An EGGcellent common sense bird -- GOOS Paper!

Two GOOS paper collectors. Left: photo taken from Ontario EcoSchools initiative website. Students can decorate their own GOOS paper boxes. Right: the GOOS paper box in my own high school EAST and AP Environmental Science classroom.

A few schools and universities have picked up a simple but extremely eco-friendly initiative called G.O.O.S. (Good On One Side) Paper. But for the strikingly obvious nature of this soaring idea, very little exists online about the project, and way too few schools and offices have started using GOOS paper. All it takes is to set up a GOOS paper box, and encourage everyone to put GOOS paper in it, as well as use it when possible (great for printing). For an added flare, have classes decorate and create their own GOOS boxes (see photos above). Everyone should have GOOS paper collectors! Don’t even think about trying to “duck” out ;)

Some examples of schools advocating GOOS paper:

From UCSB Sustainability’s website:

LabSYNC Point T-5

Problems: Large amounts of paper from spreadsheets and reports are printed everyday but then are thrown away with only one side used.

Solution: Establish a bin within you laboratory to reuse one sided paper.
Benefits: Each page reused saves around 0.2 liters of water
Costs: None.

From Innisfil Central Public School (Ontario)’s Website:

Innisfil Central is using GOOS Paper again this year!

GOOS - Good On One Side paper is a green initiative that we are excited to implement again this year!

It is an attempt to reuse unclaimed paper that has been printed on one side while the other side remains clear for use! We simply place a strike through the side that is unwanted and print on the clear side of the page!

We have placed designated bins at both of our photocopier machines to support this effort. Occasionally, you will see forms and letters go home on GOOS paper.

Thank you for your understanding and support!

From Ontario EcoSchools initiative:

Save paper and save trees by having a GOOS paper (good on one side) bin in all classrooms, offices, and printer rooms in your school.

Tips:

- Get the EcoTeam or classrooms to decorate their own GOOS bins. Have a contest and award a prize for the most creative.
- Post instructions on how to use GOOS bin paper on the printer so it’s easy for teachers and staff to get in the habit.
- Share tips on how teachers and students can use GOOS paper for draft work, quizzes, notes, and more.
- Fundraise for EcoSchools projects by creating GOOS paper notebooks, and sell them to the school community.
Here is a DIY for the above tip:

Field Trip Destinations:
- LA Recycling: Search for recycling centers near you with this link. Call the center individually to see if they offer tours and how to arrange a visit.
  - Example: Allan Co. in Santa Monica offers tours (contact Andrew at 310-458-8916)

- Sanitary Landfills
  - Calabasas Landfill (818) 889-0363
    - Living near a landfill is not pleasant… Reducing, Reusing and Recycling is better than throwing it in the trash!!
    - https://www.theacorn.com/articles/calbasas-landfill-causes-a-stink/
  - Scholl Canyon Landfill (818) 243-9779
    - Natural Gas production landfill
    - The Scholl Canyon Golf and Tennis Club was built in 1993, by the American Golf Corp. based in Santa Monica. Constructed on top of the northwest part of the landfill in the San Rafael Hills. The newer layout replaced a golf facility that was closed in 1989 after dangerous levels of methane were released from under the golf course.

- And if you want to incorporate birds into this…
  - http://www.ballonafriends.org/visit_programs.html
Resources for Students, by Students
Created by Renata Robins (18 years, Palisades Charter High School)