

Celebrating the 250th Birthday of America & Washington County!



SpringFest Sustainability Project Contest

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, the Keedysville Green Team is looking for sustainable ideas for future generations. The Springfest Sustainability Project Contest is open to all students in grades pre-K through 12! Awards will be presented in each Grade Level Division. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 projects in each grade level division.

Submissions Due **FRIDAY, MARCH 27**

Please be sure to fill out and include the attached cover sheet and mail or drop off projects by **Friday, March 27** to the following address:

Keedysville Town Hall
19 South Main Street
P.O. Box 359
Keedysville, MD 21756

Awards Presented **SATURDAY, MAY 2**

Winners will be notified by Friday, April 17. All entries will be on display at the Keedysville Springfest at Taylor Park in Keedysville on Saturday, May 2, 2026. The top 3 projects for each grade level division will be highlighted and awards will be presented on this day at 1pm.

Projects will be scored using the following criteria:

- ▶ Topic/Theme—Does the Project Address the Topic?: 10 pts.
- ▶ Content—Original Thought: 10 pts.
- ▶ Clarity/Coherence: 10 pts.
- ▶ Organization: 10 pts.
- ▶ Creativity: 10 pts.

Questions?

Feel free to contact
Keedysville Town Hall:

301-432-5795
townhall@keedysvillemd.com

PRIZES

Pre K–5th Divisions

1ST PLACE

\$25 check and a 3D printed planter and plant

2ND PLACE

\$15 Nutter's Gift Card and a 3D printed planter and plant

3RD PLACE

\$10 Nutter's Gift Card and a 3D printed planter and plant

6th–12th Divisions

1ST PLACE

\$50 check and a 3D printed planter and plant

2ND PLACE

\$15 Nutter's Gift Card and a 3D printed planter and plant

3RD PLACE

\$10 Nutter's Gift Card and a 3D printed planter and plant

+PLUS all winners receive a 250th Commemorative Medallion!

Grades - PreK - 1 Cover Sheet

Happy Birthday, America! Let's Be Planet Heroes!

The United States is turning 250 years old! That's a lot of birthdays. Just like we have to take care of our toys and our rooms, we also have to take care of our big home, Earth. When we are kind to the Earth, we help it stay healthy for all the animals and people.

Your mission is to be a Planet Hero and think of one way you can help!

Choose one way to be a Planet Hero:

- **Draw a Picture:** Use crayons, markers, or paint to draw your idea.
- **Tell a Story:** With the help of a grown-up, write down a few sentences about your picture. What is happening in your drawing?

Let's Celebrate!

When we celebrate America's big birthday, we can also celebrate how we are helping the Earth. Every little bit helps make our home a happy and healthy place for everyone. Good job, Planet Hero!

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent or Teacher Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name and Signature: _____

School Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Grades: 2-5 Cover Sheet

America's Future: Planting Seeds of Sustainability for the Next 250 Years!

Happy 250th birthday, America! In 2026, our country will celebrate a huge milestone. Just like the people who started our country 250 years ago, we are also building a future. They wanted a country that was strong and free. What kind of country do you want to build for the next 250 years?

Our world needs us to be good caretakers of our planet. When we take care of the Earth, we are being sustainable. That means we are using resources wisely so there will be enough for everyone, including people in the future.

Your mission is to design a plan or invention that helps make the United States more sustainable.

Choose one of the three areas below:

- **Design an Invention:** Draw a picture of your invention and write a paragraph explaining what it does, how it works, and how it helps the environment. Give it a creative name!
- **Write a Story:** Write a short story (one page or less) about a character who discovers a way to make their community more sustainable. Your story should have a beginning, middle, and end.
- **Create a Poster:** Design a colorful poster with pictures and words that show how your chosen area (energy, waste, or water/food) can be improved for the future. Include a slogan to inspire people!

Here are some helpful ideas!

-Renewable Energy: How can we use the sun, wind, or water to power our homes, schools, and cars without hurting the planet?

-Waste & Recycling: How can we reduce, reuse, and recycle more to keep trash out of our landfills and oceans?

-Clean Water & Food: How can we make sure everyone has clean water to drink and healthy food to eat without wasting resources?

Celebration!

When we celebrate our country's 250th birthday, we're not just looking back at the past. We're also looking forward to a brighter, healthier future. Your ideas are like seeds that will grow into a better world for everyone. Let's make America's next 250 years the most sustainable yet!

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent or Teacher Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name and Signature: _____

School Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Grades: 6-8 Cover Sheet

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In 2026, the United States will celebrate its 250th anniversary. This milestone offers a chance to reflect on our nation's history and, more importantly, to look forward to the next 250 years. The founders of our country had a vision for a new nation; what is your vision for a **sustainable** America? Being sustainable means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It's about balancing environmental, economic, and social well-being.

Your task is to act as a sustainability consultant and propose a solution to a real-world environmental challenge facing the United States today. Your solution should be innovative, practical, and designed to have a positive impact on a specific community or on a larger, national scale.

Choose one of the three areas below:

- **Policy Proposal:** Write a one-to-two-page paper that outlines your solution. Include a problem statement, a detailed description of your proposed solution, an analysis of its potential benefits and drawbacks, and a conclusion explaining why this is the right path for the future.
- **Drawing & Summary:** Create a technical drawing of an invention or system you've designed. Write a concise summary (one page) that explains the purpose of your design, how it works, and a projection of its impact.
- **Infographic:** Design a clear and compelling infographic that visually represents the problem and your solution.

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-**Renewable Energy:** How can we use the sun, wind, or water to power our homes, schools, and cars without hurting the planet?

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Looking Ahead:

The 250th anniversary isn't just a historical event; it's a call to action. Your ideas have the power to shape the future of our country. Think critically, research thoroughly, and propose a solution that will help America thrive for centuries to come. What is your blueprint for a sustainable America?

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent or Teacher Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name and Signature: _____

School Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Grades: 9-12 Cover Sheet

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