

# A Guide to Using the Open Green Map Social Mapping Website for Students and Teachers



Locally charted Green Maps highlight local natural, cultural and green living sites worldwide to promote community sustainability and personal well-being. Transforming local information into global interaction, the new Open Green Map (OGM) social mapping platform spurs widespread participation as it shares diverse public viewpoints. Open for public participation, everybody can contribute to the mapping of sustainability/socio-cultural resources in their communities.

## OGM can be used in a variety of educational settings and as a classroom aid, including:

- Social Studies classes to learn about ongoing sustainability developments in the local community, such as new community gardens, green buildings, green businesses, bike shares, etc.
- Civic Participation courses to give students valuable experience in community networking.
- Science classes to learn about the application of environmental science in sustainable community development, such as with recycling centers, toxic sites, protected habitats, wetlands, etc.
- An aid in field trips to local sustainability/socio-cultural sites
- To develop eco-literacy, communication, and new media technology skills in students.
- To familiarize students with all of the sustainability resources their communities offer.

At **OpenGreenMap.org**, please see the FAQ for information concerning how to use and contribute to it. Contributors 13 and under need adult assistance.

# What Else does Green Map System Offer to Students/Teachers?



#### **Educational Resources**

Click **GreenMap.org/youth** for an overview on student involvement with Green Mapping, where you can find out about our educational resources, download modules, and see youth mapping outcomes.
See the 'Green Teens Project' slideshow at **GreenMap.org/youth,** under 'Youth Introduction,' to learn how GMS connects the maps created with the modules to the OGM platform.

## **Energy and Environment Exploration Modules**

- The Energy and Environment Exploration Modules' is a classroom tool for Middle/High School students on learning how to create Green Maps for their neighborhoods.
- Fach module includes activities, research and field trip guidance. By creating their own Green Maps of school campuses and neighborhood resources, youth will develop an enriched perspective on sustainability issues in their local environment.
- The Modules can be completed in any order and can be done as a classroom activity, as individual student work, or even as an after-school, summer camp or family activity.

**In Summer 09,** we will be holding an internship program where College and High School students will create themed Green Maps of their home communities. Each will also contribute to resources for future mapmakers as well as to OGM. Training takes place June 10, and culminates in a presentation on August 10.

