



EcoSchools: *Learning and Actions* that Make a Difference

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In This Issue

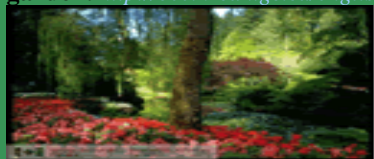
- School Year Begins
- Environmentally...
- Government Grants
- More on Certification
- Energy Savings...

Did you know...

Ceiling fans circulate room air by drawing warm air off the ceiling and pushing it towards the floor. Fans don't actually cool a room; they cool you by circulating air. A 60-watt ceiling fan costs between 10 cents and \$2 to operate monthly, while an air conditioner can cost between \$7.50 and \$41 a month.

Low-voltage outdoor lighting and solar-powered garden or walkway lights are smart ways to illuminate your garden path or walkway. They are also energy-efficient, inexpensive to operate, simple to install and safe.

Planting deciduous trees around your home will provide cooling shade in the summer and let in warm sunlight during the winter. Taller plants mean better root coverage, which helps the ground retain moisture. Planting more flower beds means you will waste less money on watering your lawn. Prepare for next winter by planting low-growing evergreen shrubs around your basement walls. These will help keep the warmth in and cold winds out during the winter. Finally, use rain barrels to collect free water that you can use to water your garden. <http://oeenrcan.gc.ca/english>



Contact Us

Facility Services
544-6925 ext. 320

<http://facilityservices.limestone.on.ca/> *Follow the Eco Schools Link*

Another School Year Begins!!

We look forward to a school year full of enthusiasm and a new and fresh outlook on environmental initiatives.

Environmentally Friendly

The Limestone District School Board has further supported the use of environmentally friendly caretaking products by introducing more green seal certified cleaning products for the major clean up of our schools this past summer. A green seal certified floor finish remover was put to the test with amazing results and performance that surpassed conventional refinishing products and without the harsh chemicals of past. A new water based finish for gymnasium wood floors was applied at several school test sites in an effort to move away from the traditional strong odors, solvents and extensive cleanup associated with the use of urethane based wood floor finishes. The water based finish was easy to apply with outstanding gloss. The durability is still to be determined. The extensive use of accelerated hydrogen peroxide based multi purpose cleaning / sanitizing products has greatly reduced the number of cleaning products that we once kept in stock at our schools. These green seal certified products not only are very effective cleaning products but are also much safer to use in our schools considering the ever increasing student / staff environmental sensitivity.

The Limestone District School Board is committed to further utilizing environmentally safe cleaning products and procedures.

Government Grants for School Boards

In recent months the Ontario Government has announced an investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy in schools in the amount of 600 million dollars. The Limestone District School Board's share of this money is being used to install energy efficient products and systems at schools within our Board. We are also using this money to have professional energy audits performed on selected sites. These analyses will determine areas in which a building could be improved to minimize energy waste. These funding programs allow larger projects to be designed and installed.

The "**Green Schools Pilot Initiative**" is another program which funds a system being installed at a school. These systems consist of renewable and other innovative technologies.

This fall there will be a solar thermal heating system installed at **Loughborough Public School**. This system was designed to offset the buildings oil consumption by using solar heat within the building. There will be a total of 16 flat glazed panels on a custom adjustable rack, which will maximize the systems performance.

More on Certification

The Ontario EcoSchools certification application will be online for 2009-2010. Also, **Module de l'Acadie** will be highlighted in the fall issue of the Ontario EcoSchools Newsletter. You can visit their website at

<http://ontarioecoschools.org/index.html>

For news highlights on **Napanee District SS** certification, check out the Napanee Guide. For more information on becoming a Certified School, please contact **Karl Walker** by telephone at 613-544-6925, ext. 258 or by email.

The LDSB will be inviting the four Schools that became Certified, **North Addington Education Centre, Module de l'Acadie, Napanee District SS and Sydenham HS**, to attend a Board Meeting to be recognized for their accomplishments in becoming the first LDSB schools to be Certified. Please watch the Board website for news on the date and time.

Eco Schools

Get your whole school community
working together to improve the **environment**.
encourage **citizenship**, promote **healthy lifestyles**,
and much more besides.

Energy Savings Programs

Government of Ontario **Home Energy Audit Program** and **Retrofit Rebate Program**. For more information on these energy saving programs and more click on the following links: <http://homeenergyontario.ca>
<http://oeenrcan.gc.ca/english/>