



# we future **re** cycle

creating a generation of kids who care

Half of all garbage generated in schools occurs during lunchtime. However, **90-95% of what is thrown away is recyclable**. Kids are being taught to throw everything away without a thought, and **schools are throwing away precious money on waste management** – money that should be going towards student programs.

**We Future Cycle** helps kids learn to take responsibility for the waste they create while helping schools save money. The **solution is to separate waste right at the source** - in the lunchroom.



## How it Works

**We Future Cycle** sets up a **streamlined system** in your school's lunchroom with **clearly marked bins** to separate and appropriately divert each type of recyclable and organic (compostable) material. **Students and staff are educated** about how the system works, what happens with the recyclables, and the **benefits to the school and to the environment**. Teachers receive **materials and activities** to extend the learning into the classroom and in children's homes.

## Results

- Reduces lunchroom garbage **by up to 95%**. A school that generates 22 bags of loosely mixed garbage may generate only  $\frac{1}{4}$  bag of garbage and 5 bags of condensed recyclables
- **Lowers costs by potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars** by reducing the amount of garbage disposed and trash bags used
- **Generates substantial revenue** for Westchester County through resale of recyclables
- Ensures compliance with **NY State Recycling Laws**
- Provides opportunity for **green school recognition**
- Creates a **generation of children actively involved** in recycling and taking responsibility for their daily actions

**Lower garbage costs**



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**Increased recycling revenue**



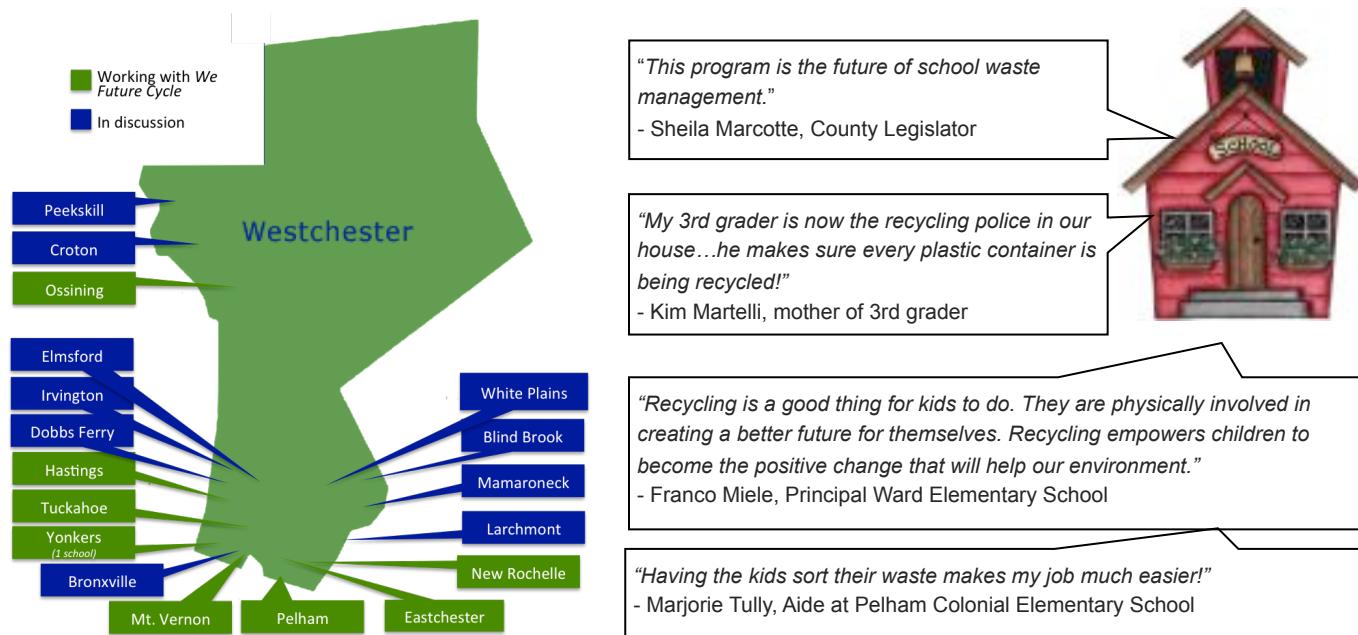
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**Money back in the classroom**

# Feedback about We Future Cycle

Twenty schools in New Rochelle, Eastchester, Tuckahoe, Ossining, Mt Vernon, and Yonkers have implemented the *We Future Cycle* program.



## We Future Cycle Partnerships and Endorsements

- Co-founded:** Westchester School Recycling & Composting Alliance (WSRCA)
- Endorsed by:** Westchester Municipal Officials Association and Westchester County Environmental Legislative Committee
- Affiliated with:** EcoPel (Environmental Committee of Pelham), Green Schools Coalition of Westchester, Greenburgh Nature Center, the Science Barge, Sustainable Westchester, Town of Greenburgh Sustainability, Urban School Food Alliance, One World United & Virtuous

## Beyond School Lunch

In addition to lunch-time recycling, *We Future Cycle* offers:

- Waste-free classroom
- On-site educational composting
- Terracycle partnership programs
- Green writing contests
- Hands-on recycling for kids
- Electronic waste recycling education

## Contact Us to Learn More!



Anna Giordano, a businesswoman-turned-recycling advocate, created *We Future Cycle* after seeing the daily garbage piles generated at her children's school. Her vision is to save the world, one school district at a time.



Ashley Welde brings 15 years of communications expertise to *We Future Cycle*, as well as a passion for educating kids that their actions make a difference. Her hope is that educating children about recycling will instill an awareness that lasts a lifetime.

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We Future Cycle is a 501c3 non-profit organization.