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## **Get prepared for Emergency Preparedness Week (May 4-10)**

"I am ready. We are ready," is the theme of Emergency Preparedness Emergency Management (OFMEM), would like to encourage all Ontarians

Halton Hills Fire Department is partnered again with the Ontario Fire Marshal Emergency Management in playing a lead role in coordinating events and activities for the week.

The purpose of the week is to inform community residents and businesses about the preparation and needs in the event of an emergency.

The unexpected ice storm of 2013 brought Halton Hills residents and businesses to their knees, said Deputy Chief Harry Olivieri. At one point after midnight on Sunday, Dec. 22 all Halton Hills Hydro customers were without power and for some residents, this power outage lasted several days.

"Everyone should be prepared to take care of themselves, their pets and their family for up to three days in the event of an emergency or disaster," said Olivieri. "It is very important that our residents take time to prepare a 72-hour Emergency Preparedness Kit and talk through what you and your family would do during an emergency."

In an effort to increase awareness and understanding of Emergency

Preparedness, Ontario Fire Marshal Emergency Management (OFMEM), would like to encourage all Ontarians to take the Emergency Preparedness Challenge by visiting http://beprepared.emergencymanagementontario. ca/epquiz/

From making a plan to preparing a 72-hour Emergency Preparedness Kit, residents are encouraged to discuss Emergency Preparedness with family, neighbours, friends and colleagues, said Olivieri.

## Earth Hour stats

In 2014, with the support of numerous local businesses, schools, residents, organizations, and Town and Halton Hills Hydro staff, energy consumption decreased by 5.51% or 3,559 kWh during Earth Hour. This is enough electricity to power approximately 2,917 homes for an hour.

It was the seventh consecutive year the Town of Halton Hills experienced an overall reduction.

About 100 people attended a free stargazing presentation at St. Joseph School in Acton.

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