

**Town of LaGrange Conservation Advisory Council
Conservation Pillars Project
2008 Education Award**

The Town of LaGrange CAC Conservation Pillars project involved students and the community in environmental awareness for Earth Day 2008. The project was a collaboration between a local reuse center, the CAC, and an elementary school. Using recycled cardboard cylinders, students articulated their visions for preserving and protecting our environment.

Seven classes of Grade 1 and 2 students at Overlook Elementary School participated in the project. CAC members worked with the Hudson Valley Materials Exchange (reuse center) to purchase and deliver the tubes to the school. A Council member worked with the art teacher on themes to present to the students and also prepared and primed the tubes. The students first discussed and then implemented their ideas on conservation individually and also as classes. Once complete, arrangements were made with local businesses in the community and school and government offices to display the pillars. They were also shown at Community Day events. Students were excited to see their work shown in public and businesses were pleased to have unique artwork in their establishments. Students learned the meaning of conservation and helped educate the public.

The project was an outstanding success. The Superintendent of the Arlington School District and the Supervisor of the Town of LaGrange were so impressed with the conservation pillars that they requested some of them be displayed at the School District offices and in town hall.

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