the Simple School Energy Audit for more details.	50/class
COMPLETE ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE Understand the current environmental situation in your school with the Eco-Schools USA Environmental Review questionnaire. Use the results to make an informed decision about which pathway would be best for your campus to follow.	25/class
COMMUNITY	POINTS
EARTH DAY CELEBRATION Hosting an Earth Day event on your campus or working with your community to host one? Email us your flyer and sign in sheet. You may host your event any day in April 2021. Virtual events accepted.	25/campus

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CHECKLIST

DONE	ACTIVITY	CAMPUS	TEACHER	EMAIL	PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE