



# Get Caught Green-Handed *RecycleMania Activity*

## Effort & Resources



**Easy.** (Can be done with free time and little advance planning).



**Moderate** (\$100 for reward gifts).

## Objective & Overview

Use this activity to encourage recycling by rewarding students caught “green-handed.” A team of spotters will wait near recycling bins to recognize people “caught” in the act of recycling. This is a great way for an R.A. to connect with students in a dorm, or a green team or sustainability office to engage the community.

## Step 1: Pick a Time, Place, and Strategy

This activity can be conducted anywhere with a recycling bin. A green team or sustainability club could station itself in a school cafeteria or at a sports game/other organized event, or an R.A. could go door-to-door in a dorm and reward people with recyclables in their bins.

## Step 2: Plan a Prize

Decide how you will reward your recyclers. Consider taking photos for a “Recycling Heroes” bulletin board or Facebook album. You may also want to give out low-cost reward gifts, such as RecycleMania pens or temporary tattoos. Other ways to recognize recyclers are naming them in a school-wide email or campus newspaper, or entering each “hero” to win a larger, eco-friendly prize (e.g. reusable mug or water bottle or t-shirt).

Another approach to this activity is to give out RecycleMania buttons when tabling or catching people “green-handed,” and tell students that they can win a bigger prize (i.e. gift certificate to a local pizza place) if they are spotted with the buttons around campus!

## Step 3: Catch Recyclers!

Outfit your team in RecycleMania t-shirts and charge them with identifying and rewarding students who recycle. Assign teams to walk around campus looking for recyclers, or have a team pack their bags with small gifts and catch recyclers as they go about their normal routines.

