



GREEN VALLEYS ASSOCIATION AT WELKINWEIR

1368 Prizer Road, Pottstown, PA 19465 phone 610.469.4900 fax 610.469.4990 www.greenvalleys.org

'NO IDLE ZONE' ESTABLISHED AT UWCHLAN HILLS ELEMENTARY

Suburban Advertiser

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DOWNINGTOWN - the Environmental Awareness Committee at Downingtown Area School District's Uwchlan Hills Elementary School, with grant support from Green Valleys Association, has created a "No Idle Zone" in front of their school. The grant supplied monies for signs to be installed at the school to remind bus drivers and to alert parents to turn off their car engines as they wait to pick up children. This is a step up from the new state policy, which took effect Oct. 9, which prohibits diesel vehicles from idling in front of schools for more than five minutes during any 60 minute period.

The creation of the zone was supported by the school's principal, Mr. Davis, who noted that DASD policy requires buses to turn their engines off after three minutes to avoid fumes from being drawn into schools' ventilation systems.

"Turning off engines while we wait saves fuel and helps the air quality inside and outside our children's school, both of which save money in fuel and health care costs, and overall protects the health of our children and our environment," said Catharine Swan,

Environmental Awareness Committee chair and Green Valleys Association Executive Director. "Everyone wins."



The new "No Idle Zone" is among the many projects that Uwchlan Hills' Environmental Awareness Committee has initiated in recent years. Others have included a blue bird program, gardens with native plants, battery recycling, a Nature Explorers' Club, and promotion of "Waste-Free" lunches. Green Valleys Association is a non-profit environmental association that oversees 155 square miles of watershed area and serves more than 143,400 residents, local businesses, 17 townships, three boroughs, and five school



Protecting today's environment for a greener tomorrow.

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districts in northern Chester County. GVA's headquarters is located in the Welkinweir estate house at 1368 Prizer Road, off of Route 100 in suburban Pottstown. For more information on this and other programs, visit www.greenvalleys.org or call 610-469-4900.



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