

Green Team Certification Guide

2018-2019

Introduction

Thank you for participating in the 2018-2019 Green Team Certification Program! Here you will find the Actions guide, which describes the various ways you can earn points for your team. You can then use your team's certification worksheet, which is saved as a separate Google doc, to keep track of your earned points. While you work towards the 15 points necessary for certification, remember that this is also a competition! Teams who become certified by the end of the semester will be publicly recognized and receive a prize. This year we are adding a new "tier-system" (bronze, silver and gold) to recognize those who go above and beyond in their GTC track. At the end of the year, the team with the most points will be awarded a study break of their choice.

Certification

To become Green Team Certified, your team must earn at least 15 points. You will notice that many of the actions listed in the worksheet require pictures. For example, to earn a point for "recycle while traveling," you must provide us with a picture of your team recycling while on a bus or at an away game. Message @bulldogsustain on Instagram and send any pictures that are required for points. Alternatively, your team/individuals can post photos on social media using the #bulldogsustainability and tag @bulldogsustain. You will not receive a point if you don't DM us on Instagram a required picture! Mark your progress by editing the GTC Worksheet we have shared with you and Bulldog Sustainability will also keep track of your earned points and notify you when you have become Green Team Certified. Sustainability Captains will be expected to update their worksheets by the end of each month.

Actions

The following list provides examples of actions your team can take to earn points towards certification.

- **Use reusable water bottles**
 - To earn this point, your entire team must use reusable water bottles at practices and games.
- **Reduce plastic bottle waste while travelling**
 - If extra water is needed, carry water in large coolers, or gallon jugs for teammates to refill reusable water bottles. Sport drinks can also be bought in larger bottles and shared among teammates to reduce plastic.
- **Recycle or minimize waste when traveling**
 - Provide a picture of your team recycling or minimizing waste while on the road (e.g. on the bus or at an away game, packing food in tupperware rather than plastic bags, avoiding lots of wrappers or packaging).
- **Donate old shoes, clothing, and equipment**
 - One point will be awarded for every 10 units of clothing, footwear, and/or equipment donated. Please take a photo of the items you donate.
- **Recycle team-issued papers/make practice plans double-sided**
 - At the end of the year, recycle team-issued papers that are no longer needed.
- **Or go completely green! Have paperless practice plans**
 - Encourage your coach to use a tablet or their cell phone.
- **Recycle and leave a trash-free facility after a team-hosted food event**
 - At a tailgate, alumni event, or any other catered event on your field, court, or other facility, recycle all leftover plastics and cardboard boxes, pick up trash, and minimize waste (provide a picture).
- **Recycle and leave a trash-free space after a team social**
 - At team socials, recycle all recyclable items: pizza boxes, solo cups, cans, paper plates/napkins, etc. Pick up trash and minimize waste (provide a picture).
- **Turn off the lights!**
 - Designate a team member who will make sure that the lights are turned off in your locker room (and practice area, if applicable) after every practice. If your locker room has automatic lights, you will receive this point automatically.
- **Coaches carpool, bike, or use public transit**

- To earn this point, please provide a picture of at least one of your coaches carpooling, bicycling, or using public transportation.
- **Like and follow us on social media**
 - To earn this point, you must perform two of the following three actions through your team's social media accounts: liking Bulldog Sustainability on Facebook, following @bulldogsustain on Instagram, and following @bulldogsustain on twitter. Please email us a list of the usernames of the player's social media accounts who participated in completing this action (>50% of team members).
- **Post a photo on social media**
 - Post a photo on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram of your team being environmentally conscious. Make sure to tag Bulldog Sustainability and use the hashtag #bulldogsustainability.
- **Display posters in your locker room**
 - You must have a poster provided by Bulldog Sustainability in your locker room to earn this point.
- **Attend an individual meeting**
 - You may attend a short (20 minute) meeting with Bulldog Sustainability to discuss your team's certification efforts. Your team will receive one point. Email yale.bulldog.sustainability@gmail.com to schedule a meeting.
- **Attend a Bulldog Sustainability meet & greet**
 - One point awarded per event for at least one team member's presence at a Bulldog Sustainability meet and greet. If you attended the "Cookies, Coco & Coffee" event on Monday, Sep 24th, you will earn a point. There will be at least one more meet and greet event, which is a great opportunity to talk to the Bulldog Sustainability team, learn about the Green Team Certification program, and ask questions about steps your team can take.
- **Volunteer at a sustainable service project**
 - Volunteer with your team on a sustainable service project such as a beach cleanup or tree planting event. This action is worth three points, and a photo of your team at the event is required. Resources to get started: [Beach Cleanups & More](#), [City Seed](#), [Nike Reuse-A-Shoe](#), [Soles for Souls](#)
- **Make your team event a "Green Event"**

- Host a team event (banquet, etc.) that is certified by Yale's Office of Sustainability as a Green Event. If you get a team event certified as a Green Event, you will earn three points. For more information, please visit this site:
<http://sustainability.yale.edu/tools-resources/certifications-we-offer/green-events>
- **Other ideas?**
 - Every team is different and has the potential to come up with creative ways to reduce their environmental footprint. Because of this, you may earn points for actions that are not listed above. Simply notify Bulldog Sustainability of what actions you take and we will award you points at our discretion.

Questions or Concerns?

Any questions about the certification program can be emailed to yale.bulldog.sustainability@gmail.com. Remember, Bulldog Sustainability is here to help you achieve certification, so don't hesitate to reach out to us!