

CMIT Chesapeake Math & IT Academy North- PC, High School Awarded Eco-Schools USA Green Flag for Exceptional Achievement in Educating for Sustainability

Honor indicates commitment to sustainable management of school grounds, facilities and curriculum

Contact: Gonul Ozturk, Chesapeake Math & IT Academy North - PC, High School , gozturk@cmitacademy.org

Laurel, MD September 09, 2022 – Chesapeake Math & IT Academy North was recognized by National Wildlife Federation's Eco-Schools USA program for exceptional achievement in educating for sustainability, improving the environmental footprint of the school grounds, facility and curriculum. It is the 15th school so honored in Maryland, and the 5th in Prince George's County to receive the prestigious Green Flag, the Eco-Schools highest honor.

With more than 5,500 schools in all 50 states, the Eco-Schools USA program is based on the commitment and work of student-driven teams dedicated to issues such as reducing waste and consumption, climate resiliency, and environmental justice using audits, action plans, and other educational resources.

"National Wildlife Federation and Eco-Schools USA are proud of the example set by CMIT North Academy in Maryland," said Elizabeth Soper, Senior Director of K-12 Education Programs. "This award demonstrates not only a commitment to sustainability and environmental literacy for students and faculty, but as well, recognition by the school community that environment-based education supports and provides an effective approach to student learning and leadership."

To receive the Green Flag, CMIT's students and faculty tackled a host of sustainability initiatives that began with forming an Eco-Action team; auditing environmental focus areas; and engaging and building community. These steps led to actions and projects, all designed to raise environmental awareness, connect students to the natural world, improve the schools environmental footprint, and increase student engagement, while saving money for the school.

National Wildlife Federation was named the stateside host for the international Eco-Schools program in 2008. The International Eco-Schools program (http://www.ecoschools.global) is a network of over 56,000 K-12 schools in 70 nations, started in 1994 by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) with support from the European Commission. It was named by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) as a model initiative for Education for Sustainable Development in 2003 and in 2016 were included as members of United Nationals Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Global Action Program (GAP).

Learn more about Eco-Schools USA, http://www.nwf.org/eco-schools-usa. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

The <u>National Wildlife Federation</u> is America's largest conservation organization, uniting all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly changing world.