

Earth Hour to focus on energy reduction locally

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Since The Town of Halton Hills began participating in Earth Hour in 2008, the community has saved enough electricity to power about 20,040 average homes for one hour.

"Everyone's participation is the foundation to the success of Earth Hour. Let's show leadership to the rest of the world that Halton Hills supports the symbolic Earth Hour to encourage everyone to participate by taking practical action against climate change," said Mayor Rick Bonnette.

"Participating in Earth Hour will continue to move our community towards a



more sustainable future with an even higher quality of life," he added.

This year, in support of Earth Hour, the Town will:

- Host a free family star gazing event in partnership with St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School (Acton) and

Halton Hills Hydro.

- Conserve energy by turning off all non-essential lights at all Town facilities during Earth Hour, without jeopardizing public safety and security, or interrupting regular service.

- Engage the business community to participate by promoting Earth Hour to their employees and customers. Watch for Town staff as they visit your business to explore Earth Hour participation opportunities.

- Engage local schools to create an Earth Hour poster with stars on it that says how the students will reduce energy during Earth Hour.

Earth Hour is a symbolic

event and it alone will not reverse climate change. Earth Hour is a high profile opportunity to join other communities globally to demonstrate that working together can make a difference on climate change.

Participating in Earth Hour supports the Strategic Plan, Green Plan, Mayor's Community Energy Plan and

the Community Sustainability Strategy.

To learn more about participating in Earth Hour contact Jennifer Spence in the Planning, Development & Sustainability Department at 905-873-2601 ext. 2290 or e-mail: jennifers@haltonhills.ca.

Or visit: www.haltonhills.ca/sustainability and www.earthhour.org.

Stars come out for Earth Hour

Come for a free family star gazing event.

Cosmic Connections will present a fun, energetic, interactive and informative astronomy presentation on Sunday, March 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic School, 147 Mill St. W., Acton.

This popular event begins with a presentation in the gymnasium and finishes outside with star gazing through high-powered telescopes.

Due to limited seating please register by contacting the Town of Halton Hills Office of Sustainability at 905-873-2601, ext 2290 or by emailing jennifers@haltonhills.ca



Earth Hour 2013: 5.23% reduction in power use here

Halton Hills participants in last year's Earth Hour reduced hydro demand by 5.23 per cent— enough to power 2,840 homes for one hour.

Since first participating in Earth Hour in 2008, the community has saved enough

electricity to power about 20,040 average homes for one hour! The 5.23% reduction for Earth Hour 2013 is an important increase over the 3.9% reduction achieved in 2012.

According to the Indepen-

dent Electricity System Operator (IESO), across Ontario, Earth Hour 2013 translated into a 2.7% or 448 megawatts electricity reduction, more than the average peak energy needs of a city the size of Burlington.

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**People are still
ignoring the science.
That's what I'll be
thinking about.**

**What will you be thinking about
during your moment of darkness?**

**Think about the future you
want when you turn the lights
off for Earth Hour on
March 29, 8:30-9:30 p.m.**

Earth Hour 2014
www.wwf.ca/earthhour

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60+
EARTH HOUR