



**NEWS RELEASE
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**RECYCLE BAGS TO WIN BIG:
TREX PLASTIC FILM SCHOOL RECYCLING CHALLENGE BEGINS TODAY**
Enrollment Open for Nationwide K-12 Competition Hosted by Composite Decking Leader

WINCHESTER, Va., (November 15, 2022) – Today marks the official start of the 16th Annual [Trex® Plastic Film Recycling Challenge](#). Strategically timed to coincide with America Recycles Day (Nov. 15), the nationwide competition, hosted by [Trex Company](#), the world’s largest manufacturer of composite decking and railing, challenges K-12 students from across the country to collect and recycle as much polyethylene (PE) plastic film as possible over a five-month period between America Recycles Day and Earth Day (April 22) for the chance to win cash prizes and high-performance Trex outdoor living products for their schools. Those interested in participating in the 2022-23 program may enroll online at [NexTrex.com](#).

“The Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge brings together thousands of schools and students from coast to coast in a joint effort to make a global impact on plastic waste,” said Stephanie Hicks, materials sourcing manager for Trex Company. “The turnkey program is easy to implement and provides participants with a firsthand appreciation for the importance of recycling and an understanding that value can be found in something that was once considered waste.”

Built on eco-friendly values, Trex’s world-famous [composite decking](#) is sustainably made from 95% recycled and reclaimed materials, including a mix of industrial wood scrap and plastic film upcycled from common household items such as grocery/shopping bags, sandwich bags, case overwrap, newspaper sleeves and more. Each year, the company repurposes in excess of 1 billion pounds of reclaimed materials in the making of its products, including more than 430 million pounds of plastic film, making it one of the largest recyclers of PE in North America.

For the second year, participants in the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge will have opportunities to win cash prizes for their schools, thanks to returning corporate sponsor [Charter Next Generation](#) (CNG). The leading provider of specialty PE films to the North American market will present \$5,000 each to the individual elementary, middle and high schools that recycle the most plastic film in their categories during the collection period. Cash prizes of \$3,000 and \$2,500, respectively, will be awarded to the second and third place schools at each level. As extra motivation, CNG will award an additional \$2,500 to the top recycling school overall – above and beyond their \$5,000 category first-place prize.

CNG will also present cash rewards to schools that most creatively promote their recycling efforts through social media using the designated hashtags [#TrexRecyclingChallenge](#) and [#Recycle2Win](#). Schools will be evaluated on number of posts, quality of content and creativity used to drive awareness of their participation and the importance of recycling on social media. Those with the most impactful social campaigns will be awarded gifts of \$5,000 for first place, \$3,000 for second place and \$2,000 for third place.

“We are thrilled to continue our partnership with Trex on the Plastic Film Recycling Challenge this year. By combining our efforts, Trex and CNG were able to bring the competition to more schools and recycle more material than in years past, which is directly in line with our

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commitment to being a sustainability leader in the industry. We are incredibly excited to build on that momentum and surpass our goal of over 1,000 schools participating in this year's challenge," said Kathy Bolhous, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Charter Next Generation.

In addition to the prizes awarded by CNG, Trex will reward top recyclers based on grade level, school size and region. The winning schools per capita will earn high-performance Trex products to help beautify their campuses, and all participants in the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge will receive a special gift from Trex in appreciation for their efforts and contributions.

The Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge is easy to implement for schools of any grade level and size. Once enrolled, schools receive a turnkey kit complete with detailed instructions, promotional materials, recycling bins and a list of [qualifying recyclable materials](#). Participants simply weigh and report collection totals to Trex each month throughout the collection period before delivering the recycled plastic to designated Trex drop-off points in their communities. Schools can track their success and standings throughout the program via a dedicated leaderboard at [Recycle2Win.com](#).

"Over the past 16 years, we've seen first-hand how this fun and engaging initiative inspires students to make eco-conscious choices for their schools, communities and lives," noted Hicks. "Thanks to the determination of these bright, dedicated students, Trex has been able to divert millions of pounds of discarded plastic film from ending up in waterways and landfills by repurposing it into beautiful, sustainable Trex decking."

Schools interested in participating in the 2022-23 Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge, may register or learn more at <https://nextrex.com/view/programs>. For more information, contact NexTrex@trex.com.

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About Trex Company, Inc.

Trex Company is the world's largest manufacturer of high performance wood-alternative decking and railing, with more than 30 years of product experience. The #1 brand in outdoor living is proud to have been named one of 2022's [50 Best U.S. Manufacturers](#) by Industry Week and to have made Forbes' 2021 List of [America's Best Mid-Sized Companies](#). Stocked in more than 6,700 retail locations worldwide, Trex outdoor living products offer a wide range of style options with fewer ongoing maintenance requirements than wood, as well as a truly environmentally responsible choice. For more information, visit [Trex.com](#). You also can follow Trex on Twitter (@Trex_Company), Instagram (@trexcompany) Pinterest (trexcompany), or Houzz (trex-company-inc), "like" Trex on Facebook (@trexcompany), or view product and demonstration videos on the brand's YouTube channel (TheTrexCo).

About Charter Next Generation

Charter Next Generation is North America's leading independent producer of high-performance, specialty films used in flexible packaging and other end-use markets. Known for sustainable, innovative products and world-class manufacturing capabilities, the company's quality and expertise are unsurpassed. Its sustainability first mindset, and relentless pursuit of excellence, make it an ideal partner to help brand owners reach their long-term sustainability goals. Visit Charter Next Generation at: <https://cnginc.com>.