Use asphalt rather than coal tar when resurfacing parking lots

Safely apply pesticides when occupants are not present

Ensure that staff and students are notified of upcoming pesticide application through posted notices and/or letters

Prohibit pesticide use on school grounds (preferred)

Portable Classrooms—keep foundation skirt several inches above grade to prevent water wicking and water damage

CURRICULUM INTEGRATION
Category 3

Green School goals are developed & implemented in at least one grade level

Green School activities are planned by one or more teachers

Offer at least one teaching unit on an alternative energy or an environmental issue facing the state

Green School projects, such as air quality monitoring, are used to engage students and integrate sustainability principles into existing classroom curriculum

Schools host an environmental or energy speaker, event, or field trip

Establish a student organization that participates in environmental activities and issues

Establish an eco-reading program

Visit internet sites that educate about the environment and support endangered ecosystems

Maintain a natural surface playing area, rather than artificial turf

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Category 4

Establish or maintain a community natural area or garden

CATEGORY PLANNING

Category 5: Administration

School improvement plan identifies “green” strengths and weaknesses

School planning documents identify measurable and realistic Green School objectives

School and/or district level plans address Green School goals as a core component

Future plan exists (and is regularly updated) for implementing Green School activities

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Category 5: Administration

Teachers voluntarily attend professional development on green school topics

Courses related to Green School initiatives are accepted as legitimate topics for professional development

Some school-wide training exists on topics supporting Green School projects

Planning time to enhance Green School goals is provided to teachers

Trainings to prepare teachers for Green School projects and strategies are provided and coordinated at the whole school level

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY & CULTURE

Category 5: Administration

School has an established Green and Healthy School team or ambassador

School has adopted EPA’s Tools for Schools Program

School annually has one environmental focused event

School leads teachers and staff in efforts to green school operations

School mission or philosophy statement highlights the value of a Green School culture

Green fundraising occurs in the school

School participates in the National Wildlife Federation’s Eco-Schools Program

SHARING SUCCESSES & LESSONS LEARNED

Category 5: Administration

School’s efforts to become green are known within the school

Signage and other educational displays make the green elements and practices of the school clear to visitors as well as students and staff

Projects and initiatives can be found on the school website

Results of the school’s green projects and initiatives are published and shared at local community, state, and/or national level (e.g., documents showing how school has mentored other schools or received help, or student/faculty presentations at conferences)
GOAL: To recognize and celebrate public and private schools across western and central Pennsylvania that have taken strides to create a Green and Healthy learning environment for their school community. This program will help schools progress the process of striving toward recognition in the state’s Green Ribbon Schools Program.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to all public and private K-12 schools and school districts in Pennsylvania.

TIMELINE: Applications will be accepted on a rolling admission basis until the deadline on April 22 (Earth Day). A celebration luncheon will then be held mid-May to honor all the awardees.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: Everyone partaking in one or more of the HSRP activities will be distinguished as a participant. There are also three levels of honors recognition beyond participation:

- **Emerging School**: completion of at least 15 activities listed on the report card
- **Honor Roll**: completion of at least 50 activities listed on report card
- **High Honor Roll**: completion of at least 75 activities listed on report card

A list of activities is found on the attached report card. Schools must be ready to demonstrate evidence that they have completed at least 30 activities.

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