



Enviro-Speak - Living on the EDGE
Talking Trash at Bluevale
E-waste Collection starts after March Break!
Bluevale's Environmental Club
Environmental Duty for a Greener Earth

Hey, Bluevale, and welcome to EDGE's first ever Ecoschools blogpost! Today, we're talking trash. Not the kind about other people (which is so not cool anyways), but the kind that gets tossed into bins and rolled out to the curb every week at our school.

Over first semester, we've noticed things have been getting a little messy with the garbage/recycling, mostly due to the temporary closing of the caf. Unfortunately, any bad garbage-tossing habits students have picked up have stuck around into 2018. With spring cleaning coming into season, it's time for all of Bluevale to whip itself back into proper garbage-tossing shape! This includes students, staff, and admin alike. Everyone has an impact on Bluevale's eco footprint, regardless of the role they play at school. Fortunately, this means we all have the ability to make it a greener, cleaner and better space. Today's post will give you all the details, as well as some basic info on the waste management at Bluevale.

For starters, what's the waste program at Bluevale?

At Bluevale, we are lucky to have pretty much every category possible when it comes to sorting waste. We have regular garbage bins, the infamous blue bins- plus grey bins for paper only, and green bins all throughout the school hallways (a rare initiative in a building as big as Bluevale!). We also have a Terracycling collection station in the cafeteria (www.terracycle.ca). There are also small bins in each classroom for garbage, plastic/aluminum recycling, and paper recycling. With so many different bins in many different parts of the school, it's important to put things in the right place or things get really messy, really fast.



March News! BCI's annual e-waste collection is starting after March Break. Do some spring cleaning and bring in your e-waste to the dropoff bins in the school. Check this link for accepted items:

[Acceptable Items](#)

What problems are we seeing right now?

Like we said earlier, it's easy for the bins to get messy when there are so many of them and so many of us (students, staff, etc.) with waste to throw out. The problem is, as soon as one person carelessly throws something in the wrong bin, others who see it tend to follow suit. It's super important to take initiative and put things where they belong. Just because one, two, or ten other students toss something in the wrong bin does not mean it's okay.

Another problem we're facing happens before the garbage even makes it into a bin. Imagine someone trying to basketball-toss their soda can into the blue bin. It doesn't make it, and they walk away, leaving it on the floor a stone's throw away. If your piece of garbage doesn't make it, please pick it up and drop it in.

Finally, half full milk cartons and unfinished yogurts have been making the blue bins very dirty and causing spills on the floor. This makes it harder for custodians and students to clean. Did you know that all of the bins

are cleaned by students (not custodial staff) who volunteer their time to keep this green initiative going? To make things easier, we ask you to finish your drinks or empty them in a sink before tossing them into the blue bins.

Looking for more ways to help?



If you're looking for more ways to help, join EDGE! We'd love to have you on our team to share some event ideas and help us keep the school green and clean. We meet Tuesdays at lunch in room 2208. See Mrs. Miller or Mrs. Mlynski if you have questions.

If you're not sure about where your garbage goes, look for sorting guides in the hallways or ask a friend. Teachers are encouraged to start a G.O.O.S. paper bin (Good-On-One-Side only) for students to use for quizzes and brainstorming. This is better

for the environment and reduces paper consumption at school.