



Patronat polskiej prezydencji w Radzie UE  
Patronage of the Polish presidency of the Council of the EU  
Patronage de la présidence polonaise du Conseil de l'UE



# REPORT

**Silesian Green Week 2025**  
**– a civic project for clean air**  
**and a sustainable Europe**



Silesian  
Voivodeship



Integrated LIFE project "Silesia, Blue Sky Restored". Comprehensive implementation of the Air Quality Plan for the Silesian Voivodeship. LIFE20 IPE/PL/000007 - LIFE-IP AQP-SILESJAN-SKY



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# INTRODUCTION

In June 2025, the Silesian Voivodeship implemented **the largest regional civic project in Poland**, aligning with the framework of **the European Union Green Week** and the priorities of **the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU**. **“Silesian Green Week 2025 – a civic initiative for clean air and a sustainable Europe”** took place from June 1st to June 30th and brought together thousands of participants from across the Silesian Voivodeship. The initiative was carried out as part of **the integrated LIFE project “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored”** and from the outset responded to the most urgent challenges of contemporary environmental and climate policy – both at the local and European levels.

**During this time, a total of 298 official Partner Events of the EU Green Week took place across Europe – and beyond – including 50 in Poland. As part of the Silesian Green Week, as many as 42 events were organised, accounting for nearly 15% of all events worldwide and as much as 84% of events in Poland.**

This significant participation confirmed that the Silesian Voivodeship became one of the main pillars of Green Week 2025 – not only in terms of quantity but, above all, quality and substance. The project was **not a symbolic gesture** or a calendar of events. **It was a broad, grassroots social campaign that strengthened the position of the Silesian Voivodeship as an active, conscious region ready to act together in the name of clean air, sustainable development, and European solidarity.** Silesian Green Week 2025 combined ecological education, civic activation, and European reflection in the public space.



# GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project achieved an ambitious goal: **engaging local communities** of the Silesian Voivodeship in actions for **climate protection, air quality improvement, and the promotion of European values**. At every stage, the project combined environmental themes with civic topics and education about **Poland's role in the European Union**.

The following objectives were achieved:

- **Poland's membership in the European Union** was promoted, highlighting our country's involvement in EU decision-making processes and the benefits of European integration for the region's inhabitants.
- **Educational activities about the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU** were carried out – each event included an informational component concerning the goals and significance of the Presidency in the context of climate, environmental, and health policies. Through debates, quizzes, educational classes, and information sessions, knowledge was conveyed about the goals and mechanisms of the European Union, with particular emphasis on climate and environmental policies.
- **Knowledge about the circular economy, resource protection, and climate change** was disseminated, with messages tailored to different social groups.
- **The level of knowledge regarding air protection** was raised, including the rights and obligations of the region's residents.
- **The cultural program of the Presidency** was enriched through eco-events incorporating elements of local heritage, tradition, and artistic creativity.
- **The opportunities and benefits offered by European integration** were presented – participants learned about specific programmes, financial instruments, and examples of joint action for a better future.
- **Civic attitudes and a sense of shared responsibility** for the common good were strengthened by organising debates, intergenerational activities, and grassroots local initiatives.





The project demonstrated that **local initiatives can be an effective tool for achieving Europe-wide environmental and civic goals.**

Silesian Green Week was fully aligned with **the objectives of the European Green Week** – not only through the scale and scope of activities but also by genuinely engaging residents in education, reflection, and local pro-environmental initiatives.

The project showed that **the values of the EU Green Week** – participation, responsibility, action for air quality, combating climate change, and promoting the circular economy – can be effectively implemented at the local level, with both **effectiveness and enthusiasm.**



## SCALE AND COURSE OF ACTIVITIES

As part of the Silesian Green Week, 42 official EU Green Week partner events were organised in 35 municipalities and cities. Over 6,000 people took part directly, and the estimated reach of the campaign exceeded 50,000 recipients thanks to active communication via social media, local news platforms, and promotional materials.



The activities were diverse in nature – from debates and workshops to field educational games, eco-picnics, concerts, exhibitions, and themed walks. Topics included air quality, recycling, zero waste, sustainable consumption, renewable energy sources, urban mobility, water retention, and green-blue infrastructure.

Events were carried out in **the spirit of accessibility, inclusivity, and intergenerational partnership.** Efforts were made to include **various groups** – children, youth, adults, seniors, social organisations, representatives of local authorities, and educational institutions.



The project covered both large cities (e.g., Katowice, Gliwice, Rybnik, Sosnowiec) and smaller towns (e.g., Miedźno, Herby, Krzanowice, Psary), building a lasting **network of intersectoral and local cooperation.**





# ORGANISERS AND PARTNERS

The implementation of the project was made possible thanks to the involvement of the **Silesian Voivodeship – Coordinating Beneficiary of the integrated LIFE project “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored”** – and a network of local partners, including over **30 municipalities and institutions**. Eco-managers, working on-site to support ecological education, played a special role. They independently or in cooperation with cultural centres, schools, libraries, and non-governmental organisations organised Green Week events.

The project’s partners included the municipalities and cities of:

**Będzin, Bieruń, Bojszowy, Chorzów, Czeladź, Gliwice, Godów, Herby, Jastrzębie-Zdrój, Koszęcin, Krzanowice, Krzepice, Łaziska Górne, Miedźno, Mierzęcice, Mszana, Piekary Śląskie, Radlin, Psary, Racibórz, Rychwałdek, Rybnik, Rydułtowy, Sosnowiec, Świerklaniec, Świerklany, Tarnowskie Góry, Wodzisław Śląski, Wry, Zawiercie, Żory, Żywiec**, as well as the Association of Municipalities and Counties of the Western Subregion, the Association of Municipalities and Counties of the Central Subregion, and the Intermunicipal Association for Ecology in Żywiec.



# EUROPEAN VALUE OF THE PROJECT

Silesian Green Week 2025 fully achieved the goals of the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU. It showed that locality and European identity can go hand in hand, and that shared values – such as solidarity, environmental responsibility, and civic participation – can be effectively implemented in practice.

The project:

- **disseminated knowledge about EU climate and environmental policy,**
- **promoted real tools** for co-decision-making in Europe,
- **engaged communities** in quizzes, debates, and educational meetings,
- **linked ecology with culture**, e.g. through art workshops, eco-concerts, and themed picnics,
- **strengthened the image of Poland** as an active and responsible state, consciously participating in ecological transformation.

## RESULTS AND IMPACT



**The effects** of the Silesian Green Week 2025 include:

- **increased awareness** of the impact of air quality on health,
- **greater understanding** of the circular economy and sustainable lifestyle,
- **promotion of environmentally friendly consumer behaviours,**
- **activation of local communities,**
- **creation of spaces for cooperation** between various groups and institutions,
- **strengthening of ecological and civic education** throughout the region.



The project enabled broad social groups to actively participate in a dialogue about the **future of Europe – green, shared, and fair.**

## CONCLUSION

“Silesian Green Week 2025” proved that **local energy and grassroots initiatives** can have European and even global resonance. Thanks to the exceptional commitment of residents, eco-managers, and partners, the Silesian Voivodeship implemented **the largest programme of EU Green Week events in Poland** – and one of the largest in the world.

The project became not only a part of Poland’s Presidency of the Council of the EU programme but also a **strong regional voice in the European discussion about the future** – green, fair, and based on shared values.



# SUMMARY

**“Silesian Green Week 2025 – a civic initiative for clean air and a sustainable Europe”** has gone down as one of the most ambitious and comprehensive civic undertakings carried out as part of the European Union Green Week. This is a significant achievement not only in numerical terms but, above all, in terms of content, education, and social engagement.

Green Week – the European Commission’s flagship environmental initiative – provides a platform every year for **sharing good practices, inspiring action, and promoting efforts to protect the environment, adapt to climate change, and care for our planet**. The Silesian project perfectly aligned with this idea, giving it a local, social, and intergenerational dimension.

The Silesian Voivodeship clearly marked its presence in the European **environmental dialogue**. This was not a symbolic presence but a real one, rooted in the everyday concerns of residents: for health, for the climate, for shared space. Events organised as part of the Silesian Green Week were deeply educational in nature, engaging children, youth, adults, and seniors in discussions, workshops, social actions, experiments, and creative activities. The project not only promoted Poland’s membership in the European Union but also demonstrated that EU values – such as **solidarity, sustainable development, participation, and just transition** – can be successfully implemented at the local level. Thanks to the initiative of the Silesian Voivodeship and the partners of the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project, Green Week gained a new, civic dimension: becoming **a week of dialogue, decisions, cooperation, and action**.

Importantly, all events were consistent with the goals of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union. They achieved these goals not only through education about EU policies but also by strengthening social competences, ecological knowledge, and responsible consumer attitudes. In this context, Green Week became not only a celebration but a laboratory of change – demonstrating that ecological transformation is possible when everyone participates: **schools, local governments, communities, and individual citizens**.

As host of such a large share of the EU Green Week, the Silesian Voivodeship confirmed its readiness to serve as a leader of green transition in the region and as an advocate of European environmental values. The project strengthened the image of the region as an active, conscious, and engaged space – not only in pro-environmental efforts but also in building a modern, sustainable, and united Europe.

“Silesian Green Week 2025” is more than the sum of its events – **it is a social declaration:**

**We are ready to breathe together – with clean air, European solidarity, and civic responsibility.**





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BIERZEMY  
POWIETRZE  
POD SVOJE  
SKRZYDŁA



# PROGRAM WYDARZEŃ

1-30 CZERWCA 2025 R.



Województwo  
Śląskie



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## Silesian Green Week 2025 – a civic project for clean air and a sustainable Europe.

### Calendar of EU Green Week Events

2025

### Silesia. Blue Sky Restored

1.06	Eco Fun in the Loop! Recycling Lottery (Bieruń)	3.06	Circular Week (Psary)
1.06	Workshops "The Second Life of Packaging" (Krzepice)	3.06	The Great Circle of Things: Swap, Don't Shop (Godów)
1.06	Reuse Hub: Things in Good Hands (Będzin)	4.06	BookLoop: Book Exchange Fair (Radlin)
1.06	TrashArt – Creativity Without Limits! (Jastrzębie-Zdrój)	4.06	Composting and Setting Up a Compost Bin. Workshop for Adults (Godów)
2.06	EcoCycle in the City: A Walk Full of Discoveries (Czeladź)	4.06	Tarnowskie Góry Green Week with Theatre (Tarnowskie Góry)
2.06	Oxford Debate: Ecology – Trend or Necessity? Circular Economy in Practice (Żory)	5.06	Green Exchange. Share a Seedling! (Rydułtowy)
2.06	Recycling Through Posters: In the Land of Color and Scent (Jastrzębie-Zdrój)	5.06	Wodzisław Eco-Rally (Wodzisław Śląski)
2.06	Art from Recovery: Creative Recycling Exhibition. In the Land of Color and Scent (Jastrzębie-Zdrój)	5.06	EcoMission: PSZOK SORCIK in Action (Chorzów)
2.06	Photo Contest: R as Recycling. Giving Waste a Second Life. (Wyrz)	7.06	"Circular Challenge" Bike Rally (Krzanowice)
2.06	Exhibition: Waste That Inspires (Czeladź)	7.06	Circular Garden: How to Introduce Zero Waste Practices in Your Garden? (Racibórz)
3.06	Composting and Observing Compost Soil. Lecture and Workshop for Children (Godów)	9.06	Eco-Blankets Workshop (Bojszowy)
3.06	Don't Throw Away, Don't Burn, Don't Waste: Composting Workshops (Miszana)	9.06	Don't Throw It Away – Get Creative! Eco-Workshops for Seniors (Bojszowy)
		9.06	We Give Books Wings (Gliwice)

11.06 What About That Bag? Eco-Workshops for Seniors (Bojszowy)

12.06 EcoBazaar: Swap, Don't Waste! (Miedźno)

13.06 ReModa: Chic Swap (Koszęcin)

13.06 Herby in the Game! Recycling and Ecology in Action! (Herby)

14.06 Żywiec in Circulation. A Clean Future (Żywiec)

14.06 EcoJoy: A Picnic Full of Nature (Zawiercie)

14.06 EcoSphere: Creating Eco-Friendly Decorations (Krzepice)

14.06 BookCirculation. Pass It On! (Świerklany)

16.06 Kids Don't Know This. Delicacies from Leftovers. Eco-Workshops for Seniors (Bojszowy)

20.06 Field Game: The Mystery of the Circle of Recovery. Lost Druid Wisdom (Mierzędce)

21.06 "Less Means BETTER! Less Resources, Less Waste, Less Emissions!" Outdoor Game (Krzepice)

21.06 EcoCinema: An Adventure with Ecology and Popcorn (Świerklany)

21.06 Slavic Midsummer Night (Rychwałdek)

27.06 Green Picnic: Mission Recycling! (Żory)

30.06 What Can the Young Teach Us? Eco-Workshops for Seniors (Bojszowy)

**Blue Sky 2025:  
The Oxford Climate Debating Tournament**

- semifinal in Central Subregion (Świerklaniec)
- semifinal in Western Subregion (Rybnik)



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## Eco Fun in the Loop! Recycling Lottery



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# “ECO-FUN IN CIRCULATION!” BIERUŃ COMBINES RECYCLING AND PLAYFUL EDUCATION



**When:** 1 June 2025

**Where:** Mini Arboretum w Bieruniu,  
ul. Bijasowicka 10, Bieruń 43-155

**Host:** Elżbieta Musialik, eco-manager  
of the Municipality of Bieruń





On 1 June 2025, the **Mini Arboretum in Bieruń** came alive with family laughter and eco-awareness during an **environmental event** organised by local eco-manager **Elżbieta Musialik** to celebrate Children's Day.

## RECYCLING AS A FAMILY GAME

At the stand run by the eco-manager, children and their families took part in an interactive educational game titled **"Eco-Fun in Circulation! – Recycling Lottery."** The programme included quizzes, riddles and mini-challenges focused on the principles of the circular economy, recycling, and the reuse of resources. Participants had the chance to win small eco-friendly prizes for correct answers and active engagement.

## HIGH PARTICIPATION AND ENTHUSIASTIC LEARNING

The activity attracted **around 150 people – children, parents and caregivers alike**. The hands-on format encouraged group collaboration, with families solving puzzles together and discussing sustainable choices. The level of involvement reflected genuine interest in environmental topics and showed how **effective education through play** can be.

## SUPPORT FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The event was also attended by the **Mayor of Bieruń, Mr Sebastian Macioł**, who visited the eco-manager's stand, listened to the quizzes and interacted with participants. His presence emphasised the importance of local environmental efforts carried out as part of the **LIFE project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored."**

## PLAY-BASED LEARNING THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The success of "Eco-Fun in Circulation!" proved that interactive, age-inclusive educational initiatives are highly effective in **raising ecological awareness**. Eco-manager **Elżbieta Musialik** once again demonstrated that **environmental education can be creative, inspiring and accessible** to all generations.







## CIVIC AND EUROPEAN AWARENESS

“Eco-Fun in the Loop” also fostered civic and European awareness, showing that every resident – regardless of age or place of residence – can have a **real impact on shaping environmental and climate policy**, and thus influence the direction in which the European community is heading.









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## The Second Life of Packaging



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# THE SECOND LIFE OF PACKAGING – CREATIVITY, EDUCATION, AND CLEAN AIR IN KRZEPICE



**When:** 1 June 2025

**Where:** Osiedle Dąbrowa w Krzepicach, ul. Wyspiańskiego, 42-160 Krzepice

**Host:** Joanna Grzyb, eco-manager of the Municipality of Krzepice









Jars, salt, string... and great imagination! That's how the **eco-zone looked during the Children's Day** celebration at the Dąbrowa Housing Estate in Krzepice. As part of the LIFE project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored", **eco-manager Joanna Grzyb**, together with **Beata Wójciów**, invited local residents to participate in workshops combining creativity and environmental education.

## SALT JAR LANTERNS AND THE MAGIC OF UPCYCLING

The hands-on workshop titled "The Second Life of Packaging – Salt Jar Lanterns" demonstrated that even everyday items – like glass jars – can be given a whole new purpose. Children eagerly crafted colorful lanterns, and the eco-manager's booth was buzzing with activity all day long. Dozens of unique creations were made, full of light, color, and imagination.

But it wasn't just about fun – it was a **practical lesson in the circular economy, showing that waste can be a valuable resource and creativity one of the most powerful environmental tools.**

## RECYCLED FASHION – A SHOWCASE OF FANTASY

One of the highlights of the day was the **post-competition exhibition of eco-friendly headwear**, designed by the winners of the contest "Don't Burn – Design!". The exhibition was organized by the **Krzepice Town Hall** in cooperation with the **Municipal Cultural Center**. Hats and crowns made from recycled paper, foil, reclaimed fabrics, and cardboard amazed with both ingenuity and aesthetics. The message was clear: **fashion can be sustainable, and burning waste is never the answer.** The exhibition also touched on broader topics like the environmental impact of the fashion industry, overproduction of textiles, and improper waste disposal.







## ECO-MANAGER IN ACTION – ADVICE FOR ADULTS

The event also served a **practical informational purpose**. Adults took advantage of the eco-manager's consultation point for the Clean Air Programme, asking questions about **financial support, building insulation, replacing heat sources, and installing renewable energy systems**. The high level of interest confirmed that access to reliable environmental advice is in growing demand.

## COMMUNITY, INVOLVEMENT, AND THE JOY OF CREATION

The whole event took place in a warm, welcoming atmosphere. The eco-zone, led by eco-manager, was part of a larger outdoor celebration organized by the **Krzepice Town Hall, Krzepice Municipal Council, and the Municipal Cultural Center**.

Thanks and congratulations went to **Rafał Balcerzak, Chairman of the Krzepice Municipal Council**, for the invitation and support, as well as **Mayor Mateusz Kluba**, and all the residents—both young and old—who visited the project's booth.

## ECOLOGY WITH A SMILE – EDUCATION THAT WORKS

“The Second Life of Packaging” was much more than a creative workshop. It encouraged reflection, taught that even small actions matter, and showed that conscious choices—whether consumer-based or environmental—can lead to meaningful change.













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## Reuse Hub: Things in Good Hands



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# ECOSWAP IN BĘDZIN – GIVING ITEMS A SECOND LIFE AND REDUCING WASTE

**When:** 1 June 2025

**Where:** Targowisko Miejskie, ul. Gzichowska, 42-500 Będzin

**Host:** Romuald Baran, eco-manager of the Municipality of Będzin



**How can we give everyday items a second life, reduce waste, and support the principles of the circular economy?** Participants of the event “EcoSwap. Things in Good Hands,” held on 1 June 2025 at the Municipal Marketplace in Będzin, found out first-hand. Organised as part of the LIFE project “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored,” the initiative was an official Partner Event of the EU Green Week and took place under the patronage of Poland’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ACTION

The event was hosted by **Romuald Baran**, eco-manager of the Municipality of **Będzin**. With nearly **950 attendees**, the turnout confirmed strong local interest in environmentally conscious living. Three themed exchange zones were created at the market:

- **Book Zone** – a space for exchanging books for both children and adults. Visitors brought their finished reads and selected new titles, giving each book a chance to be enjoyed again.
- **Plant & Seedling Zone** – visitors exchanged potted plants, flower and herb seedlings, and even seeds. Gardening enthusiasts also received tips on eco-friendly plant care and sustainable gardening.
- **Toy Zone** – children and parents swapped toys, puzzles, and board games, bringing joy to new owners and promoting more responsible consumption habits.

## EDUCATION, COMMUNITY AND LESS WASTE

The EcoSwap was not only an ecological event but also a social one. The act of exchanging items created **opportunities for community integration, knowledge-sharing**, and mutual inspiration toward sustainable choices. Each swapped book, plant, or toy meant one less item in the waste stream and one more example of **mindful consumption**.

The event also served as an opportunity for **environmental education**. Attendees learned how daily purchasing decisions impact the environment and how small lifestyle changes can make a significant difference—for nature and for the urban living environment.



## SIMPLE ACTIONS, REAL IMPACT

“EcoSwap. Things in Good Hands” proved that the **circular economy** is within everyone's reach—regardless of age, income or background. This initiative brought together **ecology, social solidarity and individual responsibility** in one accessible, hands-on experience.











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## TrashArt – Creativity Without Limits!

In the Land of Color and Scent



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Jastrzębie-Zdrój

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# TRASHART – CREATIVITY WITHOUT LIMITS! IN THE LAND OF COLOR AND SCENT



**When:** 1 June 2025

**Where:** Szkoła Podstawowa nr 17 im. Jana Brzechwy, ul. Ks. E. Płonki 23, Jastrzębie-Zdrój

**Host:** Edyta Garlińska, eco-manager of the City of Jastrzębie-Zdrój





## WASTE? NO – ARTISTIC RESOURCES!

The competition was organized by the **Anti-Smog Team** operating at the school, with the idea supported by the eco-manager of the City of Jastrzębie-Zdrój – **Edyta Garlińska**. Students from grades 4 to 8 submitted a total of 23 entries, all made from recyclable materials.

The aim of the competition was to **promote the concept of a circular economy**, foster pro-environmental attitudes, and show that recycling can be a source of creative expression.

## IN THE LAND OF COLOR AND SCENT

Can waste become a work of art? The “TrashArt – Creativity Without Limits!” competition proved that it can! Organized on the occasion of Children’s Day at Primary School No. 17 named after Jan Brzechwa in Jastrzębie-Zdrój, it was a true **celebration of imagination, ecology, and community engagement**.



## AWARDED ENTRIES – EACH PROJECT DESERVED ATTENTION

The jury – composed of the school principal, the eco-manager, the supervisor of the School Anti-Smog Team (a geography teacher), and two members of the Anti-Smog Team – was supported by eighth-grade students and faced a difficult decision.

A total of **eight works were awarded**: three students received main prizes, four entries received honorable mentions, and a **special award** was given to the creator of the **recycled-material dress**.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS AND SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

The competition results were announced during a general school assembly attended by around **250 students**. It was a **moment of pride and joy** not only for the winners but also for all participants involved in this colorful event.

The competition was part of the school's **Children's Day** celebrations, and its grand finale was marked by the official opening of the new educational space "Outdoor Classroom – In the Land of Color and Scent," which combines **nature contact with modern ecological education**.



## ART THAT TEACHES AND INSPIRES

"TrashArt – Creativity Without Limits!" was much more than a school competition – it was a **hands-on ecology lesson**, a spark for imagination, and an invitation to think in the spirit of zero waste. Thanks to initiatives like this, children learn that **environmental responsibility can go hand in hand with fun and artistic expression**.













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## EcoCycle in the City: A Walk Full of Discoveries



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# ECOCYCLE IN THE CITY – AN EDUCATIONAL WALK INTO THE WORLD OF RECYCLING

**When:** 2 czerwca 2025

**Where:** Szkoła Podstawowa Nr 2, ul. Szkolna 6, Czeladź (start)

**Host:** Henryk Michalski, eco-manager of the Municipality of Czeladź





**What happens to waste** after it leaves our homes? What does its second life look like in a **circular economy system**?

These were some of the questions answered during the **educational walk** “EcoCycle in the City – A Walk Full of Discoveries” attended by fourth-grade students from Primary School No. 2 in Czeladź. The event took place on 2 June 2025 as part of the European Union Green Week and under the patronage of Poland’s Presidency of the Council of the EU.

## LEARNING THROUGH EXPERIENCE

The initiative was organised in cooperation with Primary School No. 2, and the event host was the Municipality of Czeladź’s eco-manager, **Henryk Michalski**. The highlight of the programme was a visit to the **Municipal Selective Waste Collection Point (PSZOK) in Czeladź**.

During the walk, students observed **how waste is received, sorted and processed**. They learned which materials can be recycled and which require special disposal methods. Seeing the PSZOK in operation gave them a clear understanding of the **importance of proper waste segregation in everyday life**.

## A SECOND LIFE FOR WASTE – FROM TRASH TO RESOURCE

“EcoCycle in the City” helped participants realise that waste is not the end, but rather the **beginning of a new lifecycle**. Properly sorted waste can be processed and reused as raw material, which reduces the amount of garbage sent to landfills and conserves natural resources.

The visit was enriched by **discussions on the circular economy**, the importance of recycling, and **how the “zero waste” approach works in practice**. The students also saw real examples of recycled materials and learned about the process of **transforming waste into new products**.



## WASTE AND AIR QUALITY

The event also addressed the **impact of waste on air quality**. Students discovered that **illegal waste burning** is a major source of **harmful pollutants in the air**. This helped them understand that responsible waste segregation and using official collection systems is also a way to **protect the environment and public health**.







## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN ACTION

The educational walk in Czeladź is a great example of **learning through experience**. This visit to the PSZOK gave students a practical understanding of **how the circular economy works** and demonstrated that ecology starts with the everyday choices we make at home.













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## Oxford Debate: Ecology – Trend or Necessity? Circular Economy in Practice



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# OXFORD-STYLE DEBATE IN ŻORY: ECOLOGY – TREND OR NECESSITY?



**When:** 2 June 2025

**Where:** "Kino na Starówce" ul. Tadeusza Kościuszki 3, Żory

**Host:** Joanna Szerzyńska-Grabowska, eco-manager of the Municipality of Żory





## STRONG ARGUMENTS LEAD TO VICTORY

Following a high-level, engaging debate, the team from ZS nr 2 emerged victorious. Under the guidance of **Mateusz Huk**, the winning team included: **Kinga Zniszczoł, Martyna Kozieł, Alicja Grzyb and Patrycja Kalinowska**.

Their arguments impressed both the audience and the judging panel:

- **Joanna Szerzyńska-Grabowska** – eco-manager,
- **Anna Buchta** – Head of the Environmental Engineering Department,
- **Dominik Krusberski** – Head of the Education Department.

## DEBATE AS A TOOL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Oxford-style debating not only sharpens rhetorical skills and critical thinking but also **promotes respectful dialogue and constructive disagreement**. The topic of the circular economy was addressed with clarity and thoughtfulness, encouraging the audience to consider whether ecological action is today's imperative or simply social fashion.

**Is ecology just a passing trend, or an urgent necessity arising from real environmental challenges?** This was the central question explored during the Oxford-style debate held on 31 May 2025 at the “Na Starówce” cinema in Żory. The debate was hosted by the **Municipality of Żory** and led by local eco-manager **Joanna Szerzyńska-Grabowska** as part of the LIFE project “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored.”

## YOUNG MINDS DEBATING CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The intellectual contest featured two teams:

- **Karol Miarka High School (I LO) in Żory,**
- **School Complex No. 2 (ZS nr 2) named after Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner.**

The central topic: **Ecology – fashion or necessity?** Circular economy in practice.

Moderated by **Agnieszka Kraińska**, educator and editor-in-chief of **Radio Żory**, the debate challenged students to tackle issues such as environmental law, climate-conscious consumer behavior, circular economy solutions and the roles of individuals versus industry in environmental responsibility.







## RECOGNITION AND WHAT'S NEXT

Each participant received eco-themed prizes and gift vouchers, while the winning school was awarded an air purifier – a symbolic and practical gesture to support better indoor air quality. The ZS nr 2 team will now represent Żory in the next round of regional Oxford-style debates in the western subregion of the Silesian Voivodeship.





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## Recycling Through Posters. In the Land of Color and Scent



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Jastrzębie-Zdrój

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# RECYCLING IN POSTERS. IN THE LAND OF COLOR AND SCENT



**When:** 2 – 14 June 2025

**Where:** Szkoła Podstawowa nr 17 im. Jana Brzechwy, ul. Ks. E. Płonki 23, Jastrzębie-Zdrój

**Host:** Edyta Garlińska, eco-manager of the Municipality of Jastrzębie-Zdrój

A visual arts competition entitled “Recycling in Posters” was held at Jan Brzechwa Primary School No. 17 in **Jastrzębie-Zdrój** to celebrate **Children’s Day**. The initiative, prepared by the **School Anti-Smog Team**, aimed to encourage students to reflect on **environmental protection and promote the idea of a circular economy**. Eight entries were submitted to the competition, created using various techniques. Pupils from grades 4 to 8 presented their visions of a world where **recycling saves the planet’s resources, improves air quality, and reduces waste**. Each artwork carried an important message and proved that art can be a tool for education and raising social awareness.



## THE JURY, VERDICT, AND EMOTIONS

The competition was overseen by a five-member jury, including the school's principal, eco-manager Edyta Garlińska, the geography teacher – supervisor of the School Anti-Smog Team, and two student representatives from the team. The jury was supported by eighth-grade students who actively took part in the discussion about the submitted entries.

Among the works submitted, four winners were selected. Their posters stood out not only for their creativity and aesthetics but above all for the strength of their message. The winners received small gifts, and their works were presented during a school assembly.

## FINALE WITH THE ENTIRE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

**The competition results were announced during a general school assembly** attended by around 250 students. The competition was preceded by a preparatory stage involving 55 students. The event not only promoted pro-environmental attitudes but also brought the **school community together around important topics related to air quality and environmental protection.**





## OPENING OF THE OPEN-AIR CLASSROOM

The best **posters were exhibited during the official opening of the Open-Air Classroom “In the Land of Color and Scent”** – a new educational space at the school designed to foster creativity, conduct ecological classes, and host workshops. The ceremony was combined with an **educational picnic**, where students participated in **games and activities related to recycling**.

## EDUCATION THROUGH ART

The “Recycling in Posters. In the Land of Color and Scent” competition showed that even the youngest students are capable of **understanding and expressing complex environmental issues**. Using images and symbols, young artists drew attention to the **effects of overconsumption** and the **need to reuse raw materials**. This event became not only an opportunity for creative fun but also a valuable lesson in ecological responsibility – both for students and for the entire school community.







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## Art from Recovery: Creative Recycling Exhibition. In the Land of Color and Scent



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jastrzębie-Zdrój

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# EXHIBITION „ART FROM RECOVERY. CREATIVE RECYCLING. IN THE LAND OF COLOR AND FRAGRANCE”



**When:** 2 - 14 June 2025

**Where:** Szkoła Podstawowa nr 17 im. Jana Brzechwy, ul. Ks. E. Płonki 23, Jastrzębie-Zdrój

**Host:** Edyta Garlińska, eco-manager of the Municipality of Jastrzębie-Zdrój



On June 6, 2025, a unique exhibition titled “Art from Recovery” took place at Primary School No. 17 named after Jan Brzechwa in **Jastrzębie-Zdrój**. The event accompanied the ceremonial opening of the school’s **new outdoor eco-classroom**: “In the Land of Color and Fragrance”. It was organized by the **School Anti-Smog Team** in cooperation with the **Student Council** and under the **guidance of teachers**. The initiative was an official Partner Event of the European Union's Green Week and held under the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2025. The host of the event was **Edyta Garlińska**, eco-manager of the **Jastrzębie-Zdrój Municipality**. Among the invited guests were representatives of the **Voivodeship Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Katowice**, the **Jastrzębie-Zdrój City Hall**, and **directors of several local schools**. The exhibition and the event attracted around 70 participants.

## CREATIVITY AND ECOLOGY COME TOGETHER

The exhibition presented the winning works of the school **competitions for ecological posters** and so-called “trash art” – creative pieces made from recycled materials. Students used plastic, paper, glass, and fabric to craft **objects of everyday use and spatial installations that highlighted the issues of overproduction of waste and the need to change our consumption habits**.

The ecological posters, showcased both at the event and in the school website slider, promoted environmentally responsible behaviors such as recycling, resource conservation, and conscious purchasing. The students' creativity built a **strong visual narrative** encouraging viewers to reflect on how everyday choices impact the environment and air quality.





## OPENING OF THE ECO-CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL-WIDE MOBILIZATION

The event also marked the official opening of the new open-air eco-classroom: “In the Land of Color and Fragrance”. In celebration, the school community engaged in various additional activities. For instance, class 7a created an **environmental vocabulary poster** in English using paper recycled from old tests and worksheets and pens found abandoned in classrooms over the years. Meanwhile, students in grades I–III participated in an **ecological poetry recitation contest**.

The initiative of the **School Anti-Smog Team** sparked a snowball effect—students, teachers, parents, and external institutions joined in, and the entire school came together to celebrate Green Week, proving that local efforts can have **significant impact**.

## RECYCLING AS INSPIRATION AND A TOOL FOR EDUCATION

“Art from Recovery” showed **how artistic expression can support environmental education and promote circular economy principles**. The exhibition not only showcased student creativity but also **raised awareness about responsible waste management**. It demonstrated that even seemingly useless objects can become carriers of meaningful, beautiful, and educational messages.















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## R as Recycling. Giving Waste a Second Life.

*Photo Contest*



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# PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF WYRY PROMOTES CREATIVITY, ECOLOGY, AND CLEAN AIR



**When:** 2 - 18 June 2025

**Where:** Urząd Gminy Wyry, Główna 133, 43-175 Wyry

**Host:** Halina Płoneczka, eco-manager of the Municipality of Wyry



From June 2 to 18, 2025, the **Municipality of Wry** hosted a unique photography contest titled “R for Recycling – Giving Waste a Second Life”, organized by eco-manager **Halina Płoneczka**. The initiative aimed to **raise environmental awareness** about the **circular economy** and inspire residents to **creatively reuse household waste**.

But this wasn't just another lesson on ecology. The participants approached the topic with **imagination and enthusiasm**. Toys, games, and bags made from plastic caps, old jeans, and used packaging surprised everyone with their ingenuity and quality. Each submitted photograph told a different story – one in which trash becomes treasure when viewed from the right perspective.

## PLAY ECOGAMES AND CATCH A BOTTLE DUCK

The culmination of the initiative was a **family picnic** at the Primary School in Gostyń, where a special booth was set up featuring games made almost entirely from waste. Visitors could play ecochess, eco tic-tac-toe, test their strength with straw jellyfish, and check their aim in mini basketball. All the props were made from cardboard, caps, bottles, and other items that would usually end up in the bin.





It was **environmental education** at its best – children had a blast, and adults were surprised at how easy it was to make something useful out of seemingly useless materials. And how tricky it can be... to sort waste correctly. During the picnic, workshops on waste segregation revealed that theory doesn't always match practice – but **together, everything was sorted out as it should be.**

## RECYCLING THAT HELPS CLEAN THE AIR

The contest and picnic weren't only educational, but also carried a **deeper environmental message**. The organizers emphasized that **recycling and reuse aren't just about aesthetics or saving money – they're also a real contribution to improving air quality**. Waste burning in home stoves and poor segregation practices remain serious issues in many places. These actions release harmful substances into the atmosphere, harming people every day. By showing that waste can be a resource, the event in Wiry promoted a circular economy that doesn't end at the landfill.



**R jak recykling, czyli drugie życie odpadów**  
Konkurs fotograficzny.

**Zapraszamy do udziału w konkursie wszystkich mieszkańców, zarówno tych małych, jak i dużych**

Co należy zrobić, aby wziąć udział w konkursie?

- wykonać pracę z odpadów, dając im drugie życie,
- zrobić z zdjęcia wykonanej pracy,
- wysłać zdjęcia pracy drogą elektroniczną wraz z wypełnionym formularzem zgłoszeniowym dostępnym na stronie [www.wiry.pl](http://www.wiry.pl) lub pod linkiem [R-jak-recykling, czyli drugie życie odpadów \(formularz\)](http://R-jak-recykling-czyli-drugie-zycie-odpadow-formularz)
- termin nadsyłania zgłoszeń: od 2 do 18 czerwca 2025 r.,
- na zwycięzców czekają nagrody rzeczowe!

Regulamin konkursu dostępny na stronie [www.wiry.pl](http://www.wiry.pl) lub w UG Wiry, ul. Główna 133, 43-175 Wiry (pokój nr 3).

Organizator konkursu: Gmina Wiry. Celem konkursu jest promowanie idei recyklingu i oszczędności.





## INSPIRATION FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY



The best contest entries will be **published in the local monthly “Wicie”**, to inspire others in the community to think and act more ecologically. Because anyone can become a recycling ambassador – all it takes is willingness.





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## Exhibition: Waste That Inspires



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# "WASTE THAT INSPIRES" – ART, EDUCATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

**When:** 2 - 30 June 2025

**Where:** Szkoła Podstawowa Nr 2, ul. Szkolna 6, Czeladź

**Host:** Henryk Michalski, eco-manager of the Municipality of Czeladź



From June 2 to 30, 2025, Primary School No. 2 in Czeladź hosted the **inspiring exhibition “Waste That Inspires”**, held as part of the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project. The event, organized by **Henryk Michalski**, eco-manager of the **Municipality of Czeladź**, combined art workshops with an educational exhibition created by the **School Anti-Smog Team**.



## TURNING WASTE INTO ART

The students learned that waste doesn't have to end up in landfills — it can become a medium for **artistic expression and environmental reflection**. During the workshops, they worked with recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, textiles, metal, packaging, and everyday objects to create original, unique artworks. The aim was not only to raise ecological awareness but also to inspire children to act, showing them that even the youngest members of society can help **protect the environment by rethinking how we treat waste**.



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ACTION

Through creativity and hands-on experience, **students explored the principles of the circular economy.**

They learned why it is essential to **reduce waste, reuse materials, and avoid burning garbage** — especially in household furnaces, which contributes significantly to **air pollution and health hazards.**

The workshops demonstrated that education can be effective when combined with creativity, imagination, and action. The students not only created something with their own hands but also gained knowledge and a sense of agency in **building a greener future.**







## FOUR ARTISTIC FORMS, ONE POWERFUL MESSAGE

The students' work was displayed in a wide range of artistic formats:

- **Eco-sculptures** – 3D art created from repurposed everyday items;
- **Educational posters** – illustrating the journey of waste from disposal to reuse;
- **Mini-models of circular cities of the future** – visions of a zero-waste world;
- **Spatial installations** – showing the environmental impact of excessive waste production and poor air quality.

Each piece carried a strong message: **waste can be reborn as something beautiful and meaningful.**



## SMALL ACTS, BIG IMPACT

“Waste That Inspires” wasn't just an exhibition — it was a **lesson in responsibility and change.**

It showed that what we throw away can be transformed, and that even **small everyday actions can make a big difference for the planet.**

Everyone can be a creator of change — all it takes is a bit of imagination and the will to act.







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## Composting and Observing Compost Soil

Lecture for Children



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# COMPOSTING FROM THE GROUND UP: CHILDREN IN GODÓW DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF COMPOST SOIL



**When:** 3 June 2025

**Where:** Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna w Godowie, ul. 1 Maja 18

**Host:** **Magdalena Kopeć**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Godów





On June 3, 2025, the **Municipality of Godów** joined the celebrations of the EU Green Week by organizing an exceptional **ecological workshop for children**. The event, held at the **Godów Public Library**, focused on composting as an essential part of the circular economy.

The workshop, led by local eco-manager **Magdalena Kopeć**, demonstrated that even the **youngest members of the community** can contribute to **environmental protection**. The children learned what compost is, how to build a home compost bin, what materials can and cannot be composted, and how organic waste can be transformed into a valuable resource – natural fertilizer that supports soil health and reduces methane emissions.

## FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE – HANDS-ON COMPOSTING

After the theoretical introduction, participants moved on to **practical tasks**. Together with the facilitator, they selected a site for a compost bin and filled it with freshly cut grass and biodegradable waste from their healthy sandwich preparations. Next, the **children observed real compost soil** – its smell, structure, and tiny inhabitants, such as **earthworms**, which play a crucial role in the decomposition process.

Each child also **created a mini compost observation jar** to take home, allowing them to continue observing the composting process. In the creative section of the workshop, the children decorated paper bags and painted stones, **combining environmental education with artistic expression**.

## ECOLOGY AND THE STORY OF FRANCISZEK FROM THE COMPOST

The workshop concluded with a **reading of “Franciszek from the Compost”**, a charming tale that linked ecology with the discovery of personal strengths. The story complemented the day’s activities by showing **how nature can inspire and teach valuable life lessons**.



## COMPOSTING – MORE THAN JUST RECYCLING

This engaging and educational event proved that composting is not only a way to reduce waste but also a **practical tool for improving air quality and protecting the climate**. By limiting biodegradable waste in landfills, we reduce harmful methane emissions – **a win for both people and the planet**.















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**Don't Throw Away,  
Don't Burn, Don't Waste:  
Composting Workshops**



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# DON'T BURN, DON'T WASTE, DON'T THROW AWAY – COMPOSTING WORKSHOP IN MSZANA

**When:** 3 June 2025

**Where:** Gminny Ośrodek Kultury i Rekreacji w Mszanie, ul. Mickiewicza 92

**Host:** Janusz Piechoczek, eco-manager of the Municipality of Mszana



**How can we reduce organic waste at home** and at the same time enrich the soil with valuable nutrients? Participants of the composting workshop held on 3 June 2025 in the **Municipal Centre of Culture and Recreation in Mszana** found out just how. The event was led by eco-manager **Janusz Piechoczek**.

## COMPOSTING – PRACTICAL ECOLOGY IN ACTION

During the two-hour workshop, participants gained hands-on knowledge about **how to safely and effectively process organic waste in a home setting**. The session was led by **Karina Krasoń**, senior agricultural advisor at the **Plant Production Technology and Experimental Department of the Silesian Agricultural Advisory Centre in Częstochowa** (Mikołów Branch).

Key topics included:

- **Why composting matters** – how composting reduces landfill waste, lowers greenhouse gas emissions and improves air quality.
- **Types of compost** – differences between acidic and alkaline compost and how to use each in gardening.
- **How to set up and maintain a compost bin** – tips on placement, ventilation, moisture and ingredient balance.
- **Using Californian red worms** – boosting the composting process naturally and efficiently.
- **Applying finished compost** – as fertilizer for lawns, flower beds, vegetable gardens and potted plants.



## WASTE AS A RESOURCE – CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN PRACTICE

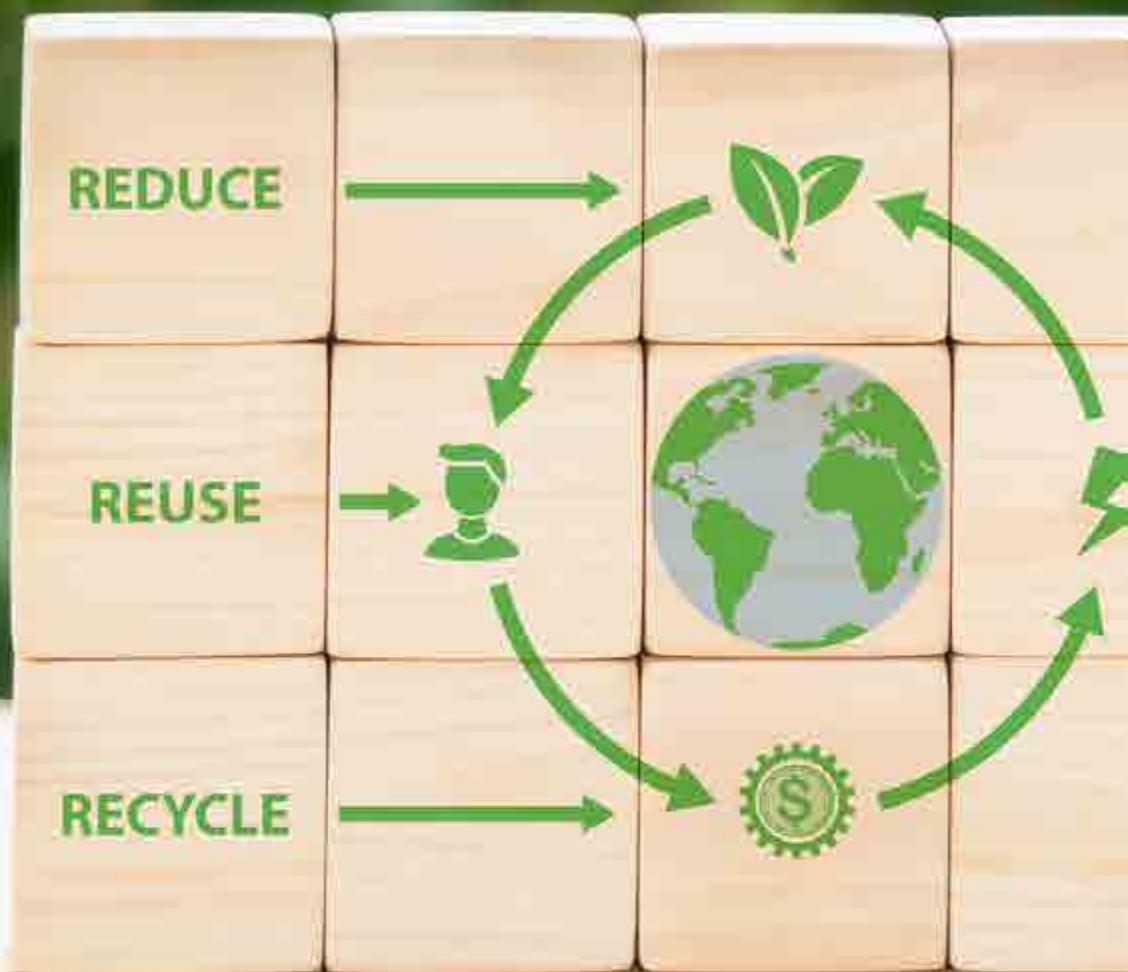
Composting is a tangible **example of the circular economy** in everyday life. Instead of sending organic waste to landfills or incinerators, it can return to the soil as a valuable, natural fertilizer. This simple practice **reduces household waste, supports healthy soil and cuts harmful emissions**.

## LESS WASTE, MORE KNOWLEDGE

Fifteen local residents attended the workshop, eager to **bring real change to their homes and communities**. The event offered a platform to share experiences and learn practical skills for managing organic waste more sustainably.



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# Circular Week

A Digital Educational Campaign



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# CIRCULAR WEEK IN PSARY – DIGITAL EDUCATION FOR THE CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR

**When:** 3 - 5 June 2025

**Where:** website of the Municipality of Psary

**Gospodyni:** **Barbara Rozdzińska**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Psary



Once again, the **Municipality of Psary** has taken action in support of sustainable development by joining the European Union's Green Week initiative. This time, the focus was on **digital education**, through an online information and **awareness campaign titled “Circular Week.”**

The campaign, prepared entirely in digital format by the municipal eco-manager **Barbara Rożdżińska**, aimed to introduce residents to the principles of the circular economy, recycling, and conscious consumption, while highlighting how everyday choices affect the environment and air quality.

## SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY: PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR EVERYONE

For four days, from 2 to 5 June 2025, residents were invited to visit the **municipal website daily** to discover new content on the circular economy, recycling, sustainable consumption, and their connection to air quality.

The campaign featured four educational articles:

- **“Psary in the Circle of a Better Climate”** – an introduction to the circular economy and an invitation to participate in EU Green Week activities,
- **“Circular Economy – a Future with the Environment in Mind”** – an overview of circular economy benefits and innovative resource management solutions,
- **“Sustainable Development – the Key to a Better Future”** – an emphasis on the importance of responsible natural resource use,
- **“Recycling and Reuse – Small Actions, Big Impact”** – practical advice on how every resident can take action for the climate, starting today.

Among the materials were also an **interactive quiz** and a **guide on how to reduce waste**, sort it properly, and make use of the right to repair.





# CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CLEAN AIR

A special emphasis was placed on the **link between the circular economy and air quality**. The campaign raised **awareness that burning waste, poor segregation, and mismanagement of secondary materials directly lead to the emission of harmful substances into the atmosphere**. Educating residents in this area is not only an

investment in awareness but also a concrete contribution to improving the environment and the health of the local community.

Thanks to the campaign, Psary residents were able to understand how their habits – **from shopping choices to waste sorting** – can significantly impact the condition of the environment.

Circular Week provided not just information but also inspiration. It showed that even small individual steps – reducing plastic use, choosing recycled products, or avoiding disposable packaging – matter greatly on both a local and global scale. The campaign also stressed the importance of collective effort – both from residents and institutions – in implementing circular economy principles in daily life.

## PSARY IN THE EUROPEAN LOOP

Circular Week in Psary was officially recognized as a Partner Event of the European Union's Green Week and received the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2025. This recognition proves that local initiatives can align with broader **European strategies for environmental and climate protection**.

The campaign, led by eco-manager **Barbara Rożdżińska**, demonstrated that online education can be a **powerful tool for shaping pro-environmental attitudes**. Thanks to her work, the residents of Psary received a set of practical tools and ideas for taking everyday action to protect the environment.





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## The Great Circle of Things: Swap, Don't Shop!



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Voivodeship



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# THE GREAT CIRCLE OF THINGS IN GODÓW. SWAP, DON'T SHOP!



**When:** 3 - 5 June 2025

**Where:** Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna w Godowie, ul. 1 Maja 18

**Host:** **Magdalena Kopeć**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Godów

Between June 3rd and 5th, 2025, the **Godów Municipal Public Library** became a hub for sharing, exchanging and environmentally responsible thinking. The initiative **"The Great Circle of Things. Swap, don't shop!"** organized by eco-manager **Magdalena Kopeć** as part of the EU Green Week, encouraged residents to give their unwanted but still usable items a second life instead of buying new ones. The initiative had already begun in April and culminated in a final summary on June 5th.



The idea behind the event was simple: **let items circulate instead of ending up in landfills**. Local residents brought **books, puzzles, toys, plants, games, and other small usable objects** to the library – all in good condition but no longer needed. In return, they could take home something new to them, free of charge and waste-free. A special room was set up in the library for this purpose, and it quickly became a **lively spot for daily exchanges and spontaneous conversations**. The shelves filled and emptied constantly, showcasing the **power of community and circular economy in action**.

This reuse initiative demonstrated that such simple actions can meaningfully **reduce waste and limit the consumption** of natural resources and energy otherwise used to produce new goods. Less purchasing means fewer emissions, which directly contributes to **better air quality** – a key environmental concern of the project.

"The Great Circle of Things" was more than just swapping items – it was about **changing consumption habits and mindset**. It encouraged people to view the items around them differently: not as waste, but as potential value. Instead of throwing away – donate. Instead of buying – swap. These small actions are crucial steps toward a circular, sustainable society.

Once again, EU Green Week in Godów showed that **ecological initiatives can unite generations and inspire real, local action for the planet**.





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## BookLoop: Book Exchange Fair



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# LIBRARY IN CIRCULATION – STUDENT BOOK SWAP IN RADLIN

**When:** 4 June 2025

**Where:** Szkoła Podstawowa nr 1 Adama Mickiewicza, ul. Makuszyńskiego 17, Radlin

**Host:** **Maria Cieślik**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Radlin



On June 4, 2025, the courtyard of Primary School No. 1 named after Adam Mickiewicz in Radlin became the setting for a special event celebrating the Silesian Green Week. Under the slogan “Library in Circulation – Student Book Swap”, students and teachers came together to **promote sustainability through reading**. The event was hosted by **Maria Cieřlik**, eco-manager of the **Radlin Municipality**.



**In the shade of chestnut trees, students brought books they had already read and exchanged them for new titles.** The event drew many young readers who eagerly shared their favorite books, giving them a second life. The initiative applied **circular economy principles to culture**, proving that literature can also circulate and be reused without the need for constant consumption.

## **BOOKS IN MOTION – WITH PURPOSE AND HEART**

**Older students played an active role by reading ecological stories to their younger peers**, sparking conversations about nature, responsibility, and environmental protection.



## ECOLOGICAL WORKSHOPS AND KNOWLEDGE QUIZZES

As part of the event, fourth-grade students participated in **ecological workshops** led by **Władysława Rduch, Head of the Ecology Department**, and **Maria Cieślik, eco-manager** of the LIFE “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project. The students learned about **waste segregation, responsible consumption, and how to reduce everyday waste**. At the end, a fun quiz tested their newly acquired knowledge of recycling and environmental care.

## BOOK SWAP SHELF – LITERATURE IN CONSTANT CIRCULATION

Thanks to the initiative of **Małgorzata Bąk-Wala**, a special **Book Swap Shelf** was introduced in the school's common room. Anyone can leave a finished book and take a new one – no registration, no codes, just a shared love for reading and a willingness to give books a second life. The **shelf has become a symbol of circular sharing** and a respect for resources within the school community.

## READING AS PART OF A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE

“Library in Circulation” demonstrated that books, like other resources, can be part of a circular model. Sharing them not only **reduces waste but also inspires conversations about the environmental impact of paper production and air quality**. Students, teachers, and parents all took part, proving that culture and education can play a powerful role in environmental action.





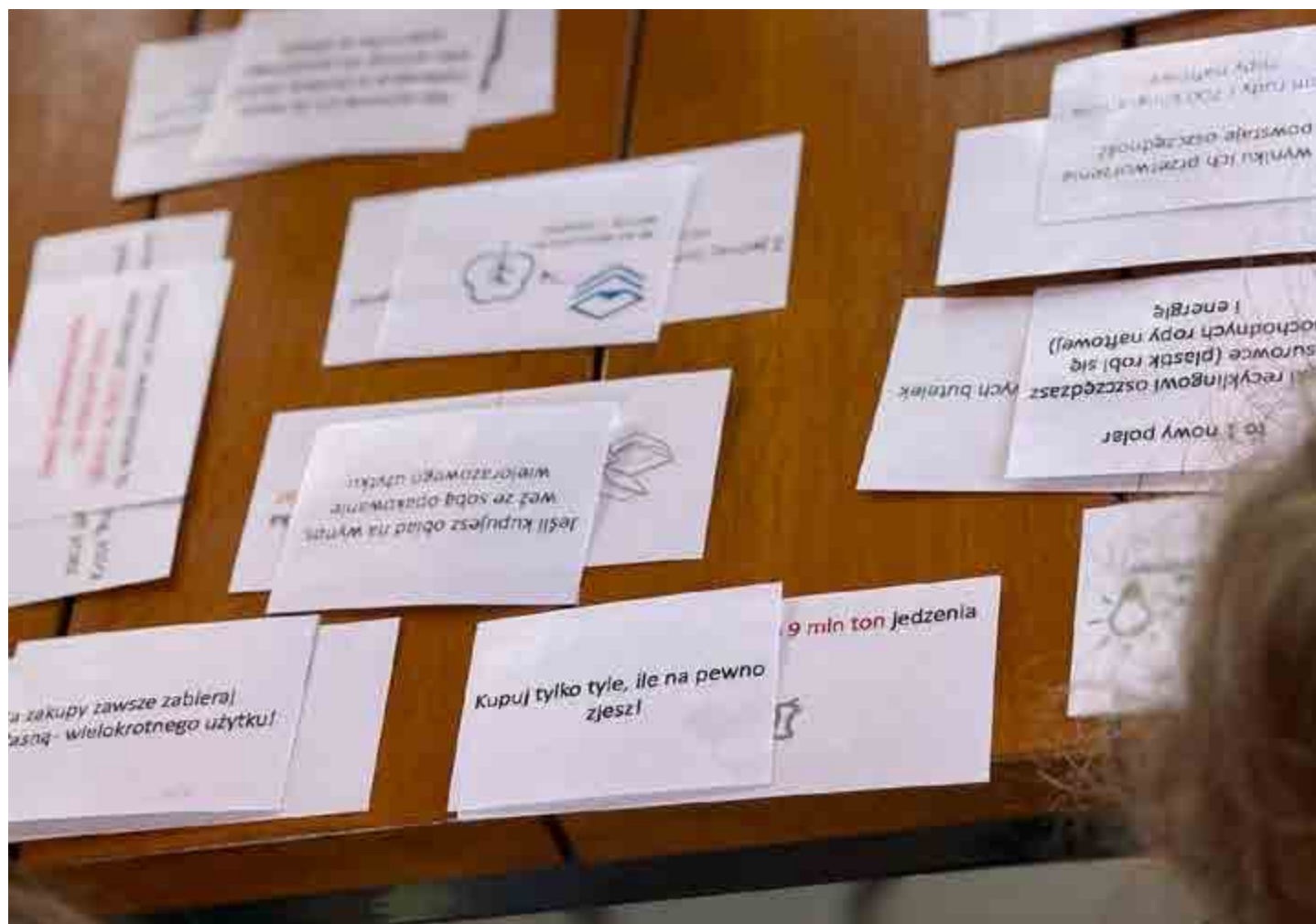
















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# Composting and Setting Up a Compost Bin

Workshop for Adults



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# COMPOSTING IN PRACTICE – EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS IN GODÓW

**When:** 4 June 2025

**Where:** Gminna Biblioteka Publiczna w Godowie, ul. 1 Maja 18

**Host:** **Magdalena Kopec**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Godów



**Composting is one of the simplest and most effective ways to reduce organic waste and improve soil quality.** As part of the European Union's Green Week celebrations, an educational workshop devoted entirely to this topic took place at the **Municipal Public Library in Godów.**

On June 4, 2025, eco-manager **Magdalena Kopeć** led a **lecture and hands-on workshop for adult residents** interested in introducing sustainable practices into their gardens and households. The event was part of the "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored" project and held under the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The session began with a lecture titled **"How to Compost and Set Up a Compost Bin"**, during which participants learned about different types of composters – from garden piles to home bins – as well as the principles of effective composting and common mistakes to avoid.

Following the lecture, an **open discussion** took place, giving participants the opportunity to ask questions, share **personal experiences**, and explore **the best composting solutions for their individual needs.**

The group also discussed how the right selection of compost materials influences the quality of the resulting compost and the **role of microorganisms in the decomposition process.**

Special emphasis was placed on the link between composting and air quality. **Organic waste disposed of in landfills emits methane** – one of the most potent greenhouse gases. Through composting, this emission can be significantly reduced, **lowering our carbon footprint** and **positively impacting the climate.**

The event also included a summary of a recent item exchange initiative, which had attracted considerable local interest. A discussion on the **5R principle (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot)** emphasized the importance of conscious **consumer choices** and encouraged participants to **adopt circular economy principles** in everyday life.

This workshop demonstrated that composting is not just a **practical method for reducing waste**, but a powerful ecological action with a real impact on the health of our planet. The meeting in Godów offered **valuable knowledge, an exchange of experiences, and inspiration to start a personal journey into natural recycling.**





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## Tarnowskie Góry Green Week with Theatre



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# THE POWER OF ECO-THEATRE. TARNOWSKIE GÓRY CELEBRATES GREEN WEEK WITH CHILDREN'S PERFORMANCES

**When:** 4 - 5 June 2025

**Where:** Tarnogórskie Centrum Kultury, ul. Jana III Sobieskiego 7, Tarnowskie Góry

**Host:** Marek Stebnicki, eco-manager of the Municipality of Tarnowskie Góry

On 4 and 5 June 2025, the **Tarnowskie Góry Cultural Centre** became a **stage for environmental education**, thanks to the event “Tarnogórski Green Week with Theatre”, organized by eco-manager **Marek Stebnicki** as part of the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project.

Over the course of **two engaging days**, more than **800 children and youth** from six local kindergartens and eight primary schools attended four performances, all focused on raising **awareness of environmental issues**.



## **“ESCAPE FROM THE ZOO” – AN ECOLOGICAL LESSON FOR THE YOUNGEST**

The youngest audiences enjoyed “Escape from the Zoo”, a **colourful and thought-provoking story** about animals fleeing a polluted zoo in search of a clean and safe place to live. Through this tale, **children learned about issues such as pollution, waste, and the destruction of natural habitats**. The show encouraged young viewers to reflect on their everyday choices and showed that even small changes in behaviour can help protect the environment.





## “A DREAM OF THE PLANET” – THEATRE FOR YOUTH WITH A MESSAGE

Older students watched the symbolic performance “A Dream of the Planet”, which tackled the **challenges of climate change, overconsumption, and environmental degradation**. The play highlighted the importance of circular economy principles, zero waste practices, and making conscious consumer choices. It also addressed how **air quality impacts health and wellbeing**, and why society must embrace innovative environmental solutions.





## EDUCATION THAT INSPIRES ACTION

“Tarnogórski Green Week with Theatre” demonstrated how **theatre can be a powerful tool for ecological education**. By combining information with emotion, the performances helped children and teens better **understand how their actions affect the planet**. The event proved that environmental education doesn’t have to be dry or technical—it can move, inspire, and empower the next generation to **care for the world** around them.







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## Green Exchange. Share a Seedling!



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Miasto  
Rydułtowy

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# GREEN EXCHANGE IN RYDUŁTOWY – SHARE A PLANT, GROW THE GREEN!



**When:** 5 June 2025

**Where:** Rydułtowskie Centrum Kultury FENIKS, ul. Strzelców Bytomskich 9a, Rydułtowy

**Host:** **Joanna Kosmala**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Rydułtowy





On June 5, 2025, the **Rydułtowy Cultural Center FENIKS** transformed into a vibrant green space filled with **ecological education, creativity, and joy**. The event “Green Exchange – Share a Plant!”, organized by **Joanna Kosmala**, eco-manager of the **Rydułtowy Municipality**, was held in celebration of **World Environment Day** and attracted over **500 participants**.

## PLANT SWAPPING AND A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN ECOLOGY

At the heart of the event was a **plant exchange**, where residents brought their own **seedlings, bulbs, and seeds to swap with others** – no cash involved, only a shared passion for greenery. Spider plants, ferns, and ivies found new homes, enriching home and urban gardens. The activity promoted **circular economy principles in gardening**, showing that plants don’t need to be wasted but can instead be reused and thrive again. The exchange helped **reduce the demand for commercially produced plants**, which translates into a lower carbon footprint from production and transport. It also strengthened local ecosystems and drew attention to the **role of plants in improving air quality**.

## KOKEDAMA, CHASE, AND PIECES OF SKY

The **kokedama workshops** – Japanese moss ball plant arrangements – were a hit. Residents of **Rydułtowy** demonstrated great creativity, crafting beautiful and unique plant spheres that impressed all attendees. At 5:00 PM, a special guest arrived – **Chase from Paw Patrol, the Air Quality Guardian**. His visit delighted children and parents alike. There were hugs, laughter, and photos galore, spreading pure canine joy. Guests also enjoyed cloud-shaped balloons and a 24-meter inflatable obstacle course that tested the agility and endurance of young adventurers. The cheerful, family-friendly atmosphere made the celebration even more meaningful.

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FROM AN EARLY AGE

The event offered engaging and age-appropriate **environmental education for children**, introducing them to **circular economy concepts, sustainable development, and mindful consumption**. Through hands-on activities and fun, kids learned to adopt environmentally friendly habits from an early age.



The “Green Exchange” was part of Rydułtowy’s broader **strategy to improve air quality and promote circular economy practices in daily life**.

The event inspired residents to take personal responsibility for the environment and showed that meaningful change begins with small, everyday choices.

## LOCAL ACTION, GLOBAL IMPACT









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## Wodzistaw Eco-Rally



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Miasto  
Wodzisław Śląski

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# EDUCATION, COMPETITION AND ECOLOGY: THE WODZISŁAW ECO-RALLY GOT YOUNG PEOPLE MOVING

**When:** 5 June 2025

**Where:** Rodzinny Park „Trzy Wzgórza”, ul. Franciszka Matuszczyka, Wodzisław Śląski (start)

**Host:** **Patrycja Janik**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Wodzisław Śląski

The Green Week in **Wodzisław Śląski** wrapped up on a high note. Nearly **140 students** took part in the Eco-Rally, which **combined sport, learning and fun — all with the environment in mind.**

On Thursday, 5 June 2025, the green areas of Wodzisław Śląski turned into a vibrant trail full of ecological challenges. The Wodzisław Eco-Rally, organised as part of the EU Green Week and the "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored" project, attracted around 140 participants – pupils and their teachers.

The event was hosted by **Patrycja Janik**, eco-manager of the **Municipality of Wodzisław Śląski**, who prepared a route that offered not only healthy competition but also a valuable lesson in environmental awareness.



## FUN WITH A MESSAGE

Teams set off from the “Three Hills” Family Park, embarking on a trail across the city’s green zones. Along the way, they encountered control points prepared by local schools and the eco-manager. Tasks **focused on ecology, nature conservation, clean air, sports and healthy lifestyles.** The competition was intense but friendly, fostering collaboration and curiosity.

At the finish line — located at the “Balaton” Recreation Centre — a variety of attractions awaited. The **"Pod Klonem" Hunting Association** presented a wildlife exhibit and organised a bonfire, while the **Beekeepers' Association of Gorzyce** invited participants to **explore beehives and taste honey.** Creative workshops allowed children to make badges and fridge magnets, and a water station and refreshments helped everyone recharge after the hike.





## WINNERS AND LASTING IMPACT

Primary School No. 28 came in first place, demonstrating the best results in the eco-tasks. Second place went to Primary School No. 2, and third place to Primary School No. 15. But for organisers, the **true victory lay in the new knowledge and skills that all participants took home.**

The Wodzisław Eco-Rally showed that environmental education can be engaging, joyful and effective. It provided a chance to **build community, foster a love of nature**, and strengthen pro-environmental attitudes among the younger generation.





































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## EcoMission: PSZOK SORCIK in Action



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# PSZOK SORCIK IN ACTION! EARTH DAY IN CHORZÓW FULL OF KNOWLEDGE, FUN, AND INSPIRATION



**When:** 5 - 6 June 2025

**Where:** PSZOK SORCIK, ul. Kaliny 1, Chorzów

**Host:** **Bartosz Kwiecień**, eco-manager  
of the Municipality of Chorzów





On June 5–6, 2025, the **Municipal Selective Waste Collection Point (PSZOK) SORCIK** at Kaliny 1 Street in Chorzów transformed into a **hub of environmental education**. As part of the LIFE project “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” and the EU Green Week, a special closed event titled “EcoMission: PSZOK SORCIK in Action!” was held to celebrate Earth Day.

Over two days, approximately **350 pupils** from grades 4–6 of local primary schools took part in meticulously organized sessions. Each class had a designated time slot, allowing for small-group interaction and hands-on learning. The workshop format promoted both knowledge retention and active participation.

## INTERACTIVE LEARNING ZONES AND ECO-ATTRACTIONS

The event’s program was rich and varied. Pupils engaged in activities such as:

- **A waste segregation station**, where instead of lectures, children practiced sorting by fishing magnet-equipped trash from a pool and categorizing it into the correct bins.
- **An air quality booth and a gas combustion demonstration**, conducted by eco-manager **Bartosz Kwiecień** and colleagues from the **Waste Management Department**.
- **Lectures on the role of trees** in air purification and climate regulation.
- **Workshops by the Silesian University of Technology**, focusing on innovative waste management solutions and sustainable technologies.
- **Workshops from the University of Silesia’s Institute of Materials Engineering**, highlighting the impact of industrial materials and circular approaches.
- **A live waste truck demonstration** by the **ALBA** company.
- **Circular economy-themed workshops** by the KOSZ Collective (Conscientious Waste Collectors) from the **Chorzów Youth Cultural Center**.







## PEER EDUCATION AND AN OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL CINEMA

A new feature this year was the involvement of students from Chorzów's Third Secondary School, who supported workshop leaders as peer mentors. This setup encouraged easier communication and learning among participants. The day also featured a screening in the **outdoor eco cinema**, showing a film about plastic recycling and the **journey of waste materials**.



## OUTDOOR GAME “AIR AND FORESTS” AND REFLECTION ON EVERYDAY HABITS

One of the most engaging elements was the **“Air and Forests” outdoor game**, during which pupils explored the links between air pollution and forest health. Through **interactive challenges**, they learned how daily habits — such as proper waste sorting or transport choices — directly affect local ecosystems.



## YOUNG ECO-LEADERS – FROM THE PSZOK TO A BETTER TOMORROW

“EcoMission: PSZOK SORCIK in Action!” proved that children and youth are not just learners but also **ambassadors of environmental change**. Events like this build awareness, shape positive habits, and inspire action — at school and at home. In Chorzów, **environmental education means action, not just theory** — and that’s what truly makes a difference.

















## Bike Rally "Circular Challenge"



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# CYCLING “CIRCULAR CHALLENGE” IN KRZANOWICE – ECOLOGY ON THE MOVE

**When:** 7 June 2025

**Where:** Izba Regionalna, ul. Wojska Polskiego 18, 47-470 Krzanowice

**Host:** **Katarzyna Gasilewska**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Krzanowice



On June 7, 2025, the town of **Krzanowice** hosted a family-friendly bike rally under the motto “Circular Challenge”, organized by **Katarzyna Gasilewska**, eco-manager of the **Krzanowice Municipality**. The event attracted **63 participants**.

The rally uniquely combined **physical activity with environmental education**. Participants – both individuals and teams – set out on a designated route, each equipped with a special map marking control points. At every stop, cyclists faced tasks related to circular economy principles, recycling, renewable resources, and air quality.

## FUN, LEARNING, AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION

Throughout the route, **cyclists solved ecological riddles** that tested their knowledge of resource reuse, waste reduction, and the right to repair. The challenges varied from quizzes to hands-on tasks that required **collaboration and creativity**. Final team scores were calculated based on the total points earned, and the highest-scoring teams received awards during the event finale.

## CYCLING AS A PATH TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The “Circular Challenge” aimed to promote **clean mobility and sustainable transport** choices. Cycling was presented as a viable and **healthy alternative to cars** – beneficial for people, the environment, and quality of life. Organizers emphasized that everyday transportation choices significantly impact air pollution levels and local air quality.





## PICNIC, CAMPFIRE, AND AWARDS

The event concluded with a **community picnic** at the finish line. Participants enjoyed a campfire and sweet refreshments, while organizers announced the results and distributed prizes to the top teams. The gathering served not only as a celebration but also as an opportunity to highlight the importance of **local engagement in environmental protection**.

The “Circular Challenge” bike rally proved to be a successful recreational event that also **promoted circular economy values, clean transport, and active lifestyles**.



















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## Circular Garden: How to Introduce Zero Waste Practices in Your Garden



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# THE CIRCULAR GARDEN – A HANDS-ON ZERO WASTE WORKSHOP IN THE ARBORETUM OF THE MORAVIAN GATE

**When:** 7 June 2025

**Where:** Arboretum Bramy Morawskiej, Markowicka 17, Racibórz

**Host:** Zuzanna Poprawka, eco-manager of the Municipality of Racibórz



How can you run a **garden without waste, chemicals, or excessive watering**, while improving local air quality? Participants of the “**Circular Garden: How to Apply Zero Waste Practices in Your Garden**” workshop, held on 7 June 2025 as part of the EU Green Week, found answers to these questions at the **Arboretum of the Moravian Gate** in **Racibórz**. The event was organized by eco-manager **Zuzanna Poprawka**, in cooperation with the arboretum team led by **director Elżbieta Skrzymowska**.



## PERMACULTURE – BUILDING CLIMATE-RESILIENT GARDENS

The first part of the **workshop introduced the concept of permaculture** – a sustainable gardening approach that mimics natural ecosystems. Topics included growing perennial plants, composting, mulching, using natural plant protection methods, and integrating animals into the garden's ecosystem. Participants learned that **permaculture reduces water usage, improves yields, and helps gardens adapt to climate change**.

They also toured the arboretum's “Useful Garden Beds”, designed according to permaculture principles. These beds feature **pollinator-friendly herbs, berry shrubs for birds, bee hotels for solitary species** like mason bees, ground-level bumblebee houses, and bird waterers, creating a thriving, balanced microhabitat.



## THE PERMACULTURE PLANTER – A CLOSED-LOOP GARDEN BED

In the second part of the event, **attendees created a model permaculture herb planter**. This type of raised bed consists of multiple layers: brushwood for drainage, cardboard, wood chips, and soil. This structure can be used for many years without the need for annual fertilization and offers natural resistance to pests such as slugs.

Herbs planted in the bed included **curry, rosemary, oregano, and marjoram**. All plants and garden tools were funded by the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project. The planter will remain as a permanent feature in the arboretum, showcasing sustainable garden design.





## NATURAL FERTILIZERS AND HOME RECYCLING

Participants also learned how to make **natural fertilizers from plants** like nettle and tansy and how to propagate plants at home without the need to buy new ones – by seed sowing, root division, and cutting propagation.

The workshop also covered **techniques for managing green waste and water more efficiently**, including composting, mulching, and plant selection tailored to soil needs. Special attention was given to the impact of gardening practices on air quality, emphasizing **how plant cover captures carbon dioxide and improves the microclimate**.

## EDUCATION ROOTED IN PRACTICE

The event gathered 16 participants, with the most engaged attendees receiving herb pots to take home and continue their **eco-gardening journey**. The session sparked many insightful questions and discussions, showing a strong interest in **ecological gardening** among Racibórz residents. It demonstrated that environmental education can be both hands-on and inspiring – and that **every garden can become a model of circular economy in action**.



















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## Don't Throw It Away – Get Creative!

Eco-Workshops for Seniors



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*gmina*  
**BOJSZOWY**

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# “DON’T THROW IT AWAY – GET CREATIVE!” SENIORS EMBRACE THE ZERO WASTE LIFESTYLE

**When:** 9 June 2025

**Where:** Centrum Usług Społecznych Senior+, Ruchu Oporu 100, 43-220 Bojszowy Nowe

**Host:** **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Bojszowy

In Bojszowy, seniors proved that zero waste isn't just a modern trend—it's a return to everyday practices they've known for decades. During the workshop "Don't Throw It Away – Get Creative!", held at the Senior+ Center, participants rediscovered how circular economy principles were once simply a part of life.



## A CONVERSATION THAT SPANNED GENERATIONS

Led by **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of **Bojszowy**, the workshop was more than a learning experience—it became an intergenerational discussion full of warmth, humor, and wisdom. What emerged was a realization that the practices many seniors used during times of scarcity are now vital tools in combating today's environmental crises.

*"Zero waste isn't a revolution—it's a **return to our grandmothers' wisdom**. What used to be a necessity can now become a conscious choice for the planet,"* emphasized Joanna Dudek.

Participants shared stories of mended socks, patched trousers, and reusing newspaper as wrapping paper. The **group discussed recipes made from leftover food and creative ways to avoid plastic shopping bags**—proving that sustainable habits are far from new.

## THE 5R METHOD MADE SIMPLE

The workshop introduced the **5R concept—Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot**—and explored how each principle could be applied in daily life. Participants learned how to **reduce single-use plastics**, avoid overconsumption, and create new uses for old items.





## HANDS-ON SUSTAINABILITY

The practical part of the **session** invited seniors to **upcycle old clothes into reusable shopping bags**, repurpose glass jars into spice containers, and find new uses for unwanted materials. The workshop demonstrated that **eco-friendly living can be creative, cost-effective, and accessible to everyone**.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

**Reducing waste means cleaner air and a healthier environment**, especially in regions where domestic waste burning contributes to air pollution. A **zero waste lifestyle** also brings **financial savings** and builds a sense of **responsibility for future generations**.

Above all, the event proved that everyone can contribute to change—regardless of age. With just a bit of creativity and willingness, sustainable living becomes not only possible, but empowering.







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# We Give Books Wings



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# GIVING BOOKS WINGS – BOOK EXCHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN GLIWICE



**When:** 9 June 2025

**Where:** Park Grunwaldzki, ul. Zawiszy Czarnego, 44-100 Gliwice

**Host:** Katarzyna Raszewska, eco-manager of the Gliwice City

On June 9, 2025, Grunwaldzki Square in Gliwice transformed into a vibrant hub of environmental awareness and community engagement. The event titled “Giving Books Wings”, organized by **Katarzyna Raszkowska**, eco-manager of the **City of Gliwice**, in cooperation with the **Arka Environmental Foundation**, combined a **book exchange, fair, educational workshops, and circular economy promotion**.



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY MEETS LITERATURE

One of the key messages of the event was that **books can have a second life**. Instead of gathering dust on shelves or being discarded, they were given a new purpose – passed on to new readers during a **free public exchange and fair**.

The activity perfectly reflected the principles of the **circular economy, encouraging reuse and conscious consumption**.

At the same time, **ecological workshops and educational games** for children were held on-site. Young participants learned how to care for the environment, save natural resources, and reduce waste. Through **interactive play and teamwork-based challenges**, they discovered the basics of recycling, circularity, and sustainable habits in a fun, memorable way.





## INSPIRING CONSCIOUS CHOICES

For adults, an educational booth provided **information on circular economy practices, air quality protection, and available funding schemes for eco-friendly home improvements**. It offered practical tips on how individual actions can contribute to better air and a healthier environment.

**Katarzyna Raszowska**, the event organizer and eco-manager for the city, emphasized the importance of environmental education for future generations: *“Caring for the environment is a shared responsibility – a crucial goal and mission that we should focus on together. It’s about the quality of the space we live in. Educating young people is particularly important because they will continue this work – for themselves, for their children, and for the generations to come.”*







## GLIWICE JOINS EU GREEN WEEK

Over **100 students** from Gliwice schools took part in the event, along with **many city residents**. By combining **environmental education with a celebration of reading**, the initiative showcased how local actions can have a global impact.

The campaign “Giving Books Wings” reminded us that **recycling and circular economy are not limited to plastics or metals** – everyday items like books also play a role. It was also a chance to reflect on the environmental costs of paper production and promote more mindful use of natural resources.







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## Eco-Blankets Workshop



Silesian  
Voivodeship

*gmina*  
**BOJSZOWY**

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# ECO BLANKETS WORKSHOPS – CREATIVE ECOLOGY, RAIN OR SHINE

**When:** 11 June 2025

**Where:** Park Zandgruba, ul. Stalmacha, Bojszowy

**Host:** **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Bojszowy



Bojszowy proved that environmental education can be colourful, imaginative, and weatherproof

Rain didn't stop the green wave. Although the outdoor Eco Blankets Workshops had to be relocated indoors, their spirit of joy, collaboration, and ecological engagement remained untouched. On June 11, 2025, more than 100 participants gathered for hands-on eco-workshops organized by Joanna Dudek, eco-manager of Bojszowy Municipality, as part of the educational zone of the local eco-picnic.



## BLANKETS, NOT DESKS

Initially scheduled to take place in **Zandgruba Park**, the event was moved to the gymnasium of the Gawlikowicz Primary School due to weather conditions. And that turned out to be a blessing – the space quickly filled with vibrant ideas and creative energy. The day started with a short introduction to the **principles of the circular economy**, followed by a **series of practical, artistic activities focused on sustainability**.

Each group took over its own **“eco-blanket”** – young **painters created colour palettes for glass painting, fabric designers turned old t-shirts into protest fashion, and eco-builders experimented with making paper pulp**. Just when creativity was peaking – the rain returned. But so did the resilience. Blankets were packed up and the workshops continued back inside. Luckily, the weather soon cleared up and the participants proudly showcased their eco-creations outside on the school courtyard.

## ECOLOGY MADE FUN – AND MEANINGFUL

The programme included:

- **Eco quizzes and charades** – team challenges testing knowledge about recycling, circular economy, and air protection.
- **Second life for blue skies** – old t-shirts turned into reusable shopping bags, promoting right to repair and textile reuse.
- **Talking t-shirts** – personalized cotton tees with eco-slogans, giving voice to environmental values.
- **Jars from Bojszowy** – upcycling glass jars with colourful paintings and a new purpose.
- **Ecology in the kitchen** – decorating carrot cupcakes and making fruit snacks while learning about food waste prevention.



## A LESSON YOU CAN FEEL

This wasn't just another school day – it was a **celebration of creativity, shared responsibility, and real change**. Every t-shirt, jar, and quiz became a carrier of knowledge, care, and **green optimism**. The Eco Blankets Workshops showed that **environmental education** can be not only effective, but playful, vibrant, and full of positive energy.











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## What About That Bag

### Eco-Workshops for Seniors



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**BOJSZOWY**

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# SECOND LIFE FOR OLD T-SHIRTS – SHOPPING WITHOUT PLASTIC



**When:** 11 June 2025

**Where:** Centrum Usług Społecznych Senior+, Ruchu Oporu 100, 43-220 Bojszowy Nowe

**Host:** Joanna Dudek, eco-manager of the Municipality of Bojszowy



In **Bojszowy Nowe's Senior+ Social Services Centre**, seniors came together once again to explore everyday ways to live more sustainably. This time, under the guidance of **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of Bojszowy Municipality, the topic of plastic-free shopping took centre stage.

## TALKS OVER LINEN BAGS

The workshop began with a lively **discussion about shopping habits**. Participants exchanged tips and **personal solutions** on how to **reduce packaging waste**, especially single-use plastic. Among the ideas shared were linen tote bags, cardboard boxes, and reusable mesh bags, with a strong emphasis on reusing what we already have.

## T-SHIRTS, SCISSORS AND CREATIVITY

After the warm-up conversation, the tables filled with **old t-shirts, scissors, paints and markers**. With a bit of guidance, attendees began transforming worn-out textiles into sturdy, personalized shopping bags.

– *The results exceeded all expectations. There was laughter, excitement and even a few tears of joy*, recalled eco-manager **Joanna Dudek**.

## SMALL CHANGES, REAL IMPACT

Throughout the event, participants were reminded that **every consumer choice affects the environment**.

Reducing plastic means **cleaner air and healthier lives**, and using what's already available is not only environmentally friendly but also **cost-effective and deeply satisfying**.

The event showed that changing daily habits can be both simple and fun, and a **self-made shopping bag** can become not only a useful accessory but a statement of environmental responsibility.













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Związek Gmin i Miast  
Silesian Voivodeship  
Województwo Śląskie



Subregion  
Zachodni



# Blue Sky 2025: The Oxford Climate Debating Tournament

semifinal



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# BLUE SKY 2025 CLIMATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT – SEMIFINALS COMPLETE! EMOTIONS, ARGUMENTS, AND THE VOICE OF A NEW GENERATION



## Semifinal in Central Subregion

**When:** 11 June 2025

**Where:** Pałac Kawalera, Parkowa 30, 42-622 Świerklaniec

**Hosts:** **Maciej Koźmiński**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Świerklaniec,

**Piotr Policht**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Piekary Śląskie

## Półfinał Subregionu Zachodniego Województwa Śląskiego

**When:** 12 June 2025

**Where:** Galeria Sztuki Rzeczna, ul. Rzeczna 1, 44-200 Rybnik

**Hosts:** **Anna Rogowska**, eco-manager of the Western Subregion, **Piotr Policht**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Piekary Śląskie





The semifinals of the **Blue Sky 2025 Oxford-Style Climate Debate Tournament** have come to a close—an event that once again proved **how powerful words can be**. Over two days, June 11 and 12, secondary school students from across the Silesian Voivodeship engaged in **thought-provoking debates** about how to **protect the climate, improve air quality, and build a more responsible society**. The young participants tackled complex theses and demonstrated that their voices are mature, persuasive, and filled with passion.

## CENTRAL SUBREGION – DEBATING IN PALACE HALLS

On June 11, the elegant interiors of the **Pałac Kawalera in Świerklaniec** hosted a series of intellectual clashes between teams representing schools from across the **Central Subregion**. Participants debated such questions as whether a **carbon tax is an effective tool in the fight for clean air, and whether limiting transport emissions can significantly improve urban life**. The standout team was from the **Academic School Complex in Piekary Śląskie**, which impressed the jury with both the coherence of its arguments and the maturity of its delivery. **Alicja Gołąbowska, Szymon Korczak, Bartosz Perzyna, Oliwia Prysok, Michał Satława, and Paulina Sitarz** showed exceptional command of language and confidently defended even the most challenging theses.

Second place went to the **Agricultural Education Centre in Nakło Śląskie**, represented by **Natalia Taraszkiewicz, Sara Kopikowska, Maja Jelonek, Borys Grzywaczewski, Jakub Kandzia, and Arkadiusz Ziaja**. Their performance stood out for its precision and impressive factual knowledge.

Third place was awarded to the team from **Szymborska Secondary School No. IX in Sosnowiec**, led by **Magdalena Kolarska**. **Emilia Gregorczyk, Aleksandra Ponichtera, Szymon Sztuka, and Maja Polanowska** displayed not only eloquence but also active listening and clever rebuttals.

In fourth place came the **Upper Secondary School Complex in Ornontowice**, represented by **Dawid Trześniowski, Mateusz Czerner, Mateusz Pająk, Adam Przechrzta, and Jan Jasiński**—a team that demonstrated strong potential and solid preparation.

The event was hosted by **Maciej Koźmiński**, eco-manager of **Świerklaniec**. The jury included **Agnieszka Szwaja** and **Rafał Adamus**, both eco-managers of the **Central Subregion**, and **Maciej Koźmiński**. The debate marshal was **Cezary Olchawa**, also an eco-manager for the **Central Subregion**.



## A TEAM EFFORT WORTH RECOGNIZING

The tournament would not have been possible without the dedication and collaboration of eco-managers who combined their expertise and energy to create this exceptional learning and debating space:

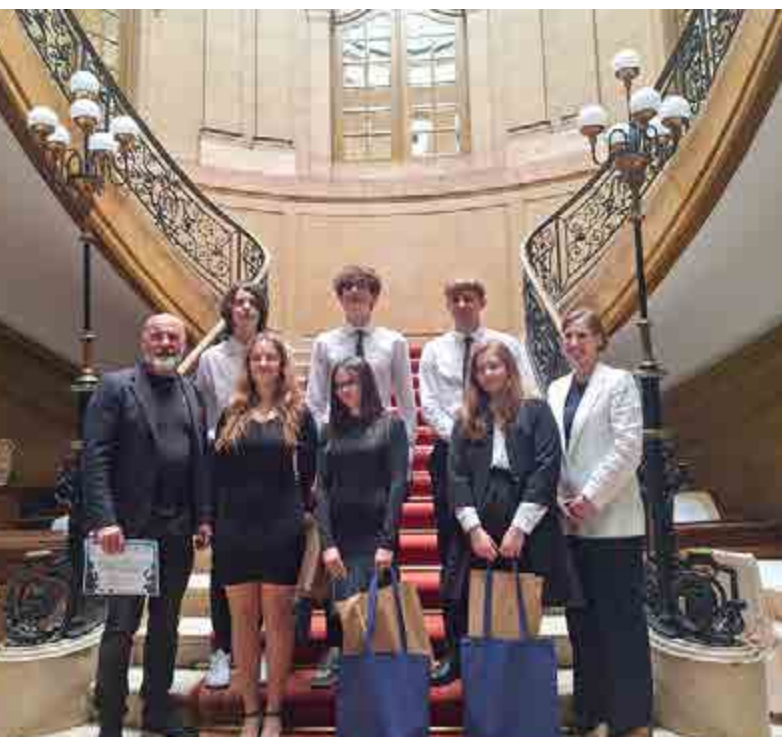
- **Piotr Policht** – Piekary Śląskie
- **Rafał Adamus** - the Central Subregion
- **Barbara Graniczka** – Rybnik
- **Anna Kocima** – Łaziska Górne
- **Joanna Kosmala** – Rydułtowy
- **Maciej Koźmiński** – Świerklaniec
- **Cezary Olchawa** - the Central Subregion
- **Anna Rogowska** – the Western Subregion
- **Monika Stępień** – the Association of Communes and Counties of the Western Subregion
- **Artur Syrnik** - Nędza
- **Joanna Szerzyńska-Grabowska** – Żory
- **Agnieszka Szwaja** - the Central Subregion
- **Grzegorz Wierzbicki** – Sosnowiec

























## WESTERN SUBREGION – CLIMATE DISCUSSION IN AN ART GALLERY

The following day, June 12, debate teams met in the artistic setting of the **Rzeczna Art Gallery in Rybnik**, where discussions focused on **climate education, circular economy, and... meat consumption**. The participants proved that environmental issues resonate with them not just from textbooks but from real-life observations and experiences.

Victory went to the team from the **Secondary and Technical School Complex in Rydułtowy**. **Kacper Lamla, Antonina Gembalczyk, Adam Miś, Jakub Habryka, and Filip Gembalczyk** built compelling narratives, backed by credible sources and demonstrated excellent teamwork.

Second place was taken by the **Upper Secondary School Complex in Pszów**. **Blanka Stabla, Anna Ziętek, Oliwier Kuligowski, and Aleksander Chlebowski** showcased an empathetic and well-reasoned approach to the pressing challenges of our time.

Third place went to the team from **School Complex No. 2 in Żory, named after Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner**. **Patryk Owczarek, Martyna Kozieł, Patrycja Kalinowska, and Kinga Zniszczoł** impressed with their maturity, boldness, and willingness to tackle controversial topics.

In fourth place was the **Construction School Complex – Technical School No. 4 in Rybnik**. **Jan Karnowski, Tymoteusz Sowa, Benedykt Grinspek, Kamil Koniecznyński, Tymoteusz Mrożek and Mateusz Dacewicz**, despite their smaller team size, delivered thoughtful arguments and showed admirable rhetorical discipline.

The event was hosted by **Anna Rogowska**, eco-manager for the **Western Subregion**. The jury featured **Monika Stępień** from the **Association of Communes and Counties of the Western Subregion**, **Anna Rogowska**, and **Artur Syrnik**, eco-manager of **Nędza Commune**. The debate was led by **Piotr Policht**, eco-manager of **Piekary Śląskie** – the tournament's originator, coordinator, and driving spirit.























## THE GRAND FINALE AWAITS!

The winning teams from **Piekary Śląskie, Rydułtowy, Nakło Śląskie, and Pszów** will face off in the **grand finale**, which will take place on November 25, 2025, during the **3rd Silesian Climate Convention Climate-Con 2025**, held at Superauto.pl Silesian Stadium in Chorzów. This final debate will not only crown months of preparation but also amplify the **voices of youth before a distinguished audience of climate experts, local authorities, and EU representatives**.

## BLUE SKY 2025 – DEBATE THAT RESHAPES THINKING

The Blue Sky 2025 Climate Debate Tournament is not just about intellectual competition—it's a tangible lesson in civic engagement. It's a **platform where young people learn how to make a difference**—not by shouting, but by arguing their case with clarity and respect. **That's why their voices deserve to be heard.**





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## EcoBazaar: Swap, Don't Waste!



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# ECOBAZAAR IN MIEDŹNO – GIVING THINGS A SECOND LIFE, POWERED BY COMMUNITY SPIRIT



**When:** 12 June 2025

**Where:** Ochotnicza Straż Pożarna, ul. gen. Józefa Filipowicza 5, Miedźno

**Hosts:** **Ewelina Stobiecka**, Mayor of the Municipality of Miedźno, **Urszula Tokarska**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Miedźno



On June 12, 2025, the **Municipality of Miedźno** hosted the first edition of the **EcoBazaar** – an event that breathed new life into everyday items and united local residents around the principles of the circular economy. This special gathering proved that **even small changes in everyday habits can have a big impact on the environment.**

## MEANINGFUL EXCHANGES

The EcoBazaar was a space where **people could exchange clothing, books, toys, plants, and other small, usable items** – anything that could still be of value to others. Around **400 people** took part in the event, including many students from the School and Preschool Complex in Miedźno who visited the exchange stands throughout the day.

The exchange began earlier in June, when residents could drop off items at a designated location, from where they were transported to the EcoBazaar. On the day of the event, attendees could freely browse through the collected items and take home whatever they found useful.

## CREATIVE ECO-WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

The event also featured **eco-themed workshops for children**, organized in collaboration with the **Miedźno Municipal Cultural Center**. Younger children made bracelets from cardboard rolls, while older participants created lanterns from glass jars. These hands-on activities not only fostered creativity but also taught children how to reuse materials in **environmentally friendly ways.**





## LEARNING THROUGH DOING

Thanks to the proximity of the School and Preschool Complex, whole classes visited the EcoBazaar together with their teachers. It was a great opportunity for young people to see **how the circular economy works in practice and to understand why reducing unnecessary consumption is so important.**

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT

The EcoBazaar would not have been possible without the support of local organizations and residents. Special thanks go to:

- **The “Aktywni Miedźno i okolice” Association** – for supporting the event and extending its opening hours,
- **The School and Preschool Complexes in Miedźno, Mokra, and Ostrowy nad Okszą** – for organizing donation drives,
- **and all residents** who participated and contributed items for exchange.

The event was also attended by **Ewelina Stobiecka, Mayor of Miedźno**, and **Grażyna Borycka, Treasurer of the Municipality.**

## ECOBAZAAR TO BECOME A REGULAR EVENT

The positive feedback from participants and inquiries about future editions have led to the decision **to make the EcoBazaar a regular event.** The next one is already planned for late August or early September 2025 – stay tuned for more details. EcoBazaar: Exchange, don't waste! – is more than just a local initiative. It is a **practical expression of sustainable development goals, promoting the reuse of resources, waste reduction, and improved air quality** through limiting overproduction and consumer waste.

Event hosted by: **Ewelina Stobiecka, Mayor of Miedźno**, and **Urszula Tokarska, eco-manager of Miedźno Municipality.**















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## ReModa: Chic Swap



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# REMODA: WHEN FASHION MEETS ECOLOGY



**When:** 13 June 2025

**Where:** Dom Kultury im. Walentego Roździeńskiego,  
ul. Sobieskiego 11a

**Host:** Katarzyna Opiełka-Gojowczyk,  
eco-manager of the Municipality of Koszęcin







## A STYLISH CLOTHING SWAP IN KOSZĘCIN ENCOURAGED CONSCIOUS CONSUMPTION

**Fashion can be more than just self-expression – it can also be a statement of care for the planet.**

This was the message of “ReModa: A Stylish Swap”, which took place on 13 June 2025 at the **Walenty Roździeński Cultural Centre in Koszęcin**. The event, organised by **Katarzyna Opiełka-Gojowczyk**, eco-manager of the **Municipality of Koszęcin**, brought together **fashion enthusiasts and advocates of circular economy** to promote second-hand clothing and reduce textile waste.

## GIVING CLOTHES A SECOND LIFE

Participants brought clothes and accessories they no longer needed and exchanged them for new finds – or rather, new-to-them items. Each item got a second life, and every participant gained not just a wardrobe update but the **satisfaction of making an environmentally conscious choice**.

**Clothing swaps** are one of the simplest ways to combat textile overproduction, a **global issue with major environmental consequences**. The fashion industry generates millions of tonnes of waste each year, while consuming vast amounts of water and energy. Many garments end up in landfills even though they could still be worn and loved.

## FASHION AND AIR QUALITY

The event also sparked discussion about the fashion industry’s impact on air quality. Textile production, transport and incineration all contribute to harmful emissions – from greenhouse gases to fine particulate matter. Choosing to reuse clothing helps reduce demand for new textiles, raw material consumption, and the carbon footprint associated with garment production.

ReModa proved that **style and sustainability can go hand in hand**. For many, it was a chance to find unique wardrobe pieces that can't be found in mainstream stores – all without spending a penny or harming the environment.





## CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ACTION

The clothing swap in Koszęcin served as a **practical example of a circular economy**. Instead of buying and discarding, participants exchanged, reused, and lowered their environmental impact. It was not only a fashion statement, but also a **space for social connection and eco-education**.

“ReModa: A Stylish Swap” demonstrated that **everyone can be part of the change** – all it takes is opening your wardrobe and passing on what you no longer wear.

















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## Herby in the Game! Recycling and Ecology in Action!



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Regional Council of the Silesian Voivodeship  
Zrzeszenie Gminnego  
Samorządu Terytorialnego





# HERBY IN ACTION! RECYCLING AND ECOLOGY ON THE MOVE – AN OUTDOOR GAME WITH A MESSAGE

**When:** 13 June 2025

**Where:** Urząd Gminy Herby, Lubliniecka 33, 42-284 Herby

**Hosts:** Cezary Olchawa & Agnieszka Bujok, eco-managers of the Central Subregion



**Bike patrols, recycling puzzles, and a campfire finale** – this is how the residents of the **Herby Municipality** celebrated the 2025 EU Green Week. On Friday, June 13th, regional eco-managers **Cezary Olchawa** and **Agnieszka Bujok**, in cooperation with the **Municipal Cultural Center in Herby**, organized a special outdoor adventure titled "Herby in Action! Recycling and Ecology on the Move."

## ECOLOGY MEETS OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

The participants – mainly children and teenagers – were divided into three teams. Each group set off on a bike route where they encountered **eight checkpoints with tasks focused on circular economy, recycling, waste sorting, and the impact of pollution on health.**

At each stop, they collected a puzzle piece, and solving all the tasks allowed them to reveal the final game slogan. At the finish line, participants enjoyed prizes, refreshments, and fun activities. Everyone received a **Clean Air Guardian Diploma** and a **Smog Hunter Badge**.

## AN ENDING WITH A LESSON

The event concluded with a short **educational talk on the circular economy, emphasizing the value of repairing, reusing, and making conscious consumption choices.** A bonfire and outdoor games created a friendly, relaxed space for further conversations about protecting the environment.

The event gathered **46 participants**, and **Herby's Mayor, Ms. Iwona Burek**, also joined the celebration.





**IT STANDS AS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMBINE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WITH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, LOCAL ENGAGEMENT, AND FUN.**











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# Żywiec in Circulation. A Clean Future.



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# "ŻYWIEC IN THE LOOP. A CLEAN FUTURE" – ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION ZONE AT THE ŻYWIEC DAYS 2025



**When:** 14 June 2025

**Where:** Amfiteatr pod Grojcem, Żywiec

**Hosts:** **Beata Ligocka** i **Sylvia Capanda-Migdał**, eco-managers of the Intermunicipal Association for Ecology in Żywiec





On June 14, 2025, eco-managers **Beata Ligocka** and **Sylvia Capanda-Migdał** from the **The Association of Communes for Ecology in Żywiec** took part in the annual **Żywiec Days**, representing the LIFE project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored". At the **educational stand set up in the amphitheater under Grojec Hill**, they promoted the slogan "Żywiec in the Loop. A Clean Future", which reflected the principles of **circular economy and clean air initiatives**.

This year's Żywiec Days not only celebrated local culture and joyful gatherings but also provided a valuable opportunity to discuss ecology and shared responsibility for the environment. The initiative was officially recognized as a Partner Event of the European Union's Green Week and held under the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU.

Under a clear blue sky, the eco-managers prepared an educational space filled with engaging activities and practical knowledge tailored to all age groups – from young children to adults.

## LEARNING THROUGH PLAY AND DIALOGUE

The youngest visitors had the chance to take part in an **environmental quiz that covered key topics such as air quality and waste segregation**. They learned, for instance, which plants help **clean the air** and what smog is. Each child who participated in the quiz received an eco-friendly gift from the LIFE "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored" project.

Adults could consult the eco-managers for personalized advice. The experts answered **questions about the anti-smog resolution, homeowner responsibilities, and possible upgrades to heating systems**.

Participants learned about practical ways to improve air quality and the types of funding available for eco-friendly home improvements.



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ACTION

A central theme of the event was the **circular economy**. Visitors discovered **how to reduce raw material consumption, minimize waste, and adopt zero-waste principles in everyday life**. Conversations focused on actions such as repairing instead of discarding, choosing products without unnecessary packaging, and using local resources.

## SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLEAN AIR

The event emphasized that **air quality is influenced by our daily choices**. The eco-managers highlighted the importance of **modern technologies, renewable energy sources, and conscious energy use at home**. In a clear and accessible way, they explained how **individual actions can make a real difference in improving air quality in Żywiec** and beyond.

"Żywiec in the Loop. A Clean Future" successfully combined **environmental education, community engagement, and entertainment**. The interaction with residents and tourists demonstrated strong public interest in environmental issues and confirmed the value of local action in building a sustainable future.















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## EcoJoy: A Picnic Full of Nature



Silesian Voivodeship



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# EKOJOY IN ZAWIERCIE – A PICNIC FULL OF NATURE AND GREEN INSPIRATION



**When:** 14 June 2025

**Where:** Miejski Ośrodek Kultury – Park Miejski,  
Piastowska 1, 42-400 Zawiercie

**Host:** Andrzej Gwóźdź, eco-manager of the  
Municipality of Zawiercie







On June 14, 2025, **Zawiercie's City Park** turned into a **vibrant hub of environmental education, creativity, and community action**. Under the banner “EkoJoy: A Picnic Full of Nature,” residents of all ages gathered to take part in an exceptional event promoting **sustainable development, circular economy, and clean air**.

The picnic was organized by **Andrzej Gwóźdź**, eco-manager for the **City of Zawiercie**, in cooperation with the **Waste Management Department** and the **Zawiercie Development Agency**. The event provided numerous opportunities to gain knowledge, inspiration, and positive energy—all while having fun.



## SUSTAINABLE FASHION AND RECYCLING-INSPIRED FUN

One of the event's main highlights was the **eco-fashion show by preschoolers**, which captivated the audience and brought plenty of smiles. Outfits made from recycled materials proved that even waste can become a work of art, and that fashion can support the idea of reducing textile waste and promoting circular design.

**Children and adults took part in workshops on making plant pots from reused materials, planting greenery, and creating eco-decor from recycled jars.**

The eco-manager also prepared eco-themed quizzes and ran an educational booth with materials on recycling, **air quality, and reducing environmental emissions**.



## PART OF THE GREEN WEEK

The “EkoJoy” picnic was one of the official EU Green Week 2025 Partner Events, combining **education, community involvement, and hands-on environmental action**. **Live music, artistic performances, and interactive workshops** made the event not only educational but also a joyful and memorable experience. A truly summer atmosphere, lots of smiles, and great energy filled the day—hopefully sparking further **local environmental initiatives**.

## BRING WASTE – GET A SEEDLING!

A special attraction was the **waste-for-plants exchange**, which gained huge popularity. Residents could responsibly dispose of household waste and, in return, receive **seedlings to green their balconies, gardens, or public spaces**. Additionally, clean-up activities were held throughout the day, helping improve the local environment.

## GREEN KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICAL ADVICE

For those seeking in-depth knowledge, an eco-consultation point was available where residents could **learn about available subsidies and support programs for green investments—such as replacing old heating systems, building insulation, and installing renewable energy sources**. Experts also explained how air quality affects human health and what local actions can help improve it.











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## EcoSphere: Creating Eco-Friendly Decorations



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# FROM JARS AND TWINE TO MEANINGFUL DECORATIONS – EKOSPHERE IN PODŁĘŻE KRÓLEWSKIE BLENDED CREATIVITY WITH ECOLOGY



**When:** 14 June 2025

**Where:** Podłęże Królewskie 19, 42-161 Podłęże Królewskie

**Host:** Joanna Grzyb, eco-manager of the Municipality of Krzepice

On Saturday, June 14, 2025, **Podłęże Królewskie** became a vibrant center of environmental education. As part of the **Feast of St. Anthony** and **Children's Day** celebrations, the event "Ecosphere. Creating Eco-Friendly Decorations" took place, organized by eco-manager **Joanna Grzyb** under the project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored."



## UPCYCLING IN PRACTICE – SIMPLE MATERIALS, BIG IMPACT

Participants of the **workshop learned how everyday waste can become not only decoration but also a symbol of environmental responsibility.**

Using seemingly useless items like glass jars and ordinary twine, they created minimalist vases—functional, stylish pieces that can easily find a place in any home. The workshop aimed to **promote the idea of upcycling and encourage people to rethink “waste” as potential raw material.**

Creating **handmade decorations** was not only an ecological activity but also an **opportunity to nurture creativity, aesthetic sensitivity, and environmental awareness**—especially among children. The participants realized that a circular economy is not just a concept but a practical approach that can be implemented at home.





## A QUIZ WITH PRIZES AND LEARNING THROUGH FUN

After the workshop, participants took part in an **educational quiz on circular economy and recycling**, with questions about waste sorting, the benefits of upcycling, and the connection between recycling and air quality. Each correct answer earned an eco-friendly prize, motivating participants to engage more deeply with environmental topics.

There was also a **post-competition exhibition of recycled headwear**, showcasing the work of the winners of the “Don’t Burn – Design!” contest. **These creative designs brilliantly combined fashion, art, and sustainability.**







# EXPERT ADVICE FOR ADULTS

Adults attending the event had the opportunity to consult with eco-managers and learn about:

- **available funding for eco-friendly home improvements** (such as renewable energy systems and heating upgrades),
- **building thermal renovation**—its impact on energy savings and indoor comfort,
- and **how everyday energy choices can improve air quality**.

Special emphasis was placed on the fact that informed decisions about **heating and energy efficiency** have a real impact on reducing emissions and protecting public health.



















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**Kids Don't Know This.**  
**Delicacies from Leftovers.**  
Eco-Workshops for Seniors



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*gmina*  
**BOJSZOWY**

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## “KIDS TODAY DON’T KNOW THIS. TREATS FROM SCRAPS” – ZERO WASTE COOKING IN BOJSZOWY

**When:** 19 June 2025

**Where:** Centrum Usług Społecznych Senior+, Ruchu Oporu 100, 43-220 Bojszowy Nowe

**Host:** **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Bojszowy

On June 19, 2025, the **Senior+ Social Services Center in Bojszowy Nowe** filled with the **scent of garlic, bread, and fond memories**. This was thanks to the **culinary workshop** titled “Kids today don’t know this. Treats from scraps,” held as part of an ecological initiative led by **Joanna Dudek**, the eco-manager of **Bojszowy Commune**. The goal of the event was to show that **zero waste in the kitchen isn’t a trend—it’s a return to values long known and practiced by older generations**.



## DON'T THROW IT AWAY—USE IT

The meeting began with a trip down memory lane. **Seniors recalled dishes from times of scarcity**, many of which would now be at home in **sustainable living cookbooks**. Together, they compiled a list of childhood snacks, one-pot meals made from leftovers, and clever tips that helped ensure nothing in the kitchen went to waste.

The highlight of the workshop was a **hands-on cooking session**: the **preparation of wodzionka, one of the most traditional Silesian soups**. Some participants, despite being from Silesia, admitted they were tasting this dish for the first time. Everyone made their own bowl, choosing from various types of bread, garlic, butter or lard, and seasoning to their own preferences.





## COOKING AS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The workshop offered more than just flavor—it was also a **reminder of the importance of mindful resource use**. Conversations emphasized that the **older generation, often out of necessity, had long embraced what we now call the circular economy**. Rather than learning new recipes, the participants rediscovered the value of kitchen recycling—reusing potato peels, stale bread, or leftover vegetables.

Everyone agreed: **reducing food waste is not just about saving money**, but also about protecting the environment and improving air quality—especially given the emissions tied to food production and disposal.





## HUNGRY FOR MORE

The event concluded with a **shared meal and plans for future workshops**. Full bellies and even fuller minds were the best proof that **environmental education for seniors** can be both **effective and heartwarming**—especially when it takes place around the kitchen table in a spirit of mutual respect and **knowledge-sharing**.







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## The Mystery of the Circle of Recovery: Lost Druid Wisdom

 EU  
**GREEN**  
WEEK



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Regional Council of the Silesian Voivodeship

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# THE MYSTERY OF THE CIRCLE OF RECOVERY SOLVED! MIERZĘCICE EMBRACES A CIRCULAR ADVENTURE

**When:** 20 June 2025

**Where:** Gminny Ośrodek Kultury w Mierzęcicach, ul. Wolności 102a

**Host:** Agnieszka Szwaja, eco-manager for the Central Subregion





**70 participants, 10 thematic checkpoints, one mission** – to restore harmony between humans and nature. That was the challenge of the **outdoor adventure game “The Mystery of the Circle of Recovery: The Lost Wisdom of the Druids”**, which took place on June 20, 2025, at the **Cultural and Recreational Centre in Mierzęcice** during the local EKO-Picnic. The event was organized by **Agnieszka Szwaja**, eco-manager for the **Central Subregion of the Silesian Voivodeship**, as part of the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project.

## ECOLOGICAL STORY TURNED INTO AN ADVENTURE GAME

The game took participants – children and adults alike – on a quest through Mierzęcice to find **ten checkpoints, each featuring Guardians of the Circle who presented them with logical puzzles, practical tasks, and environmental riddles**. Each challenge focused on a **different aspect of the circular economy**, such as recycling, raw material reduction, product repair, or the benefits of second-hand goods.

The ultimate goal was to gather and reassemble the fragments of ancient Druidic wisdom and restore the Ritual of Recovery – a **symbol of resource renewal and conscious consumption**.

## KNOWLEDGE, FUN, AND THE SPIRIT OF TEAMWORK

About **70 people** took part in the game. The fastest teams were awarded special prizes, while all participants received eco-gadgets to commemorate their efforts. The concept and execution of the game received enthusiastic feedback – participants appreciated how it merged learning, fun, and quality family time.

After the game, **players gathered around a bonfire for refreshments and an awards ceremony, celebrating the best teams and enjoying informal discussions on how to incorporate environmental action into daily life**.







## HONORED GUESTS AND LOCAL COOPERATION

The event was graced by **Rafał Adamczyk, Member of the Board of the Silesian Voivodeship**, who visited the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” information booth and emphasized the **importance of grassroots education and regional action for clean air**. The **Mayor of Mierzęcice, Grzegorz Podlejski**, also took part in the event, reinforcing the municipality’s commitment to sustainability.

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ACTION

“The Mystery of the Circle of Recovery” was more than just a recreational event – it was a **hands-on environmental lesson, showing how individual choices affect the environment**. The game helped participants understand **how overconsumption, waste incineration, and improper disposal practices impact air quality and deplete natural resources**.

This engaging initiative proved that environmental education can be immersive, exciting, and deeply motivating – especially when it involves entire families and empowers participants to become heroes of positive change.



















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**Less Means BETTER!**  
**Less Resources, Less**  
**Waste, Less Emissions!**  
Outdoor Game



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# **“LESS IS BETTER!” – AN ECOLOGICAL OUTDOOR GAME THAT BROUGHT GENERATIONS TOGETHER**

**When:** 21 June 2025

**Where:** Dankowice Drugie 30, Dankowice Drugie

**Hosts:** **Dominika Bukalak-Gaik**, coordinator of the Project for the North Subregion,  
**Joanna Grzyb**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Krzepice



On June 21, 2025, **Dankowice Drugie** became the scene of an **ecological adventure** that combined **environmental education, outdoor activity, and intergenerational joy**. As part of the "Power of Generations" integration picnic, the **family-oriented outdoor game** "Less is BETTER! Less raw materials, less waste, less emissions" was held. Created by **Dominika Bukalak-Gaik**, Subregional Coordinator of the LIFE Integrated Project "Silesia. Blue Sky Restored," the game was prepared especially for the **Municipality of Krzepice**.

The event was co-organized by **Joanna Grzyb**, the local eco-manager, who actively supported the initiative and **shared knowledge on circular economy and air quality** with the participants.

## AN ECOLOGICAL JOURNEY SURROUNDED BY NATURE

Beautiful summer weather, a blue sky, and the green surroundings of the local **Sports and Recreation Complex** provided the perfect backdrop for an active, educational afternoon. Teams of children, parents, and grandparents set out with maps in hand to **complete ecological tasks, solve puzzles**, and most importantly – **learn through experience**.

The aim of the game was not only to complete all the checkpoints but also to build awareness of how to **reduce resource consumption and pollutant emissions**.

## BUY LESS, REPAIR MORE

Participants learned that waste is not useless – it can be a valuable resource when reused or recycled. They discovered why repairing and reusing products is crucial for **protecting the environment**. The game included challenges on **waste minimization, renewable materials, and conscious consumer choices**.

One station focused on the dangers of burning waste in home stoves, helping participants understand how such practices affect **air quality and public health**.





## A GAME TO REMEMBER

The event was met with **enthusiastic feedback from participants**, who appreciated the interactive, educational format. The atmosphere, **strong community spirit**, and excellent organization ensured the event would be remembered for years to come.

Special thanks were extended to **Mayor Mateusz Kluba**, **City Council Chairman Rafał Balcerzak**, **Council Member Zbigniew Robak**, **President of the "Together for Dankowice" Association Magdalena Zalewska**, and village leaders **Kamil Kała** and **Monika Kasprzak**, along with all those who supported and joined the game.

## "LESS IS BETTER" – A MESSAGE THAT STAYS WITH US

While the game came to an end, its message continues. The lessons learned during this fun-filled afternoon will help participants **apply the principles of a circular economy in everyday life**. Buying less, repairing more, reducing waste and emissions – every action matters, and together we can make a difference for our planet.



































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# EcoCinema: An Adventure with Ecology and Popcorn



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# ECO-CINEMA IN ŚWIERKLANY: FILMS THAT STAY WITH YOU



**When:** 21 June 2025

**Where:** OSiR Świerklany, GOKiR Świerklany

**Host:** **Jakub Szulik**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Świerklany



On June 21, 2025, the **Świerklany Municipality** once again combined culture and **environmental education in a unique way**. As part of the European Union Green Week and under the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the EU Council, Eco-Cinema took place – a **film day that attracted both cinema enthusiasts and those interested in environmental protection**.

## A CINEMATIC JOURNEY WITH A MESSAGE

Eco-Cinema was more than just a movie screening – it was an event that invited participants to **reflect on air quality, the circular economy**, and how everyday choices shape the **future of our planet**. Thanks to eco-manager **Jakub Szulik**, attendees had the opportunity not only **to watch inspiring films** but also to learn about the **anti-smog resolution, options for heating system replacement, building thermal upgrades, and renewable energy solutions**.

## OPEN-AIR CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

The evening screening at the **OSiR Świerklany** square gathered a large audience **under the starlit sky**. The featured film, “Into the Wild”, told the true story of a young man who rejects a consumerist lifestyle in pursuit of authenticity and harmony with nature. The **film served as a springboard for discussions about living in balance with the environment and individual ecological responsibility**.

## BIG SCREEN INDOORS – BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PLANET

At the same time, two well-known films were shown inside the **GOKiR Świerklany** banquet hall. “Wall-E” – a touching animated story about a robot left to clean up an abandoned, polluted Earth – and “Avatar”, which explored the **conflict between technological expansion and respect for nature**. The screenings ran throughout the day, attracting audiences of all ages.

## ENTERTAINMENT THAT INSPIRES ACTION

**Eco-Cinema in Świerklany** demonstrated that cinema can be more than entertainment – it can be a **source of inspiration and a call to action**. Viewers left not only emotionally moved but also provoked to ask: How do my daily choices impact the environment? Can I live more responsibly? Initiatives like this raise **ecological awareness and encourage collective engagement for a healthier future**.





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## Green Picnic: Mission Recycling!



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# ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION, LAVENDER, AND A GARBAGE TRUCK – ŻORY RESIDENTS TOOK ON THE MISSION OF RECYCLING!



**When:** 27 - 29 July 2025

**Where:** Park Cegielnia ul. Wodzisławska 5, 44-200 Żory

**Host:** Joanna Szerzyńska-Grabowska, eco-manager of the Municipality of Żory







On June 28, 2025, the surroundings of **Baranowice Palace in Żory** transformed into a vibrant environmental education hub during the event “Green Picnic: Mission – Recycling!”, organized as part of the **Upper Oder Festival** by the “Silesia. Blue Sky Restored” project in cooperation with the **Waste Management Department of the Żory City Hall**. The event was hosted by **Joanna Szerzyńska-Grabowska**, the eco-manager of the **Municipality of Żory**. Green lawns turned into a colorful educational playground, filled with children’s laughter and ecological discussions.

## RECYCLING AS AN ADVENTURE AND A CHALLENGE

The highlight of the picnic was the **creative workshop “Toys from Recycling”**, where children created new toys from reused materials such as paper, plastic, fabric, and cardboard. Participants discovered that waste can be a resource when given a **second life through creativity and reuse**.

Simultaneously, the **outdoor activity “Eco-Scavenger Hunt in the Park”** engaged families in a game where they searched for recyclable materials placed along a route. At each marked point, they completed tasks related to correct waste sorting. It was a dynamic activity that combined **movement with environmental education**.

## LEARNING, CONVERSATION, AND... A GARBAGE TRUCK

One of the most exciting attractions—especially for children—was the opportunity to **explore a real garbage truck**. Visitors could look inside the vehicle and learn how modern waste collection systems work.

Throughout the day, **residents could also consult with the eco-manager**, who provided information on available subsidies for eco-friendly home improvements, including renewable energy, heating system replacements, and thermal retrofits. These one-on-one conversations were **a great chance to learn how individual actions can support climate goals**.







## LAVENDER QUIZ AND CIRCULAR INSPIRATIONS

A **lavender-themed quiz** tested participants' **knowledge about recycling**. Correct answers were rewarded with lavender seedlings—in total, 150 plants were distributed. The fragrant herb became a symbol of the sustainable lifestyle that participants were encouraged to cultivate in their homes and gardens.

“Green Picnic: Mission – Recycling!” combined fun and education to introduce the principles of the circular economy. It showed that **ecology can be enjoyable**, and that meaningful change often starts with a joyful afternoon in the park.









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# BookCirculation. Pass It On!



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„NIE CZEKAJ NA ZIELONĄ REWOLUCJĘ  
– BĄDŹ JEJ POCZĄTKIEM.”

# A SECOND LIFE FOR BOOKS. “KSIĄŻKOKRAŻENIE” IN ŚWIERKLANY

**When:** 28 June 2025

**Where:** OSiR Świerklany, ul. Piekarnicza 1, 44-266 Świerklany

**Host:** **Jakub Szulik**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Świerklany



On 28 June 2025, the square at the **Świerklany Sports and Recreation Centre** became a unique meeting **place for book lovers and environmental enthusiasts**. As part of the EU Green Week and under the patronage of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the event “Książkokrążenie. Pass It On!” was held, organised by eco-manager **Jakub Szulik** from the **Świerklany Municipality**. The initiative attracted both avid readers and those simply looking to **give their books a second life**. Beneath a large tent, dozens of benches displayed hundreds of books, some of which had been borrowed from the **Świerklany Public Library** and the **Jankowice Public Library**. Everyone was invited to bring books they no longer needed and exchange them for titles that caught their interest or had long been on their reading list.



## THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ACTION

“Książkokrążenie” was more than just a book exchange – it served as a **real-life example of a circular economy**. Instead of buying new books and increasing resource consumption, participants chose sharing and reuse. This approach **not only reduces paper production and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but also strengthens community bonds, creating space for interaction and dialogue**.

The idea was simple, yet the impact was impressive – books that had gathered dust for years found new homes and new readers. Each book tells not just the story written on its pages, but also a story shaped by the hands and lives of those who pass it on.

## ECOLOGY IN THE RHYTHM OF WORDS

The event in Świerklany carried a strong educational message. It demonstrated that **ecology can go hand in hand with culture**, and that everyday choices – like giving a book a second life – can have a **real impact on the environment**. Extending the life cycle of products, including books, leads to less waste, lower water and energy usage, and most importantly – more responsible use of resources.

“Książkokrążenie. Pass It On!” proved that **sharing is a form of environmental action**. And small community events like this one have the power to change mindsets and inspire positive habits.





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## What Can the Young Teach Us?

Eco-Workshops for Seniors



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# “WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE YOUNG?” – BOJSZOWY SENIORS SHOW THAT ZERO WASTE CAN BE DIGITAL



**When:** 30 June 2025

**Where:** Centrum Usług Społecznych Senior+, Ruchu Oporu 100, 43-220 Bojszowy Nowe

**Host:** **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of the Municipality of Bojszowy





## SHARED TECHNOLOGY, SHARED FUTURE

On Monday, 30 June 2025, the Senior+ Community Center in Bojszowy Nowe hosted the final event in a **series of eco-workshops** organized by **Joanna Dudek**, eco-manager of the **Bojszowy Commune**. Although the meeting focused on modern technology, it was the seniors who took center stage – with openness, curiosity, and a wealth of life experience. The workshop titled “What Can We Learn from the Young?” turned out to be an inspiring conclusion to Green Week in the commune. **Participants not only discovered mobile apps that help reduce food waste and plan shopping in line with zero waste principles, but also engaged in deep discussions about consumerism, excess, and the power of intergenerational dialogue.**

## SHARED WISDOM ACROSS GENERATIONS

The event also became a forum for mutual learning – **seniors offered tried-and-true methods for cooking with leftovers, preserving food, and reducing waste.** Younger generations brought **digital tools, planning strategies, and tips for tracking expiry dates.** This **combination of tradition and technology** became a springboard for discussion on joint environmental action.

– “This was one of the most moving meetings – full of mutual listening, sharing, and realizing that each generation has something to contribute. We wrapped up Green Week with great hope that these conversations will continue,” summed up eco-manager **Joanna Dudek**.

## ZERO WASTE – NOW WITH AN APP ICON

Bojszowy **seniors eagerly explored apps** such as TooGoodToGo and Vinted, learned to use **digital shopping lists**, and **practiced planning meals to avoid waste.** Technology proved surprisingly accessible – especially when accompanied by stories of how things used to be done the “analog way.”

– “I listened to how young people use apps and thought: we did the same thing – just not with phones. We planned, reused, saved. We just called it common sense,” shared one of the participants.





## GOOD PRACTICES KNOW NO AGE

The workshop concluded with a symbolic takeaway: a **list of apps written on a whiteboard** and a handwritten list of traditional practices compiled by the participants. What began as a tech tutorial became a **deep intergenerational dialogue about responsibility, the environment, and the need to build a shared future grounded in sustainability.**









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