

# National GOOS Paper Day

Join schools and workplaces across the country on the first Thursday in April (April 1, 2021) to celebrate **National GOOS Paper Day**.

On this day of action, get creative as you learn about responsible [paper consumption and production](#), and promote effective ways to reduce and recycle paper.

## What is GOOS paper?

GOOS stands for **Good On One Side**.

GOOS paper is paper that has been used on one side, but is still blank and usable on the other side. When we use GOOS paper, it means that we are ensuring both sides of our paper are used before it is recycled.

GOOS paper can be used in many ways for example: drawing, planning, writing practice, notes, making notepads, printing drafts, and test sheets.



## What's a GOOS paper bin?

A GOOS paper bin collects and stores your GOOS paper in a convenient and accessible place to help ensure it can be used easily.

The bin can be as simple as a box or basket, but you can also get creative and decorate GOOS bins with a "goose" theme or other eye-catching styles.

A fun GOOS paper bin experience will encourage students to reach for GOOS paper.



# National GOOS Paper Day

## How to take part in National GOOS Paper Day

---

To participate in National GOOS Paper Day, schools are encouraged to launch their own GOOS paper bin campaign. Raise awareness about the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling paper and for a chance to win a prize!

### **Get Organized and Creative!**

Getting students involved in planning your GOOS paper campaign is an excellent opportunity for student leadership. This campaign can be run by members of your EcoTeam or by a classroom and embedded into a unit of study.

- Gather a team of students that will lead the GOOS campaign.
- Do some research and learn about why it is important to reduce paper use.
- Brainstorm how you will engage your school in your GOOS paper campaign.
- Decide on your campaign timelines

**CURRICULUM CONNECTION:** There are many opportunities to connect this campaign to numerous subject areas across grade levels. Consider connecting your GOOS paper campaign to an Arts, Science, or Geography lesson.

### **Make your GOOS paper bins**

- Count the locations around your school where it would be helpful to have a GOOS bin to determine the number of bins that need to be created. Don't forget to include offices and the library!
- Decide on your construction materials and your design materials (i.e., paint, markers). Make sure to gather enough materials before you get crafting!
  - Consider reusing materials such as old cereal boxes or appliance boxes.
  - If you have a shop class they can build the bins using scrap wood or other scrap materials.
- Create and decorate the GOOS bins with fun designs.
- Make sure to include a sign or instructions on how to use the GOOS bin.

**Already have GOOS bins?** Do an audit of your school to ensure that you have enough bins and signage in each room. Place additional bins in areas where needed.

# National GOOS Paper Day

3

## Engage your whole school community

Consider how to engage your entire school in your GOOS paper campaign:

- Hold a fun and informative school-wide kick-off assembly sharing the importance of reducing paper use.
- Challenge every class to design their own GOOS bin.
- Send an e-newsletter or GOOS-paper flyer home to parents outlining the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling paper.
- Create GOOS paper posters to share fun facts about paper, and provide simple strategies for everyone in the school to reduce, reuse, and recycle their paper.
- Post pictures and facts on your school website and on social media to share your GOOS paper bins.
- Get a jury to judge GOOS bin submissions and award a prize to the best one.
- Have a team of students create a presentation to show how to use GOOS bins.

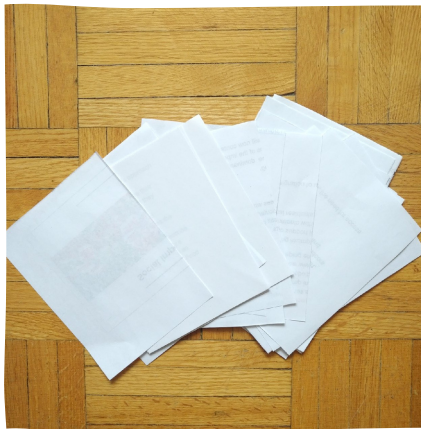
**IMPORTANT!** Screen your GOOS paper to ensure that there is nothing with sensitive or private information on it.

4

## Share your learning and your GOOS creations!

Get ready to share your creations and show your school community how your actions are making big changes. On National GOOS Paper Day, take photos or videos of your GOOS bins and share them on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Don't forget to tag EcoSchools Canada @EcoSchoolsCAN!

For more information, check out: [www.ecoschools.ca/goospaperday](http://www.ecoschools.ca/goospaperday)



# National GOOS Paper Day

## How to reduce paper use at your school

---

Being mindful of the amount of paper used in a variety of day-to-day practices can help schools reduce their overall ecological footprint.

### Some ideas include:

- Reinforcing the 3Rs hierarchy at your school to improve overall waste management process. Always try to prioritize actions in this order: **reduce, reuse, recycle**.
- Carrying out an **audit of paper use** at your schools and sharing the results with your whole community.
- Dedicating one of your **photocopier and/or printer trays** to GOOS paper.
- Establishing **proper systems** to make sure paper is recycled properly when it can no longer be used. Place recycling bins strategically around your school and hang clear signage to help people recycle correctly.
- Ensuring **double-sided printing** is a default setting for all printers.
- Placing GOOS bins **throughout your school!** It is an easy and fun way to reduce your school's paper use and educate your school community about this important topic.



# National GOOS Paper Day

## Paper Facts

---

Incorporate facts and trivia about paper production and recycling into your daily announcements, school newsletters, and campaign posters.

- Paper use is increasing around the world—even with the rise of digital devices. (1) Reducing the amount of paper used at your school can help reduce your overall ecological footprint.
- Paper and paper products account for more than 1/3 of all Canada’s waste. (2) By using both sides of your paper you can help to reduce this number!
- Recycled paper production uses 33% less energy and releases 37% less CO<sub>2</sub> than conventional paper production. (3) By using recycled paper, you are reducing energy, water, chemical use, pollution, and solid waste, while protecting forests. (4)
- Recycling 54 KG of newspaper will save one tree. (2) By recycling paper you are helping to reduce pressure on forests that play a vital role in addressing climate change.

Consider calculating the environmental impacts of paper use at your school by using this [paper calculator](#).

## References

---

1. Environmental Paper Network. [Unwrap the Truth](#). Retrieved 2020.
2. LBF Group. (2016). [Facts about paper and paper waste](#). Retrieved 2020.
3. Environmental Paper Network. (2012). [Comparing Recycled to Virgin Paper](#). Retrieved 2020.
4. Environmental Paper Network. [Paper to protect the planet](#). Retrieved 2020.

# National GOOS Paper Day

## Newsletter Template

---

[Insert Date]

## [CATCHY NEWSLETTER TITLE]

National GOOS Paper Day is an event celebrated each year on the first Thursday of April. On this day, schools across Canada take action to promote effective ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle paper and to learn about responsible paper consumption and production.

**GOOS** stands for **Good On One Side**. GOOS paper is paper that has been used on one side, but is still blank and usable on the other side. When we use GOOS paper it means that we are ensuring to use both sides of our paper before it is recycled.

On the first Thursday of April, our school will be launching a GOOS paper campaign! We will be launching a school-wide GOOS paper system, with GOOS bins throughout the school. GOOS paper bins will be designed and placed in each classroom, the library, the office, and printing rooms and all students and staff will be encouraged to use GOOS paper to reduce the amount of paper we use throughout the school.

To support this initiative we encourage families to consider how they can reduce paper use at home. Reinforcing the 3Rs hierarchy, by prioritizing actions in this order: reduce, reuse, recycle, can have a big impact on the environment.

Thank you for your support, we look forward to hearing about the unique ways your family participated in raising awareness and taking action!

