



NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School

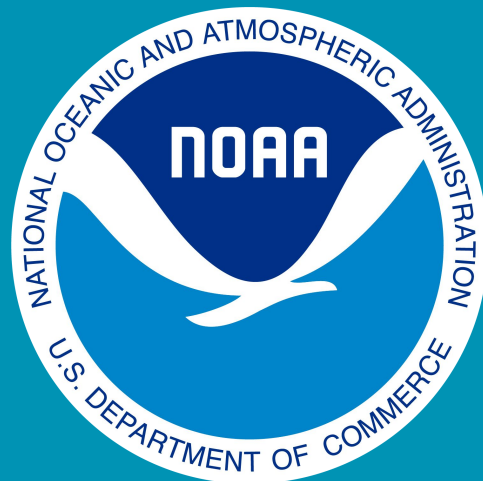
We'll be  
starting  
soon!

Orientation Webinar 2023 - 2024

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT: [SANCTUARIES.NOAA.GOV/EDUCATION/OCEAN\\_GUARDIAN](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian)



**Protecting our ocean one school at a time.**



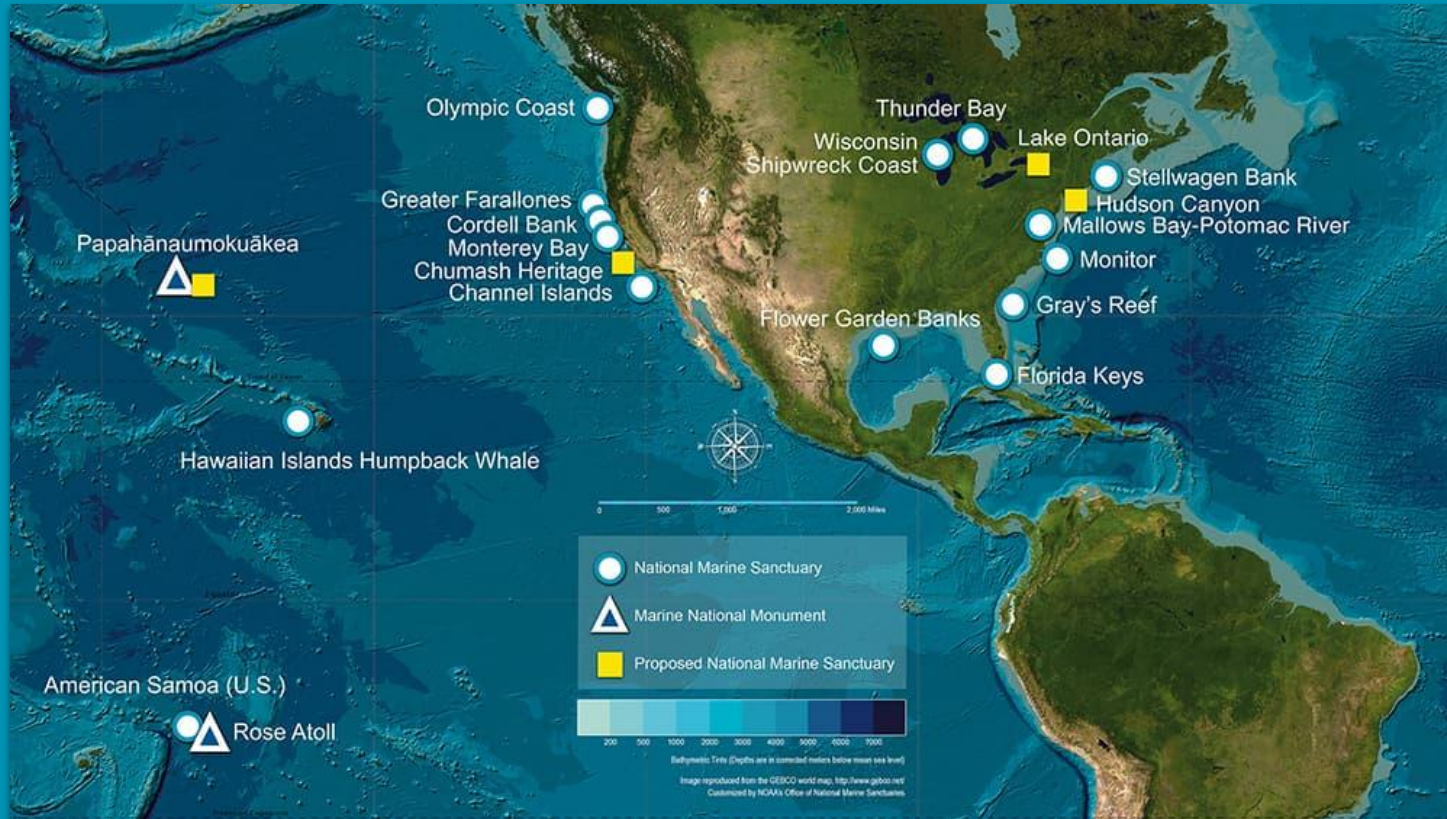
# NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES



**National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation**

The Ocean Guardian School Program is managed by NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

# National Marine Sanctuary System



- Network of 15 national marine sanctuaries & 2 marine national monuments
- Encompasses more than 620,000 square miles of marine & Great Lakes waters

National Marine Sanctuaries serves to preserve and protect biodiversity, beauty, historical connections and economic productivity of underwater parks

Photos: Douglas Croft



# NOAA Ocean Guardian Coordination Team

WEST



**Seaberry Nachbar**  
OGS Program Director  
CA B-WET Program  
Manager, Education  
Coordinator, *Office of  
National Marine Sanctuaries*



**Alyssa Leadingham**  
OGS Regional  
Coordinator:  
CA, IL  
Education Specialist, NMS  
Foundation



**Kim Raum-Suryan**  
OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Alaska  
Marine Mammal Specialist,  
Alaska Region,  
NOAA Fisheries



**Jacqueline Laverdure**  
OGS Regional  
Coordinator:  
Washington & Oregon  
Education and Outreach  
Coordinator, Olympic Coast  
NMS



**Christine VanDeen**  
[New] OGS Regional  
Coordinator:  
Washington & Oregon  
Education Associate,  
Olympic Coast NMS

PACIFIC



**Māhealani Bambico**  
OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Hawai'i  
Hawai'i B-WET Coordinator



**Isabel Halatuituia**  
OGS Regional Coordinator:  
American Samoa  
Education Coordinator/ IT Support,  
NMS of American Samoa



**Marie Auyong**  
OGS Regional  
Coordinator:  
Guam  
Guam Coral/Coastal Zone  
Management Liaison  
Lynker/CSS Team



**Janice Castro**  
OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Northern  
Mariana Islands  
Management Liaison, NOAA  
Office for Coastal Management

# NOAA Ocean Guardian Coordination Team

SOUTH



**Amy Clark**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Gulf  
Education Coordinator,  
Gulf of Mexico B-WET;  
NOAA Fisheries Southeast  
Regional Office



**Marlies Tumolo**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator:  
Florida  
Educator and Program  
Coordinator, Florida Keys NMS



**Taylor Burley Galaviz**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Texas  
Constituent Engagement Specialist,  
Flower Garden Banks NMS



**Channing Gaufillet**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Florida  
Keys  
United Way of Collier and The  
Keys



**Shannon Ricles**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: North  
Carolina  
Education and Outreach  
Coordinator, Monitor NMS

EAST

GREAT LAKES



**Sarah Waters**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: Michigan,  
Great Lakes  
Great Lakes B-WET Program  
Coordinator Thunder Bay NMS



**Pamela Orlando**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: New York  
Sanctuary Advisory Council  
Coordinator, Lake Ontario NMS  
(Proposed)



**Allison Rosner**

OGS Regional  
Coordinator: MA  
New England B-WET  
Program Coordinator, NOAA  
Fisheries

# Participating Schools | California



## Alameda

Frick United Academy of Language  
Korematsu Discovery Academy  
Lincoln Middle School

## Contra Costa

Foothill Middle School

## Humboldt

Blue Lake Union Elementary

## Marin

Neil Cummins Elementary

## Mendocino

Point Arena High School

## Monterey

Chartwell Elementary  
El Sausal Middle School  
Forest Grove Elementary  
La Paz Middle School  
Los Arboles Middle School  
Monterey Bay Charter School  
Seaside High School

## San Luis Obispo

Baywood Elementary  
Los Osos Middle School  
Morro Bay Montessori Family  
Partnership Charter School

## San Mateo

Design Tech High School

## Santa Barbara

Adams Elementary  
Kellogg Elementary  
Santa Barbara Community Academy

## Santa Cruz

Bradley Elementary  
Calabasas Elementary  
Santa Cruz Gardens Elementary  
Mar Vista Elementary

## Sonoma

Mark West Elementary  
University Elementary at La Fiesta

## Ventura

Buena High School

# Participating Schools | By State



## Alabama

Orange Beach Elementary  
Robertsdale High School

## American Samoa

A.P. Lutali Elementary  
Lupelele Elementary  
Samoana High School

## Alaska

Auke Bay Elementary  
Bartlett High School  
Dimond High School  
Russian Jack Elementary  
Sayeik Gastineau Community School  
Thunder Mountain High School  
Tongass School of Arts & Sciences

## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Tinian Elementary  
Tinian Junior Senior High School

## Florida

Key Largo School  
LCC Day School  
Plantation Key School  
Stanley Switlik Elementary  
Sugarloaf School

## Guam

JFK High School  
Simon Sanchez High School

## Hawai'i

Kailua Elementary  
Kaimuki Middle School  
Kapolei High School  
St. Andrew's Schools

## Illinois

Jovita Idar Elementary

## Louisiana

École Pointe-au-Chien

## Massachusetts

Truro Central School

## Michigan

Alpena High School

## New York

APW Jr. / Sr. High School

## North Carolina

Bogue Sound Elementary  
Brunson Elementary School  
Wiley Magnet Middle School

## Oregon

North Bay Elementary  
Recess Outdoor Adventure School

## Texas

Edgar Allen Poe Elementary  
Lincoln Middle School

## Washington

Chimacum Elementary  
Fusion Academy Seattle  
O.C.E.A.N. School  
Quileute Tribal School  
Salish Coast Elementary  
Stevens Elementary  
Stevens Middle School

# Participant Resources Web Page



## OCEAN GUARDIAN SCHOOL PARTICIPANT RESOURCES

### Program Packet 2023 - 2024

The Program Packet provides an overview of the NOAA Ocean Guardian School (OGS) requirements, guidelines and resources.

[Download the program packet](#)

### Orientation Webinar, Sept. 2023

The NOAA Ocean Guardian School Orientation Webinar will be held on Thursday, September 14 from 4:00 - 5:00 pm (PST).

[Register for the Webinar](#)

### Resources Toolkit

The Toolkit contains resources for each project pathway as well as Spanish language resources and sanctuary specific lessons and activities.

New resources will be added to the toolkit throughout the year. Last update: 1/18/2022

- Program Packet
- Parent Letter Templates
- NOAA Release Forms
- Project Intro Resources
- Resources Toolkit
- OGS Pathway Connections
- Video Library
- Final Report Survey
- ... & more!

[sanctuaries.noaa.gov/ocean-guardian-participant/](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/ocean-guardian-participant/)

# Fall 2023 Timeline | August - December



**September 14th**  
Orientation Webinar

**September 29th**  
Signed Agreement  
Due

Project Introduction  
Presentation

Letter to Parents  
(optional)

# Project Introduction Presentation



## What to include in the presentation:


- Information about the National Marine Sanctuary system
- The land-ocean connection (watersheds)
- Description of your Ocean Guardian stewardship project
- How your project contributes to preservation of local watershed(s) and/or the ocean

## Project Intro Resources:













- Intro video
- Intro PPTs

# Optional Fall Parent Letters (Bilingual)

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



## Ocean Guardian School Parents

View Changes in Their Child's Behavior	See Benefits to Their Child	Think Programs are Worth*
<p><b>66%</b></p> <p>of students are now talking to others about the environment, including...</p>  <p><b>FAMILY</b></p>  <p><b>FRIENDS</b></p>  <p><b>COMMUNITY</b></p>	 <p>Commitment to the Environment</p>  <p>Increased Sense of Community</p>  <p>Volunteering</p>  <p>Experience Working with a Team</p>	 <p><b>\$59</b> Habitat Creation</p>  <p><b>\$48</b> Watershed Restoration</p>  <p><b>\$34</b> Energy Saving</p>  <p><b>\$25</b> Marine Debris Reduction</p>  <p><b>\$21</b> Recycling</p>

This is a first of its kind formal economic study of an ocean conservation education program.

\* Dollar values are per student annually

[http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean\\_guardian](http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian)

2016 Office of National Marine Sanctuaries study of NOAA Ocean Guardian School program



Date:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I have some exciting news! Last spring, I submitted a proposal for funding for a hands-on watershed/ocean stewardship project. I am happy to report that our school was awarded a NOAA Ocean Guardian School grant to help support this project. If all goes according to plans, at the end of the school year, we will be evaluated by the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries for official recognition as a NOAA Ocean Guardian School.

**Ocean Guardian School Program:** This grant program is managed by NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries with funding coordinated by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks including a system of 15 national marine sanctuaries and 2 marine national monuments. The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is the national non-profit partner for the National Marine Sanctuary System.

**Our School's Project:** I have outlined the basic information about our Ocean Guardian School project below:

- > [Insert here: WHO is involved]
- > [Insert here: WHAT is the main goal(s)]
- > [Insert here: WHEN and WHERE is the project taking place]

**Your Involvement:** The Ocean Guardian School program encourages our students to talk about their ocean conservation project and the related environmental issues outside of school, to friends, family and community members. As our project unfolds this year, I invite you to ask your child about their Ocean Guardian activities:

- > What are you doing this year to help protect the health of our watershed and/or ocean?
- > Why is it important for us to have a clean and safe ocean?
- > What can we do at home to help keep our ocean clean?

**One More Thing:** During the year, please let me know if you see any changes in your child's behavior resulting from their Ocean Guardian experiences. For example, are they trying to use less water, more inclined to use less single-use plastic or encouraging others to make eco-friendly choices? Your insights and feedback are very much appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about our grant project. For more information about the Ocean Guardian School program, please visit [http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean\\_guardian/](http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/ocean_guardian/).

Thank you for your support.  
Sincerely yours,

The Ocean Guardian School program is managed by NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries with funding coordinated by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation

# Ongoing Timeline | August - June



**Hands-on  
Stewardship  
Activities**

**Outreach  
Activities**

**Measurable  
Data  
Collection**

**Communication  
w/ Regional  
Coordinator**

**NOAA  
Release  
Forms**

# Hands-on Stewardship Activities



Waste reduction through the 6Rs  
Rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse, rot, recycle



Decreasing use of fossil fuels

Reducing waste that may become marine debris



Creating ocean-friendly  
schoolyard habitats & gardens

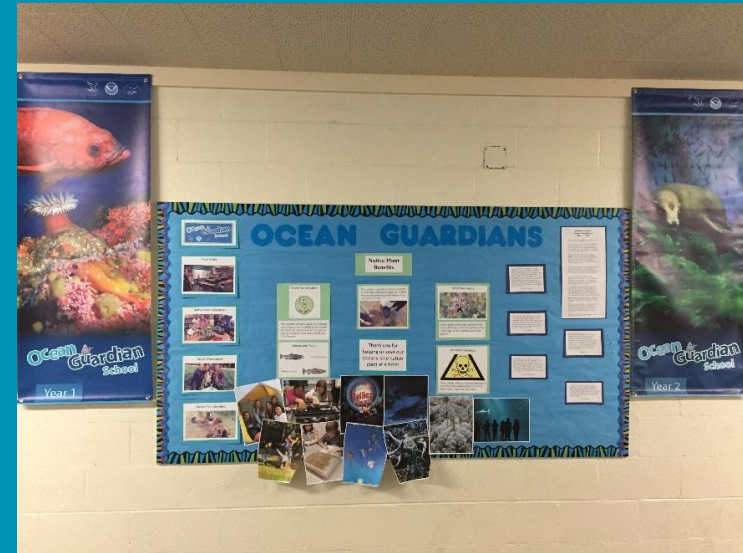
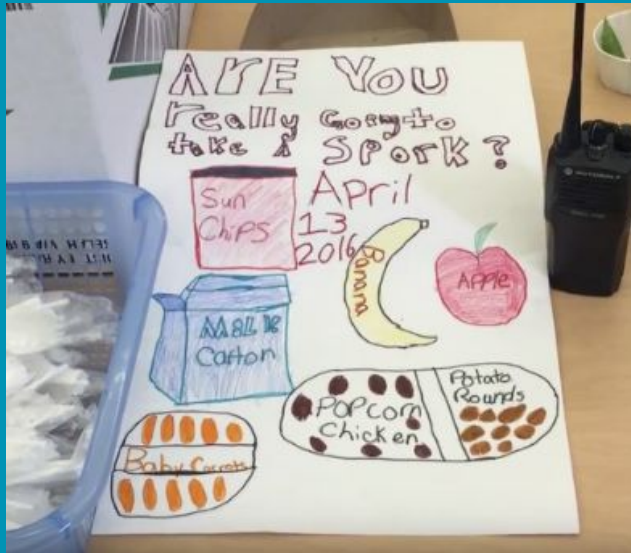


Restoring local  
watersheds /  
habitats

# Internal Outreach



- Student created posters within the school
- Student presentations to other students/classes/grades in their school
- Student written articles for school newspaper, school website, etc.
- Student presentations to school teachers/staff
- Student presentations/communications to the parent community (PTO/PTA)
- Student presentations to the larger school community (School Board, School Site Council, Superintendent, etc.)



# External Outreach



- Student presentations to students in other schools
- Student presentations/participation in local community festivals/fairs/events
- Student written letters/articles to local papers, political representatives, business leaders, community organizations, community partners, etc.
- Student created educational information distributed to community neighborhoods, businesses, etc.
- Student produced PowerPoints, videos, plays, songs, etc. presented to community audiences

# Artwork

## LIFE OF WETLANDS

Water flows in  
Estuary Full of Fish  
Tidal Waves Roar  
Life is Every where  
Animals Roaming  
Nature is Light  
Deep in the Marshes  
Shorebirds are fishing

-6th grade student,

Will C. Wood Middle School, Alameda, CA



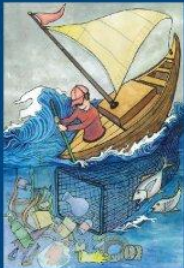
# Project Signage



# Ocean Guardian School Signage

**Ocean Guardian School**

Eliminate Plastic and Be Fantastic!




Slogan: Santa Catalina School, Monterey, CA  
Artwork by Timothy L. for Bow Sea: Ocean Awareness Programs

- PLANT NATIVE PLANTS
- NO SINGLE USE PLASTIC BOTTLES
- REMOVE NON-NATIVE PLANTS
- COLLECT TRASH
- DISCRIMINATE REUSABLE BAGS & BOTTLES
- RETHINK, REUSE, REFORM

**Ocean Guardian School**

Be a Role Model, Refill Your Bottle

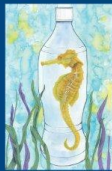


Slogan: Simpson Elementary, Montesano, WA  
Artwork by Hanna L. for Bow Sea: Ocean Awareness Programs

- PLANT NATIVE PLANTS
- NO SINGLE USE PLASTIC BOTTLES
- REMOVE NON-NATIVE PLANTS
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- RETHINK, REUSE, REFORM

**Ocean Guardian School**

Help Kelp. Drink Think. Water Weather




Slogan: Joplin Middle Elementary School, Joplin, MO  
Artwork by Jennifer Y. for Bow Sea: Ocean Awareness Programs

- PLANT NATIVE PLANTS
- NO SINGLE USE PLASTIC BOTTLES
- REMOVE NON-NATIVE PLANTS
- COLLECT TRASH
- DISCRIMINATE REUSABLE BAGS & BOTTLES
- RETHINK, REUSE, REFORM

**Ocean Guardian School**

Refill Here! Save the Whales




Slogan: Simpson Elementary, Mt. Rainier, WA  
Artwork by Hanna L. for Bow Sea: Ocean Awareness Programs

- PLANT NATIVE PLANTS
- NO SINGLE USE PLASTIC BOTTLES
- REMOVE NON-NATIVE PLANTS
- COLLECT TRASH
- DISCRIMINATE REUSABLE BAGS & BOTTLES
- RETHINK, REUSE, REFORM

**Ocean Guardian School**


Clean the Ocean, Clean the World!



Slogan: Santa Catalina School, Monterey, CA  
Artwork by Hanna L. for Bow Sea: Ocean Awareness Programs


- PLANT NATIVE PLANTS
- NO SINGLE USE PLASTIC BOTTLES
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- RETHINK, REUSE, REFORM

# Ocean Guardian School Logo



NOAA  
**OCEAN  
GUARDIAN**  
School

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NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES



National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation



NOAA  
**OCEAN  
GUARDIAN**  
School



NOAA  
**OCEAN  
GUARDIAN**  
School

**We are OCEAN GUARDIANS**  
**Somos OCEAN GUARDIANS**

**We all depend on a healthy ocean to survive.**

We are changing our behaviors to protect our local watersheds, national marine sanctuaries, and our shared global ocean.

What will you do to help care for our blue planet?

**Todos dependemos de un océano saludable para sobrevivir.**

Cambiamos nuestros hábitos para proteger las cuencas locales, los santuarios marinos nacionales y nuestro océano mundial compartido.

¿Qué harán para ayudar a cuidar nuestro planeta azul?

**We are OCEAN GUARDIANS**  
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# Bilingual Signage: "We Are Ocean Guardians"

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¿Qué harán para ayudar a cuidar nuestro planeta azul?

**We are OCEAN GUARDIANS**  
**O tatau o tagata e leoleoia (vaava'aia) le sami.**

**We all depend on a healthy ocean to survive.**

We are changing our behaviors to protect our local watersheds, national marine sanctuaries, and our shared global ocean.

What will you do to help care for our blue planet?

**Tatau le fa'atagaloa maia i le sami ma'ua mo le tatau eia / eolia ma'aloia**

O le tatau e ia tatau ma'ua le pa'aga, ma'ua tatau o tatau a'oga / tatau tatau, o gata'aga e tatau ma'ua le tatau le tatau.

O le tatau ma'ua e ma'ua ma'ua te le tatau o le tatau o le tatau ma'ua ma'ua.

**We are OCEAN GUARDIANS**  
**Somos OCEAN GUARDIANS**

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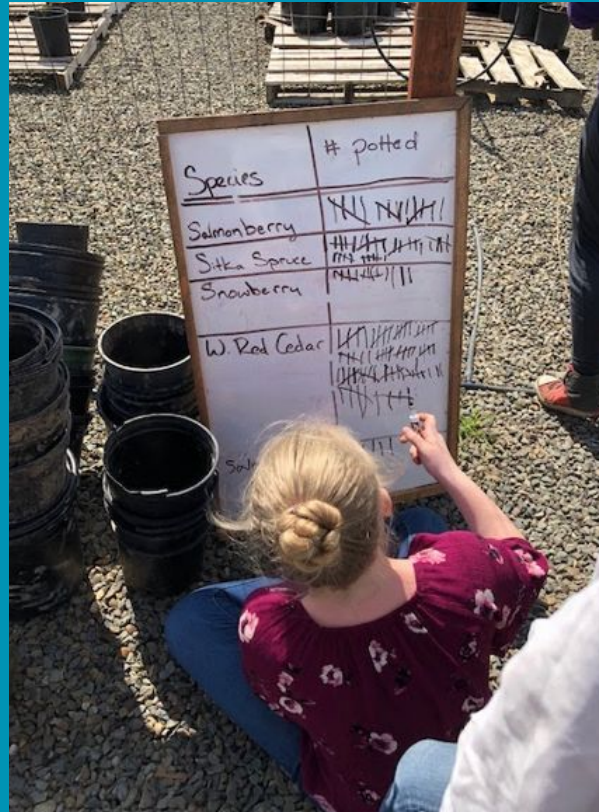
- Plant native plants. Siembra plantas nativas.
- Reduce single-use plastics. Reduce plásticos de un solo uso.
- Remove non-native invasive plants. Elimina plantas invasoras.
- Collect trash. Recoge basura.
- Distribute reusable bags and bottles. Distribuye bolsas y botellas reutilizables.
- Recycle. Recicla.
- Refrain, reuse, reduce. Recicla, reusa, reduce.
- Use native plants. Usa plantas nativas.
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# Measurable Data



- Measurable data is a key component of the Ocean Guardian School program.
- Measurable data may be reported from both school and/or community sites.
- Where relevant, please report measurable data in metric system units of measure.

**Quantitative data =  
Communication of larger  
impact of the Ocean  
Guardian School Program to  
NOAA & the public**



# Budget

- ✓ Budget changes that are more than 10% of total budget – send email request to regional coordinator
- ✓ Not required to submit receipts
- ✓ At end of year, permitted to have \$500 or less in account

## Budget Form

For schools applying for funding, please complete this budget form (pages 10 - 11). Show an itemized list of expenses. Be as detailed as possible.

Enter the numeric values without commas or the \$ sign. After entering the values in each column, press the 'tab' key. After the final column (Amount Requested from Ocean Guardian), press the 'tab' key and the amount will be calculated automatically in 'Total Funds Requested' at the bottom of each page.

**The first line item is an example and will not be calculated in your budget.**

Budget Item (Item, Quantity, Cost/Item)				Total Amount	Amount from Other Sources	Amount Requested from Ocean Guardian
CA Live Oak Trees	10	X	\$15.00	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
		X		\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00
(If needed, continue budget on next page) Total funds requested (page 1)						\$ 0.00

# Project Communication



## Regional Coordinators:

- Program updates/reminders
- NOAA/ONMS news



## Schools (Lead Teachers, Team Members, etc.)

- Project/budget changes
- Roadblocks, concerns
- Exciting news, successes!
- Documentation – photos, videos, news articles, artwork, etc.



# NOAA Release Forms

## 2 forms available:

- Bilingual Ocean Guardian Likeness and Profile Release Form
- English NOAA Copyright
- Spanish NOAA Copyright

## Additional option:

- Paragraph of text that can be added to your school's pre-existing media release forms

### COPYRIGHT LICENSE TO NOAA

#### Description of Licensed Work(s) (hereafter "Work(s)"): \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of photo(s), filming(s), recording(s), etc. (if known): Academic school year 2023-2024  
(Aug. 2023-July 2024)

Name of Photographer(s)/Producer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Location(s) (if known): In/on school grounds or other locations (e.g. field trips) where Ocean Guardian activities occur.

Description of image(s)/video(s)/audio(s) used: \_\_\_\_\_

Photos, videos, recordings, illustrations, graphics, and artwork produced by the individual listed above as part of Ocean Guardian school activities and field trips.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (if signing this Release on behalf of a minor, the parent or legal guardian should state the minor's name here: \_\_\_\_\_), hereby grant to the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) lifelong, royalty-free, worldwide, non-exclusive permission to reproduce, use for Governmental purposes, further disseminate, and sub-license, including to the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the above-mentioned Work(s) in all media now existing or to be created in the future, including the use of the Work(s) on the ONMS web site.

The primary intended use of these materials is for ONMS communication, outreach, and education products that promote awareness, appreciation and management of the marine environment.

I hereby represent and warrant that I am qualified to grant this license, being the owner of the Work(s), or the owner's authorized employee or agent. If the Work(s) are photographs or videos, I further warrant that I have obtained releases to be photographed or recorded and to use one's likeness from any individuals who might appear within the Work(s), or from their legal guardians or authorized representatives, including for those under the age of 18. I hereby indemnify and hold harmless ONMS, its employees, agents, and contractors against any and all claims, actions, or damages (including attorney's reasonable fees) asserted by or paid to any party on account of a breach or alleged breach of the above warranties.

I understand that a notice acknowledging copyright protection shall be placed on any use of the referenced Work(s). I further understand that ONMS will not compensate me in any way or pay me for using these Work(s).

I have read this release and am fully aware of its contents.



### NOAA Ocean Guardian School | Likeness and Profile Release Form

Please read the Privacy Act Statement on page 2 of this document prior to signing.

I consent to \_\_\_\_\_ School name providing prints, photographs, video recordings, and audio recordings to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and grant NOAA the right to use, reproduce, edit, and/or broadcast any and all photographs, video recordings, and audio recordings of me taken by or on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ School name during activities funded or supported by NOAA.

Student name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### NOAA Escuela Guardiania del Océano | Formulario de comunicado de prensa

Lea la Declaración de la Ley de Privacidad en la página 2 de este documento antes de firmar.

Doy mi consentimiento para que \_\_\_\_\_ Nombre de escuela proporcionen impresiones, fotografías, grabaciones de video y grabaciones de audio a la Administración Nacional Oceánica y Atmosférica (NOAA) y otorgo a la NOAA el derecho de usar, reproducir, editar y/o transmitir cualquier y todas las fotografías, grabaciones de video y grabaciones de audio tomadas por o en nombre de la \_\_\_\_\_ Nombre de escuela durante actividades financiadas o apoyadas por NOAA.

Nombre del estudiante (letra de imprenta): \_\_\_\_\_

Nombre del tutor (letra de imprenta): \_\_\_\_\_

Firma del tutor: \_\_\_\_\_

Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

# Spring 2024 Timeline | January - June



# Project Wrap-up

## “What a Wonderful Creek”

Original Lyrics by 3rd Grade Class,  
Willow Creek Academy  
2013

I see bracken ferns, sword ferns too  
Wild strawberries for me and you  
And I think to myself, *what a wonderful creek*

Willows and horsetails blow in the wind  
I hear the song of the red breasted robin  
And I think to myself, *what a wonderful creek*

This is the landscape where the deer like to play  
And salmon and bears, before they were chased away  
The Miwoks used poison oak to make tattoos  
And bay leaves to hunt, even on their shoes

I see salamanders and raccoons  
Newts, mayflies and woodpeckers, too  
And I think to myself, *what a wonderful creek*


Let's clean up the trash, make sure we do our part  
There's so much history here, there's so much heart  
We want the fish to come back, the birds to sing  
The humans to love without hurting anything



I hear water run, I watch it flow  
I've learned much more than I thought I'd know  
And I think to myself, *what a wonderful creek*

## Things we love in our watershed...



# Becoming a NOAA Ocean Guardian School

 NOAA OCEAN GUARDIAN School  
NOAA Ocean Guardian School  
Final Report Survey 2023  
Deadline: Monday, June 26, 2023.

 NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
 National Marine Sanctuary Foundation

**Your Contact and School Information**

**\* 1. Contact Information**

Your full name

Your school email

Your summer email

School name

City/town

State/territory

Zip code

**\* 2. School Grade Levels (check only one)**

Your School's Grade Levels  K-5  K-6  K-8  K-12  6-8

Other (please specify)

**\* 3. Project Pathway (check the best one that applies to your project)**

6Rs - Rethink/Refuse/Reduce/Reuse/Rot/Recycle

Marine Debris

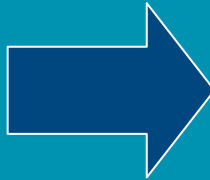
Watershed Restoration

School Garden/Habitat


Energy & Ocean Health

Other information about Project Pathway

Final  
Report  
Survey



Recognition  
Rubric

 NOAA OCEAN GUARDIAN School  
Recognition Checklist  
2023 – 2024

The Recognition Checklist is designed to inform you (Ocean Guardian School lead teacher) of our expectations for your stewardship project. It is the basis for awarding NOAA Ocean Guardian School recognition and banners. At the end of the project year, after you have submitted your Final Report Survey, your regional coordinator will complete your checklist.

This year's evaluation checklist is in response to the continued challenges and limitations brought on by COVID. The recognition criteria have been adjusted to best reflect the realities of engaging students in stewardship activities during these difficult times. If you have any questions about this evaluation process, please contact your regional coordinator.

Primary Criteria (required for recognition):

**Project Activities** | Students were engaged in hands-on stewardship activities (at school or at home) that related to project goals.

**Measurable Data** | Students collected measurable data from their project activities that was reported by the lead teacher in the Final Report Survey

Due to limitations brought on by COVID, lead teacher was unable to collect measurable data and therefore exempt from this requirement.

**Communication** | During the school year, lead teacher communicated to other school community members (e.g., students, teachers, staff, parents) about project changes/concerns/successes/updates via email, virtual platform, phone, etc.

Lead teacher submitted a completed online Final Report Survey by due date

Secondary Criteria:

**Project Introduction Presentation** | Teachers and/or students communicated information to some or all of the school community (e.g., students, teachers, staff, parents) about their Ocean Guardian School project, the national marine sanctuary system and the land-ocean connection.

**Project Wrap-up** | Students alone communicated (written or verbal) some aspect of their participation in their stewardship project to other students/classes at school and maybe other school community members (e.g., teachers, staff, parents)

**Project Outreach** | Students carried out internal and/or external outreach to their friends, family, school community, local community and beyond. Outreach activities included but not limited to artwork displayed at school and/or at home, in-person and/or virtual presentations to other classes, schools, organizations, etc., conversations with friends/family, written materials, web/video posts, etc.

Reviewer's comments:

# NOAA Ocean Guardian School Banner Examples

YEAR 4

NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School



NOAA  
NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES

National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation

California

YEAR 5

NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School



NOAA  
NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES

National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation

Texas

YEAR 1

NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School



NOAA  
NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES

National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation

Alaska

YEAR 5

NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School



NOAA  
NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES

National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation

Florida

YEAR 1

NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School



NOAA  
NATIONAL  
MARINE  
SANCTUARIES

National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation

Guam

# Final Reminders



- Submit signed agreement form by Friday, September 29th
- Host your Project Introduction Presentation by the end of December
  - Send out your letter to parents (optional)
- **Stay in touch with your Regional Coordinator throughout the year**



NOAA  
OCEAN  
GUARDIAN  
School

THANK YOU!

Questions?