



YES! Update 12.16.2019

## Program Announcements

Happy Holidays from all of us at YES!! We appreciate all you do to for your students and the environment.

When you share your YES! projects on social media or with media, please be sure to recognize YES! and the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). We are required by the Legislature to acknowledge their support and currently the ENRTF is our major sponsor. The YES! and ENRTF logo are attached and can also be found on the Coach and Student's Corner on our website. Password: sayyes! Thank you! ~Shelli-Kae, YES! Program Director

## Regional Highlights

**Northeast (Laurentian Environmental Center)** – A big **WELCOME** to Becky Reinarz and her students from **Voyageurs Expeditionary School** in Bemidji! We are excited to have you join YES!. Also, the Northeast Region is holding our first Winter Workshop. The Virginia High School is going to be visiting the Virginia Recycling Center and Landfill on December 18th. Make sure to check our blog to see how it went! ~Sam Horner

**West Central (Prairie Woods ELC)** – The **New London-Spicer High School** team plans on turning two unused reptile terrariums into aquariums for native species and invasive species to compare the two habitats. The team is in the research phase of the project so if you have any tips about fresh water aquariums, please reach out! ~Taylor Templer

**Southern (Ney Nature Center)** – **Patrick Merrick**, longtime YES! coach at Westbrook-Walnut Grove High School, was honored by the Minnesota Rural Education Association as a 2019 Educator of Excellence! Learn how Pat creatively engages students in science, including his E.A.R.T.H. YES! class: <http://www.mreavoice.org/pat-merrick/> Way to go Patrick! ~Deb Groebner

**Metro** – The **World Learner** YES! team has developed a number of energy and environmental projects for the year including building birdhouses to sell and hang around school grounds using recycled materials, planting a pollinator garden on school grounds, installing a hydration station, and conducting a B3 Benchmarking analysis to identify opportunities to save energy and reduce operating costs at their school. This is a big list for this first year YES! team. Congratulations, all very meaningful projects. Keep up the great work! ~Tom McDougall

**Northwest**– A big **WELCOME** to **Teressa Schlieman** and her students from **Pelican Rapids High School**! We are excited to have you join YES!. ~Shelli-Kae Foster

## Events/Opportunities

**December 20, 2019** [Generation Earth's Video Contest!](#) Submit a one-minute video on your hopes, fears & solutions on The Climate Crisis. Be sure to let us know if you submit a video and please mention YES!.

## YES! Blog

[Make Sustainable Choices This Holiday Season](#)

## In Other News

[Climate activist Greta Thunberg is Time 'person of the year'](#)

[Climate Curious: How much does population growth contribute to climate change?](#)

