



YES! Update 1.6.2020

### Program Announcements

Check out the 4 new water related Project Guides created by a YES! Coach who did these projects with her students. You can find the guides on the Student and Coaches Corner on our [YES! website](#). Passcode: sayyes!. Project Guides include: Carbon Water and Climate Change; Hydroponics; Soil Amendment; and Water Conservation Plan. *Happy New Year!* ~Shelli-Kae, YES! Program Director

### Regional Highlights

**Northeast (Laurentian Environmental Center)** – The Virginia High School YES! team is in the process of making a video for their fellow students to help teach and encourage them to recycle in their school. ~Sam Horner

**West Central (Prairie Woods ELC)** – Our first workshop for the West Central region is quickly approaching! Please contact me if you plan to attend the Renewable Energy workshop on January 21<sup>st</sup>! ~Taylor Templer

**Southern (Ney Nature Center)** – The Mankato West YES! team was awarded a \$5,000 grant from Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) for labor to replace over 730 light bulbs in hallways and common areas with energy-efficient LED bulbs. Students will focus on educating the school community about cost-savings for the district and the impact of energy choices on climate change. ~Deb Groebner

**Metro** – I want to wish all the metro YES! Coaches and students all the best in 2020! I look forward to helping you all complete your fantastic projects. ~Tom McDougall

**Northwest/central:** Discovery Woods YES! team is teaming up with Grades of Green and their Spring 2020 Waste Campaign to Reduce Plastic. Find out more [here](#). ~Shelli-Kae Foster

### YES! Workshops

**Renewable Energy** – January 21<sup>st</sup> at Saint John's University and Blattner Energy in Avon

**Central Prairies** – February 26<sup>th</sup> at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall

**Help Our Waters** – March 11<sup>th</sup> at Prairie Woods ELC in Spicer

**What Will You Drive?** – Date TBD in Mankato

**Organics Recycling and Waste Reduction** – Date TBD in Lake Crystal or Mankato

**Reduce Plastics!** – Date TBD at Crow Wing County Solid Waste & Recycling in Brainerd

### Other Events/Opportunities

**Become a Citizen Water Monitor for the MPCA:** MN has over 11,000 lakes so the MPCA needs your help collecting data from them! Click [here](#) to see how you can help track the health of a lake.

### YES! Blog

[YES! Students Tour Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management](#)

### In Other News

[The 5 Environmental Stories That Could Define 2020](#)

[8 ways you can help the environment in 2020](#)