

## **Attachment # 1:**

Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio recommends that each member of Council adopt one or more energy reduction behaviour.

### **The Challenge:**

Councillors may choose to participate from January 25 to March 27 or may choose to make a commitment to a particular activity for the next year.

It is suggested that each Councillor announce their energy reduction plan in their online newsletter or on their web page (or perhaps at the Committee of the Whole on January 25).

Here are 10 ideas to reduce energy consumption including both activities for the home and workplace:

- 1. Hang your clothes to dry.**  
Next to the refrigerator, the clothes dryer is the top energy-using appliance in the house. It cost about \$100 a year to run it. Drying all your clothes naturally will save over 200 kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2. Get a programmable thermostat.**  
Heating and cooling accounts for about 60 per cent of your home energy costs. But lowering the temperature by 3 degrees Celsius for eight hours a day can reduce your heating costs by up to 4.5 per cent. On average, you should save about \$150 a year. By using less heat and air conditioning, your home will produce about 300 kilograms fewer carbon emissions a year. Also, electronic thermostats do not contain mercury, like conventional thermostats. PowerStream's peak saver program offers an incentive to install a programmable thermostat: [www.powerstream.ca](http://www.powerstream.ca).
- 3. Install a low-flow shower head and take a shower instead of a bath.**  
Just a 10-minute shower can use up to 190 litres of hot water with a conventional showerhead. But a low-flow showerhead can cut this by half and still maintain water pressure - conventional ones use 15 - 19 litres per minute while low-flow ones use about 8 - 9 litres. A family can save just under \$200 a year in the cost of heating water for showers with a low-flow showerhead and over 300 kilograms in greenhouse gas emissions.
- 4. Wash clothes in cold water.**  
Almost 90 per cent of the energy used to wash clothes goes into heating the water. You can save as much as \$100 a year by changing to cold wash and rinse, and 130 kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions. If all the households in Canada switched to cold in their washing machines, about 1.5 billion kilograms of CO2 emissions would be saved.
- 5. Get a home energy audit.**  
A more energy-efficient home is warmer in winter, cooler in summer and has cleaner air. You'll offset the cost of the audit and the retrofits you make by saving as much as 35% on your heating and cooling costs. Looking ahead, energy efficient homes are attractive on the real estate market and sell for as much as \$8,000 more. Using less energy in your home will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy production by as much as 4 tonnes a year. If you follow your audit and make changes to your home, you could be eligible for a grant of up to \$5,000 from the federal government, which may also be matched by your provincial government.
- 6. Unplug your chargers.**  
The average charger uses 0.5 watts of power, even when it's not charging anything up. That can really add up overnight or for an entire weekend. Around two-thirds of the energy used by mobile devices is wasted this way.

7. **Turn off your desk lamp.**

Lighting is one of the top uses of energy in the workplace. While newer model LED desk lamps don't use a great deal of energy, what energy they do use is totally wasted if no one is around. As well, lamps generate heat, and leaving them on overnight can increase the cooling needs in your workplace. Meanwhile, if you still have a traditional incandescent desk lamp, replacing the bulb with a CFL will mean the bulb will use 75 percent less energy, last eight times as long, and save your company about \$30 over the life of the bulb.

8. **Turn off your monitor.**

Monitors use about the same amount of energy as a light bulb. Even in standby mode when the computer is off, they drain energy that's not necessary. It's worth it, energy wise, to shut off your monitor if you're not using your computer for more than 20 minutes. Screen savers don't save energy at all: in fact, some elaborate ones use additional energy. They used to protect screens years ago, but that's no longer the case. As for upgrading your monitor, an LCD monitor uses one-third of the energy an older style CRT does. A 17-inch screen uses 35 percent more energy than a 14-inch one.

9. **Install/Use a ceiling fan.**

Heating and cooling accounts for about 60 per cent of your home energy costs. But a typical ceiling fan uses only a fraction of the energy required by an air conditioner. You can use that fan for 10 hours a day and it will cost you around nine cents per day. If you can raise the thermostat on your air conditioner in summer you can save about 15 per cent in air conditioning use and also reduce your home's greenhouse gas emissions. Meanwhile, in winter, a fan set on an upwards draft will pull air from the floor level to the ceiling, where it will mix with warmer air (remember, warm air rises), and then push it back to the floor. This better circulation of warmed air means less work for your furnace in winter.

10. **Retire your second refrigerator.**

Refrigerators are one of the top energy-guzzling appliances in the home. Getting rid of a full size 15-year-old fridge will save you \$120 a year and prevent about 240 kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions. ENERGY STAR compact fridges use 20 per cent less energy than conventional compacts and you may be eligible for money back through your provincial government. Check [Natural Resource Canada](http://www.naturalresource.ca) for a list of provincial grants and rebates. Powerstream also offers free pick up and environmentally-friendly disposal of old refrigerators: [www.powerstream.ca](http://www.powerstream.ca).

These energy saving tips and ideas come from the WWF Living Planet Community Challenge. For a more comprehensive list and additional information, please visit: <http://community.wwf.ca/>.

## **Earth Hour Background Information:**

### **What is Earth Hour?**

Earth Hour is symbolic event where people around the world are encouraged to turn off their lights for one hour to show support for action on climate change and demonstrate that individual efforts, when taken together, add up make a big difference and can be as easy as a flick of a switch.

In 2009, almost 4,000 cities in 88 countries participated in Earth Hour, far exceeding WWF's global goal of 1,000 cities. Canada was again among the leading countries with more than 280 cities participating nationally.

### **Why Participate?**

Climate change is one of the most urgent environmental issue facing our planet and we each have a role to play to help stop it. Earth Hour is an easy and powerful way to send a message that you care about your planet and want to be part of the climate solution.

For more information on Earth Hour: <http://wwf.ca/earthhour/>

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**Subject:** FW: Deputation

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
**ITEM: Deputation a)**  
**CW – January 12, 2010**

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**From:** Martha Bell [mailto:martha\_bell@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 08, 2009 3:07 PM  
**To:** Abrams, Jeffrey  
**Cc:** Jamie Maynard  
**Subject:** Deputation

Hello,

The Earth Hour committee would like to make a deputation to the Council requesting its support for our 3rd annual Woodbridge Lantern Walk for Earth Hour event.

We will request of Council that

1. they register as a City with the global Earth Hour event,
2. they give a videotaped statement of the City's commitment to action to reduce fossil fuel emissions in its operations, procurement and education of its residents,
3. that the City sponsor the event as it did last year with the free use of the Vaughan stage and the Woodbridge arena and parking lot with support staff for the evening of March 27, 2010.
4. That it support the event with advertising through the local papers and the City's website.

If we are approved for the deputation, please confirm date and time and any other obligations on our part.

Sincerely yours,  
Martha Bell, Chairperson of Woodbridge Lantern Walk.



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**Attachment # 2:**

**Attachment # 3:**

January 6, 2010

***Requests of the Vaughan Council to mark Earth Hour in the City***

1. Join the World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour project as an official participant. As a City, challenge Brampton on greenhouse gas reductions during Earth Hour.
2. During Earth hour, power down the lights as much as is safe in the City of Vaughan buildings. Adjust the Lighting Systems permanently to continue with reduced lighting every night.
3. Advertise Vaughan's participation as a City in Global Earth Hour in the local papers and on the City's appropriate web pages. Include information about the Woodbridge Lantern Walk
4. Come out to the 3rd Annual Woodbridge Lantern Walk. Join us as honoured guests on the stage. Bring family, friends, constituents to help us mark the occasion and raise awareness.
5. On a personal level, each member of Council could adopt one energy reduction habit before March 27. Request the same of friends and family.
6. We congratulate the Council on the City's investment of \$27 million in Powerstream to put solar panels on some municipal buildings.
7. Continue to make future investments within the framework of sustainability.

We thank you and hope that together our efforts will help accelerate our communities' awareness of and action to address climate change.

***Woodbridge Lantern Walk Committee***

Julia and Tom Arbanas

Martha Bell

Lucy Cardile

Tony Carella

Cathy Defina

Florida Giallardo-Brienza

Erm Lombardi

Mara Maggiacomo

Jamie Maynard

Giulia Mazella

Brian and Josie McCran

Mary Pataki

Franca Poretta

Sony Rai

Elaine Rodaro

Cathy Romano

Agnes Saldutto