



TACKLE-A-STEALER CHALLENGE

www.theblackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com

Head Coach Information

Thank you for agreeing to serve as the Head Coach for your organization during the Tackle-A-Stealer Competition, hosted by the Black and Gold City Goes Green. Your role is to keep your team playing hard to save energy and win prizes!

The Challenge

Teams (organizations) around Pittsburgh will be competing for 30 days. The goal of the challenge is to reduce as much stolen power (power used when devices are turned off) as possible during these dates.

The team that tackles the most energy stealers wins!

How to Play

Starting August 18th (Steelers vs. Eagles), you have one month to tackle as many stealers as possible. Pass the kit -- which includes instructions, a sheet to record tackles, and a stealer-detecting Belkin meter -- to members of your organization, and maybe even their family and friends.

The Belkin meter will tell participants how much electricity is being used by a device. If the device is off and the meter is still measuring energy consumption, the device is an energy stealer! Stealers are sacked when they're unplugged, plugged into a power strip, or programmed to use less energy.

The kit will start with one participant, who will record the energy, money, and CO₂ emissions their electronics steal, and how much is saved when the device is tackled. The kit will be passed from one participant to another, who will tackle stealers in their home before passing it along. The kit can be passed to as many participants as your team can reach in one month's time.

Your Role

As the Head Coach, you have a special role in the Tackle-A-Stealer Challenge. Your responsibilities are as follows:

- Inspire team spirit by encouraging members to participate and pass around the kit.
- Make sure the kit is returned to the Black and Gold City Goes Green along with the completed reporting sheets at the end of the contest.

- Be able to answer questions from members of your team, or to direct those questions to the Black and Gold City Goes Green. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the Belkin meter before the contest so that you can explain to others how to use it.
- Determine a method for passing around the kit (see below).

Distributing the Kit

Passing the kit to more team members increases your chances of tackling the most stealers. We give you the materials and information to find energy stealers, eliminate them, and report their action. You and your team will have to draw up a game plan to determine the best way to distribute the kit to members of your team.

We should emphasize that **the people participating on your team need not be employees or members of your organization**. Anyone to whom you pass the kit to will be counted under your team. With that in mind, here are a few ideas on how to get the kit out to people:

- Have people take and return the kit to you directly. Keep the reporting cards for the duration of the competition in a box to be handed in at the end of the month.
- Leave the kit in a central location with a sign-out sheet. Encourage people to sign the meter out and return it in a reasonable amount of time (we suggest two days.) A sign-out sheet can be found in the Campaign Materials section of the Black and Gold City Goes Green website.
- Create a sign-up sheet. People receive the kit in the order they signed up. When one person is done, they are responsible for passing the kit on to the next person on the list. All reporting cards are left with the sign-up sheet.
- Establish a decentralized system where each new participant is instructed to pass the device on to any family member, friend, or co-worker. This requires the least oversight on your part, but it will be harder to recover the kit at the end of the contest. This method also doesn't guarantee that every member of your organization will receive the kit.

You can use one of these methods, adapt them, or come up with your own distribution method. In any case, you must return the kit, along with completed reporting cards on September 19th.

Thank you for taking part in the Tackle-a-Stealer Challenge, and for assuming the role of Head Coach. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Black and Gold City Goes Green at 412-258-6690 or email us as blackandgold@pennfuture.org.