

## Lake County SWMD - The *Green Team*!



Those colorful vehicles aren't full of clowns...it's the *Green Team*! They're in the *Enviromobile*, Lake County Solid Waste Management District's (LCSWMD) mobile education unit, and it's jam-packed with environmental education materials. The *Green Team* visits schools with hands-on activities, all-school assemblies, and project-based learning supplies.

The *Enviromobile* grabs your attention and the *Green Team* keeps it! The vehicle is a travelling billboard and the team members are walking advertisements for recycling. With diverse educational backgrounds, the educators tailor program content to meet the needs of any audience.

The *Green Team* takes pride in unique community partnerships and work closely with community leaders. For the 2011-2012 school year the *Green Team* targeted the City of Whiting, IN, with the “**Save Us, Save the World: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Buy Recycled**” campaign. The schools added cardboard, plastic, glass and metal to their existing paper recycling program; the downtown business district replaced all plastic shopping bags with reusable totes; and the community's overall recycling participation rate rose from 90 percent to nearly 100 percent.



For the 2013-2014 school year, the *Green Team* has chosen Lowell, IN, who campaigned to be LCSWMD's next “Green City.” The team had their kick-off of the “Dreaming Green” recycling initiative in Lowell's annual Labor Day parade, Monday, September 2, 2013. The goal by next summer is to divert 50 percent of Lowell's waste to recycling, up from its current diversion rate of 20 percent.