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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Mixed Paper Drive in Akron Public/Private Schools Celebrating America Recycles Day- Results!**

**Akron, OH-** During the 5<sup>th</sup> annual mixed paper drive competition, Akron Public Schools (APS) and selected private schools in the Akron area proved that recycling does pay off! **St. Vincent Elementary, St. Mary School and Our Lady of the Elms** were declared the winners of the month-long competition by recycling the most paper per pound, per student. **St. Vincent Elementary** recycled 21.34 pounds per student or 2.45 tons total of paper to win a school-wide pizza party and \$250 cash prize courtesy of the River Valley Paper Company. **St. Mary School** came out strong, in the middle school division, and recycled 20.29 pounds per student which is equal to 2.09 tons total. **Our Lady of the Elms** recycled 16.38 pounds per student or 1.27 tons total to each win a \$500 cash prize courtesy of the River Valley Paper Company and a field trip tour of the River Valley Paper Company plant for 50 students and faculty. For the second year since the birth of the paper drive, two new categories were added. With the most pounds of paper recycled overall, **Kenmore High School** was our **Overall winner**, with 2.57 tons of paper. **Leggett Elementary School** was the winner in our **Most Improved Category**, recycling 790 pounds more in 2014 than in 2013! Overall, we are proud to announce that **27.405 tons or 54,810 pounds** of paper was recycled citywide, **1.785 tons more** than in 2013!

To help celebrate *America Recycles Day* on November 15, 2014, Keep Akron Beautiful (KAB) in conjunction with the River Valley Paper Company hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> annual mixed paper drive competition in 22 Akron public schools and 11 private schools in the Akron area. From *October 20 to November 17*, community residents and local businesses helped participating Akron schools attempt to win this competition by taking their magazines, phone books, paperboard, catalogs, junk mail, office paper, newspaper and cardboard to a school parking lot bin. Currently, bins are located at the following Akron Public School Locations: **Betty Jane CLC, Buchtel High School, Case Elementary School, Crouse CLC, David Hill CLC, East CLC 7-8, East High School, Ellet High School, Findley CLC, Firestone Park Elementary School, Forest Hill CLC, Glover CLC, Hatton Elementary School, Helen Arnold CLC, Innes CLC, Jennings CLC, Judith A. Resnik CLC, Kenmore High School, Leggett CLC, Litchfield Middle School, McEbright CLC, Miller South Elementary School, North High School, Pfeiffer Elementary School, Sam-Salem CLC, Seiberling Elementary School, and Voris CLC.** The following private school locations are also included in our competition: **Chapel Hill Christian School, Discovery Montessori School, Hoban High School, Imagine School, Middlebury Academy, Old Trail School, Our Lady of the Elms, Saint Mary School, St. Vincent Elementary School, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School and The Next Frontier Academy.**

For the third year, Keep Akron Beautiful and River Valley Paper Company sponsored a poster contest. Over 70 students submitted art for the poster contest. The winner was Shayla Elzholz, a student from **Ms. Lisa Heinel's** class at **Hyre CLC**. Shayla received an American Express gift card, and Ms. Heinel received an American Express gift card as well. Shayla will be the featured artist for our 2015 America Recycles Day campaign.

This paper drive was designed to prove that Akron's school staff and students, parents, community members and local businesses can help save trees, which purge the atmosphere of greenhouse gases just by giving our trash a second life. The receptacles are still in place and are accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Filling up the collection bins helps the schools raise money for clubs, their recycling efforts or team uniforms. For more information on the competition or on paper recycling at the Akron school locations, contact Jacqui Ricchiuti at Keep Akron Beautiful, (330) 375-2116.

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Keep Akron Beautiful is a 501(c) (3) agency celebrating 33 years of serving the citizens of Akron by improving Akron's quality of life through beautification and responsible environmental management. For additional program information, visit [www.keepakronbeautiful.org](http://www.keepakronbeautiful.org).