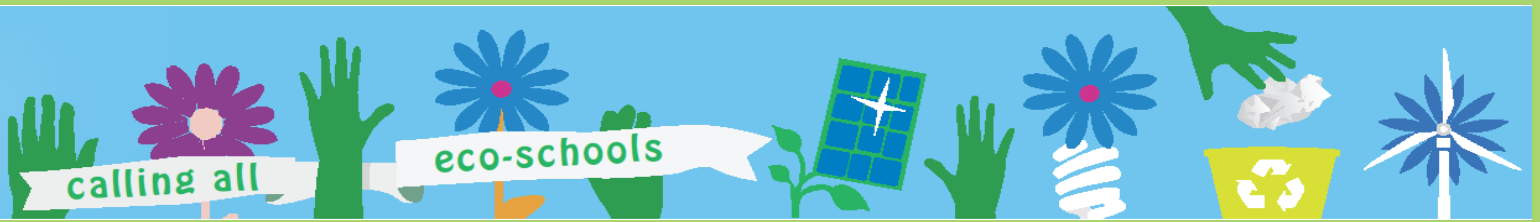


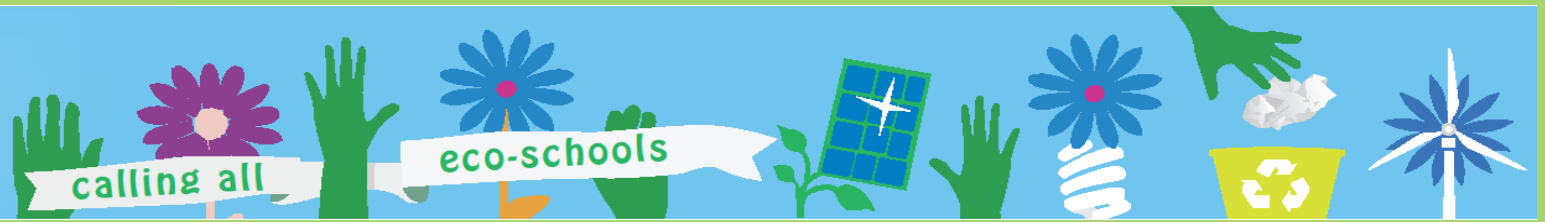
# Eco-Schools USA Award Checklist: Silver

Use this handy checklist to help track your school's progress through the Eco-Schools USA program and confirm that you are meeting criteria to apply for a bronze level award.

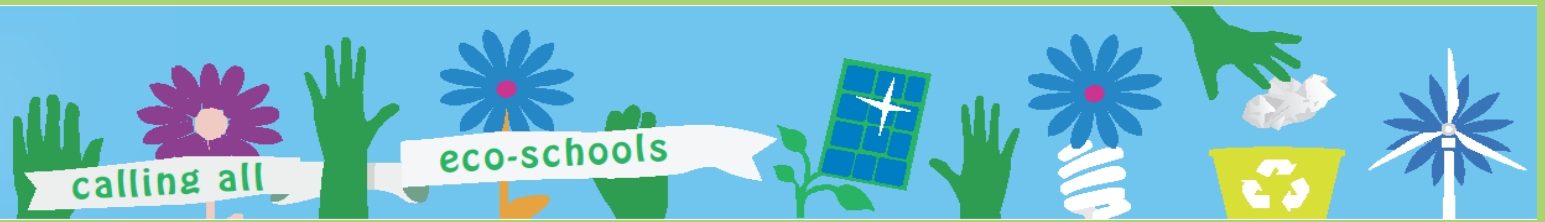
Criteria	Completed (✓)	Notes	Tips
<b>Eco-Action Team</b>			
Eco-Action Team is composed of students, teachers, and community members.			Consider connecting with resource professionals from local government or conservation organizations.
The Eco-Action Team meets a minimum of six times a year.			Some schools meet more frequently in the beginning and then scale back meetings once their program has become established.
Students are part of the decision-making process and help keep minutes at Eco-Action Team meetings.			If they are old enough give students the opportunity to lead some of the team meetings.
Student members of the Eco-Action Team share information with the school.			Allow students to determine how they will share information and in what form.
<b>Environmental Audit</b>			
An audit is completed on a formal basis using the Eco-Schools USA audit form.			You can complete the overall comprehensive audit, or simply complete an audit for the pathways you would like to focus on.



Criteria	Completed (✓)	Notes	Tips
<b>Environmental Audit (continued)</b>			
Students are involved in the auditing process.			Determine which audit steps are safe for students to complete and which should be completed by an adult.
Results of the audit are shared with the whole school.			Go over audit results at an assembly or include them in a school-wide newsletter.
The audit is completed at least once.			We recommend that you complete the audit annually in order to measure and evaluate improvement in your school's environmental performance.
<b>Eco-Action Plan</b>			
Create an action plan based on audit results that has quantifiable targets and a timeframe. Your action plan should focus on the <b>energy pathway</b> and one other pathway.  Additional Pathway: _____			One of the two pathways can be the pathway you focused on when applying for the bronze level award.
The action plan is shared with the entire school and local community.			Contact your local newspaper and ask the paper to publicize details about the success of your Eco-Schools USA Program.



Criteria	Completed (✓)	Notes	Tips
<b>Eco-Action Plan (continued)</b>			
A range of actions are planned to mitigate environmental problems.			Prioritize your actions by dividing them into what is achievable in the short, medium and longer term.
<b>Monitor &amp; Evaluate</b>			
The Eco-Action Team monitors and reviews progress against timeframes and targets outlined in the action plan.			Your procedure for monitoring progress should be developed in parallel with the action plan.
Progress and challenges are communicated to the whole school.			Progress and challenges should also be recorded in meeting minutes.
The school shows significant progress on one large-scale project that is focused on the two Eco-Schools pathways			You are required to focus on the energy pathway, so think about a large-scale project that incorporates energy and one other complimentary pathway.
<b>Link to Curriculum</b>			
Environmental issues are integrated into the classroom at <b>all</b> grade levels and <b>across</b> disciplines.			You may not be able to integrate across as many disciplines as you'd like, but you should make an effort to integrate across as many as possible to show it is a whole school effort.
Student experiences are integrated into the curriculum and are inquiry-based.			We have a list of recommended curriculum on the Eco-Schools USA website, under each pathway.



Criteria	Completed (√)	Notes	Tips
<b>Link to Curriculum (continued)</b>			
Student experiences are integrated into the curriculum and are inquiry-based.			We have a list of recommended curriculum on the Eco-Schools USA website, under each pathway.
<b>Community Involvement</b>			
The school has a bulletin board, website or newsletter which details Eco-Schools USA activities.			See if students can write content as part of their English class or for journalism class.
The whole school, along with volunteers from the community engage in a number of Eco-Schools activities.			Consider holding a special event or rally to educate people and get them engaged.
<b>Eco-Code</b>			
An Eco-Code is developed that includes input from the whole school, and is agreed upon and adopted and is displayed in the school.			It should demonstrate, in a clear and imaginative way, your school's commitment to improving its environmental performance.