



Marking Period 2 2024-2025

Reusable bottle Program:

- **336 students** (91%) of first to eighth graders **brought in a reusable bottle every day in marking period 2** and earned the second reward!
 - o If each of those students brought in **just one single-use bottle every day instead of a reusable** one in the second marking period, it **would have come to 15,456 single use plastic water bottles!**
 - o 15,456 single-use water bottles, if lined up, would measure about 1.76 miles, and would weigh 325 pounds!!!
- **So far this year our school has prevented the waste from about 28,412 single use bottles from being created!**
 - o 28,412 single use plastic bottles would weigh 597 pounds and measure 3.23 miles if lined up end to end.
 - o 3.23 miles is just about the distance from Lucy the Elephant to the Knife and Fork in Atlantic City!!!
- Excellent work preventing that waste from even being created in the first place VECC!!!

Beach Cleanups:

- 3 beach cleanups took place this marking period (Wetlands behind Ventnor Plaza, Somerset Park and beach, and a Surfrider cleanup behind Ventnor Plaza.)
- **231 lbs of trash was collected at the two school cleanups** this marking period!!!
 - o For detailed reports, see the VECC Green Team tab on our website or the data sheet on Mr. Capizola's door (room 301).
 - o All data was sent to Surfrider National to help advocate for environmental legislation.
- After picking up 167 pounds of trash at the November cleanup, students helped to plan a large MLK Day cleanup with the Surfrider Foundation of South Jersey
 - o **34 volunteers** came out for the cleanup (most Ventnor Students) and collected **843 lbs of trash** from behind the plaza!!!
- **Yearly total of 1,272 pounds of trash was collected by VECC students at the 5 beach cleanups we hosted around Ventnor this school year!**

Single Sided Paper:

- Marking period 4:
 - o Elementary office: 2.5lbs of single sided paper saved for reuse!
 - o Elementary copy room: 5.5lbs of single sided paper saved for reuse!



- Middle school office: 2lbs of single sided paper saved for reuse!
- Middle school copy room: 1lbs of single sided paper saved for reuse!
- Nurse's office: 1lbs of single sided paper saved for reuse!
- Library: 2lb of single sided paper saved for reuse!
- Marking Period 2 total: 14lbs

- **Yearly total of single sided paper saved for reuse so far: 44 pounds!**

Printer Ink Recycling:

- **25 used printer cartridges were collected** in marking period 2 and will be brought to Staples for recycling instead of being thrown out in the landfill!
- **Individual cartridges collected this year so far: 91 cartridges!**

Save for Snack Initiative:

- In marking period four, **283 snacks and 162 plastic utensils were saved** by 1st to 8th grade student breakfasts and lunches to be eaten or used later in the school day instead of being thrown away!
- Our yearly total for snacks and utensils saved this year was **592 snacks and 390 utensils!**

Crayon and Marker Recycling:

- Collection bins were placed in the elementary and middle school teachers rooms to collect the following items to be recycled at Staples:
 - **Dead markers: 0.5 pounds** collected for recycling!
 - **Crayons: 0 pounds** collected for recycling!
 - **Pencils/colored pencils: 0 pounds** collected for recycling!
 - **Glue Sticks: 0.4 pounds** collected for recycling!

Spreading the Word:

- Students' beach cleanup efforts are being recognized at the January Commissioners' meeting!
- VECC Green Team partnered with the Surfrider Foundation of South Jersey to plan the MLK Day cleanup
- *Ventnor 8th Graders Honored for their Work caring for the Environment* by Nanette Galloway (Downbeach.com January 27, 2025)