



PITCH IN FOR SPRING CLEAN-UP !

PTA SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The PTA is continuing to explore alternatives under the ongoing IPM (Integrated Pest Management) initiatives for grounds maintenance at Lime Kiln Middle School. The Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) has agreed to suspend the routine spraying of pesticides to maintain the grounds, if PTA volunteers maintain the landscaped beds. In response, PTA has established a workgroup to organize this effort and coordinate a team of 'weeding volunteers'. The purpose of the team is to perform the regular maintenance of the PTA Landscaped areas. This maintenance will include general gardening such as cutting back flowers, pruning, weeding, edging, etc. All the work will be coordinated with the PTA's Landscaping Committee activities.

Students and Parents are encouraged to participate in this endeavor. These monthly 'clean-ups' began in spring of 2000 and will continue until the new Grounds IPM Guidelines are implemented by the HCPSS. The guidelines are currently being developed by the Maryland Department of Agriculture as a result of recently adopted School IPM Laws. The goal of the PTA program - consistent with the intent of the new legislation - is to keep Lime Kiln Middle School looking its best and minimizing the use of pesticides.

Please consider participating in this activity to help build school spirit and take pride in the wonderful work already done by the PTA to implement the Landscaping Plans for Lime Kiln Middle School. Students are welcome and encouraged to participate. It is, after all, their school. Your help will be truly appreciated. The following dates have been selected. Sign up for as little (*30 minutes will do!*) or as much (*the entire session!*) time as you have.

Session 1	Saturday, April 20, 2001	11:00am – 1:00pm	volunteers needed
Session 2	Saturday, May 18, 2001	9:00am – Noon	volunteers needed
Session 3	Saturday, June 15, 2001	9:00am – Noon	volunteers needed

Please call Veronika Carella at 410-489-5495 or email at jlcarella@msn.com if you have any questions. For those of you who don't have gardening tools, the PTA will supply you with the necessary equipment (i.e. gloves, tools, bags, etc.). Light refreshments will also be provided.

[Please detach and return lower portion to LKMS office]

For all volunteers - please fill in and return this form to LKMS office to the attention of PTA Environmental Committee as soon as possible. Thank you for considering this request.

I can help during the following sessions (please circle): 1 (April 20) 2 (May 18) 3 (June 15)

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____

For students: Please share this information with your parents. All are invited and encouraged to participate in the activity.