








Recognition Levels

Level	Criteria	Benefits
<p>Level 1: Seed</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of Commitment • Identify at least one goal and the START metric(s) that it connects with (reference PDF of metrics) • Complete MGS Baseline Self-Assessment • Identify primary and secondary contacts for communication with MGS staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate • Recognized on website under year of participation • 1 hour conference with a mentor • Promo kit with press release and social media samples
<p>Level 2: Sprout</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate point person for START data entry • Complete START survey (~50 yes/no questions about current sustainability practices) - access and training provided • Complete one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish a school-based team of at least 3 people to support these efforts and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s). ○ Measure consumption in at least one of the following for a portion of or the entire school: energy, waste, or water (ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager preferred) and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s). If a portion, must include multiple classrooms (minimum of 3) and/or the cafeteria. • All Seed level criteria met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Window Cling • Eligibility for MEEA Environmental Educator grant • Opportunity to display a poster highlighting your green schools efforts at the MGGBC Annual Green Schools Event in April • All Seed level benefits
<p>Level 3: Seedling</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete both of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish a school-based team of at least 3 people to support these efforts and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot form(s) ○ Measure consumption in at least one of the following for a portion of or the entire school: energy, waste, or water (ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager preferred) and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s). If a portion, must include multiple classrooms (minimum of 3) and/or the cafeteria. • Achieve at least Tier 2 for 1 Educational Programming START metric and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form • All Sprout level criteria met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School's MGS story highlighted on Show-Me Green Schools website, social media, and/or newsletter • Recognition at the MEEA Annual Conference & MGGBC Annual Green Schools Event • Reduced rate for teams attending the MEEA Annual Conference or Sustainability Institute for Educators • All Sprout level benefits

<p>Level 4: Sapling</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate reduction of energy use, water use, or landfill waste over the last 1 – 3 years within a minimum of one area: energy, waste, or water and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s) <i>*when pursuing energy use reduction, an alternate option is achieving an Energy Star score of 75</i> • Put a plan in place to start measuring all waste, energy, and water for the entire school • Achieve at least Tier 2 for 2 Educational Programming START metrics and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s) • Achieve at least Tier 2 for 5 Organizational Culture START metrics and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s) • All Seedling level criteria met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 free MEEA Annual Conference or Sustainability Institute for Educators registration • Invitation to create an MGS webinar or case study to share your story
<p>Level 5: Flowering Dogwood</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure consumption in all of the following for your entire school: energy, waste, and water • Demonstrate reduction of energy use, water use, or landfill waste over the last 1 – 3 years within two out of three: energy, waste, or water and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s) <i>*when pursuing energy use reduction, an alternate option is achieving an Energy Star score of 75</i> • Achieve at least Tier 2 for 5 Educational Programming START metrics and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s) • Achieve at least Tier 2 for 10 Organizational Culture START metrics and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot Form(s) • Achieve at least Tier 1 for a minimum of 10 Physical Place START Metrics and record efforts/achievements in relevant Snapshot form(s) • Provide one contact to serve as a mentor to other schools • All Sapling level criteria met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to present at the MEEA Annual Conference, MGGBC Annual Green Schools Event, or Sustainability Institute for Educators • Invitation to apply for U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools recognition

For more information on Frequently Asked Questions, please [click here](#).