At the HCIA, we want to share our knowledge of the environment with each of you. That is why we work hard to develop programs that will help you understand how the environment works and how you can become involved in helping to protect it.

It is never too early or too late to learn something new. The HCIA Lending Library has many different books, magazines, videos, slide shows and other learning tools that can teach you about our planet. All of our materials can be borrowed so you can share what you’ve learned with your family!

The HCIA can also visit your school. There are presentations like “Wiggle E. Worm” that can teach you about composting to help recycle food waste. Other presentations like “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” can teach you how to reduce waste at lunchtime with a reusable lunch kit!

Remember that special contests held throughout the year also help you to learn more about the environment while having lots of fun at the same time! Use your crayons to create imaginative posters to celebrate Earth Day as part of the HCIA Poster Contest. Then take those old crayons and recycle them to help celebrate America Recycles Day during the HCIA Crayon Recycling Contest!

Each day, we see students in Hudson County do more and more to care for their environment. Have your teacher call the environmental hotline at 1.800.540.0987 or email us at recycle@hcia.org for more information.

Take advantage of these programs made just for you and keep learning everyday!
Thomas A. DeGise
Hudson County Executive

The HCIA would like to say THANK YOU to all the Hudson County students who came out to celebrate Earth Day with us at Liberty State Park! Your dedication to spreading the word about this special day helped many families learn more about the environment. Remember that each time you teach someone how to live a little bit more earth-friendly, it goes a long way in helping to keep our planet clean. Keep up the good work!

John L. Shinnick
HCIA Chairman

Welcome back to school and to Seasons for Kids! At the HCIA, there are many educational programs that can help you to learn more about the environment. Reading Seasons for Kids is a great way to start. When you finish, have your teacher contact our offices to schedule a live presentation in your classroom or recycle a container to collect your used crayons for our 4th Annual Crayon Recycling Contest. Activities like these are a perfect way to learn how to keep your communities environmentally safe!

Norman M. Guerra
HCIA Executive Director

Recycling is the law in New Jersey. That is why the HCIA wants to make sure that everyone practices good recycling habits! Recycling can be fun and easy. In this issue, you will learn how to recycle materials in your home and at school the right way. You will also learn about different ways that you can help others to start recycling. The HCIA counts on your support. We know that you are capable of making a difference in the world you live in!

Kid Krusaders Remember to:

Recycle With the Handy Dandy Tip Guide!

- Use both sides of a sheet of paper before recycling it.
- Bring a waste-free lunch by packing it in a reusable container.
- Start an environmental club with your teacher to learn more about recycling.
- Make a worm bin to recycle food waste. The compost will help the plants in your classroom grow big and healthy!
- It’s easy to be earth-friendly at home too!
- Separate glass, plastic, aluminum and paper from your other trash for recycling.
- Have mom buy products that use recycled materials when you visit the market.
- Donate your old toys to other kids or to a charity.
- Remind your parents to bring old latex paint to Household Hazardous Waste Days. It will be recycled and donated to schools and churches!
The sun was shining brightly at Liberty State Park on April 16, 2005 as the HCIA prepared for its Earth Day Celebration! Countless volunteers from the HCIA and other earth-friendly organizations worked together to get ready for a day of fun and learning.

Our first visitors were runners from all over the Tri-State Area. Adults, children and even babies in strollers took part in the 5K Run and Kids Fun Run along the park’s waterfront! Friends and family cheered on the athletes. After the races, visitors stopped at our arts and crafts booths for face painting, kite making and other fun activities. Others visited education booths to learn about recycling, ways to keep rivers and streams clean and many more earth-friendly lessons. Kids Kingdom was also a big hit with many children and their families playing fun games in celebration of Earth Day!

The HCIA wants to thank each of you for helping us make our Earth Day Celebration a huge success!
Earth-Friendly Lingo

Pollution: The contamination of our planet’s soil, water or air. Litter on the street can cause pollution!

Landfill: A site where waste is deposited, compacted and covered with soil.

Compost: A mix of organic materials, like leaves and some types of food, used to improve soil. Worm farms are a great way to recycle waste and to keep your plants healthy!

Post-Consumer Material: Material that has been used by consumers, then recycled and remanufactured into new products.

Packaging: Wrapping designed to protect a product and to attract purchasers. Packaging represents about 65% of household trash!

Environmental Resources

The HCIA wants you to learn more about your environment!

Ask your teacher to call the HCIA to get more information about all the great programs that we have for students like you! You can visit us on the web at www.hcia.org or call our Environmental Hotline at 1.800.540.0987.

Don’t forget to visit these websites to learn more about recycling and the earth!

www.earth911.org
www.recycleroom.org
www.resourcefulschools.org
www.americarecyclesday.org
www.kidsrecycle.org/index.php
Last year, students in all 12 Hudson County municipalities participated in our Annual Crayon Recycling Contest. Thanks to your hard work, the HCIA was able to recycle 2,300 Pounds of Crayons making all of us Nationwide Crayon Recycling Champions!

Now, it's time to start collecting those old crayons again! America Recycles Day is November 15th and it is very important that we all recycle for our environment. Team up with your fellow classmates and get your school involved in this fun contest that makes a difference!

Collect your old crayons from November 15 – December 16. Crayons will be picked up beginning January 9. Winners will be announced on January 21.

Recycling 101!

Recycling is one of the easiest, but also most important things that you can do to take care of our planet. At the HCIA, we want to make sure that each of you learns about The 3 R’s of Recycling!!

Reduce: This means to cut down the amount of waste we make and is probably the best way to keep our planet clean. You can reduce waste by buying products that use less packaging.

Reuse: This means to use things again and again and again. Instead of throwing things away, make sure to use reusable batteries or pack a lunch box instead of a brown paper bag.

Recycle: This means to take materials that have already been used to make brand new products. For example, you can recycle old sneakers to make cool surfaces for your school’s playground!

Remember that the 3 R’s of Recycling helps to conserve our planet’s natural resources. Your efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle will always make a difference!
Paper products make up the largest part (approximately 40%) of our trash!

Every year, more than 900 million trees are cut down to make paper in the United States!

Recycling a stack of newspapers just 3 feet high can save one tree!

One gallon of motor oil, if disposed of improperly, can contaminate up to 2 million gallons of drinking water!

Americans throw away 25,000,000 plastic beverage bottles every hour!

New Jersey has the highest recycling rate of all the states—56%!

**Match and Learn!**

1. Contamination of Natural Resources
2. To Use Again and Again
3. Helps Recycle Food Waste
4. 65% of Household Trash
5. Celebration of Our Planet

**Answers:**

A. Compost Bin
B. Earth Day
C. Pollution
D. Reuse
E. Packaging

Call us at 800.540.0987 or visit us at: www.hcia.org

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