Why Involve Youth?

- Young people have a right to be consulted about decisions that will effect their lives, and will have unique insights into the strengths & weaknesses of a project aimed at youth.
- Young people are fun to be with and can teach you a lot.
- A youth perspective is different than an adult one and in the spirit of "two heads are better than one," multiple perspectives are helpful when trying to create change or solve a problem.
- Involving youth in authentic ways offers them opportunities to build skills and have leadership experiences that can influence their future choices and possibilities for work and school.
- Involving youth lets them know that you are "walking your talk" about their importance to you and your initiative.
- Youth have energy and creativity that when tapped can transform a project, community, school or any environment.
- Youth make great peer & community educators and can creatively get a message across—to younger students, peers, parents, and community leaders.
- Involving young people builds sustainability—young people who lead today build the skills and interest to lead tomorrow.