

Opportunities for schools

Hennepin County Environment and Energy has many resources available to schools, including grant programs, educational materials, curriculum, and experiential education opportunities.

Type of resource and link	Description
Curriculum hennepin.us/environmentaleducation	The environmental education activity guides are a free resource intended to be used to engage audiences of all ages in learning about and taking action to protect the environment. Guides include background information and guidance for environmental education activities, covering a variety of topics including protecting water and reducing waste.
Supplies hennepin.us/environmentaleducation	Free activity supplies to engage people in environmental education activities. Available supplies include spray bottles to make your own green cleaner, and reusable bags that can be decorated.
Education Kits hennepin.us/environmentaleducation	Kits filled with items to support environmental education. Kits can be checked out for use in lessons or for displays at events. Topics include: green cleaning, recycling, water education, and trees and forestry.
Transportation for field trips hennepin.us/environmentaleducation	Funding is available for transportation to field trip sites that support environmental education.

Type of resource and link	Description
<p>Printed signs and resources</p> <p>Schools: environmentalresources.hennepin.us/schools</p> <p>General education: environmentalresources.hennepin.us/items</p>	<p>Schools: a variety of recycling, organics and trash signs and labels that work in office, cafeteria, hallways, classrooms and more are available.</p> <p>General education: Factsheets, pamphlets and handouts covering a wide variety of environmental topics</p>
<p>Videos</p> <p>Schools: hennepin.us/schoolrecycling</p> <p>General education: hennepin.us/environmentaleducation</p>	<p>Schools: videos are available to help teach things like sorting organics at school and sorting lunch waste at school.</p> <p>General education videos about our environmental programs are available on our YouTube channel.</p>
<p>Tour</p> <p><i>Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC)</i> hennepin.us/herc</p>	<p>Hennepin County offers facility tours at the Hennepin County Energy Recovery Center (HERC) waste-to-energy facility. HERC is a waste-to-energy facility where waste is received and burned to generate steam and electricity. Tours describe how the plant works and fits within the county's solid waste management system to divert waste from landfills. Participants must be 14 years of age or older.</p>
<p>Tour</p> <p><i>Brooklyn Park Transfer Station</i> hennepin.us/environmentaleducation</p>	<p>Tours of the Brooklyn Park Transfer Station waste drop-off facility. The tour highlights the importance of reducing, reusing, recycling and preventing waste and pollution. Participants must be in 2nd Grade or older.</p>
<p>Field experience</p> <p><i>RiverWatch</i> hennepin.us/riverwatch</p>	<p>Assess the health of local streams by identifying and quantifying the stream's biological community. The program is suitable for middle school and high school students.</p>
<p>Grant</p> <p><i>Aquatic invasive species prevention</i> hennepin.us/aisprevention</p>	<p>Grants are available to implement projects that prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS). Education is an eligible prevention activity. Applications are due in early January of each year.</p>
<p>Grant</p> <p><i>Green Partners</i> hennepin.us/greenpartners</p>	<p>Funding and support for organizations to actively educate, engage and motivate residents to become environmental stewards and make positive behavior changes. Applications are due in spring of each year.</p>

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<p>Grant</p> <p><i>Natural resource improvement</i></p> <p>hennepin.us/business/conservation/funding-assistance-natural-resources-projects</p>	<p>Protect groundwater, improve surface water quality, reduce erosion, and improve wildlife habitat. Applications are accepted each fall.</p>
<p>Grant</p> <p><i>Tree canopy</i></p> <p>hennepin.us/trees</p>	<p>Grants are for tree plantings on school properties, tree-related education, tree inventories, ash tree removals, and Arbor Day celebrations. Applications are accepted each spring.</p>