



National Wildlife Federation

Office of the President

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June 6, 2023

Frank Strike
Vice President, Facilities
George Mason University
105 Facilities Administration Building, MSN 1E4
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Vice President Frank Strike:

On behalf of the National Wildlife Federation and the Campus Race to Zero Waste, I would like to thank you for participating in the 2023 Campus Race to Zero Waste competition. During this year's competition, 200 college and university participants helped to minimize waste, and collectively donated, composted and recycled 29.4 million pounds of waste and stopping more than 205 million single-use plastic containers from going to the landfill. Also, campuses prevented the release of 29,108 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂E) into the atmosphere, which is equal to preventing the annual emissions from 6,128 cars.

The National Wildlife Federation recognizes that plastic pollution and mounting solid waste disposal are critical threats to the world's wildlife and to human health. One of the key solutions to address this problem is engaging and educating America's future leaders on the dangers of solid waste and plastics build-up, and how the problem can be addressed through reduction of use, recycling and other efforts.

The Campus Race to Zero Waste competition is designed as a benchmarking tool to help U.S. and Canadian campuses meet their waste minimization goals; the competition also educates and challenges students and staff to compete for best in category by reducing, reusing, donating and recycling the most waste during the spring competition timeframe. More than 200 campuses in 41 U.S. states and Canada competed this spring 2023, engaging 3.4 million students and staff. To review the 2023 competition results, please go to www.CampusRaceToZeroWaste.org > Scoreboard.

Your campus is a proven leader in sustainability and your role in tackling the plastic pollution and solid waste disposal issues in the U.S. and internationally is making a meaningful difference. Thank you for your participation in the 2023 competition, and your support of the Campus Race to Zero Waste.

Sincerely,

Collin O'Mara
President and CEO

cc: Stacy Wheeler, Founder/Board Chair, Campus Race to Zero Waste



Uniting all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly changing world.

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