

Turn off your lights to celebrate Earth Hour in Halton Hills

This Saturday, March 19, between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m., Halton Hills will recognize the global event of Earth Hour.

Earth Hour is no longer just about turning the lights off for an hour. Instead, it is an opportunity to promote year-round conservation and long-lasting actions that benefit the health of our planet. Earth Hour participation is voluntary, fun and informative.

Reflecting on the importance of Earth Hour, Mayor Rick Bonnette said, "Everyone can participate by turning off non-essential lights and appliances. If everyone takes simple steps we can reduce energy use and help address climate change. I encourage everyone to take part in Earth Hour."

Halton Hills Hydro will once again measure our community energy load. Since first participating in Earth Hour, together, our community

has saved enough electricity to power about 23,375 homes for one hour.

Below are some simple suggestions for how residents, schools and businesses can participate:

For residents:

- Turn off non-essential lighting and electronics.
- Ensure you have efficient compact fluorescent or LED lighting.
- Turn down the thermostat.
- Avoid operating appliances during Earth Hour.
- Enjoy a candlelit dinner with family and friends.
- Organize an Earth Hour party with neighbours.

For schools:

- Turn off or dim non-essential lights.
- Organize environmentally-themed contests and activities for students and teachers.

For businesses:

- Download an Earth Hour poster

and post it in your business for the public to view.

- Turn off or dim non-essential lighting and major appliances, without compromising safety and security.
 - Turn down your thermostat and review ways to reduce energy use year-round.
 - Offer special pricing on energy conservation items such as LED lights, clotheslines, energy meters and programmable thermostats.
 - Unplug electrical equipment (e.g. computers) before leaving for the day.
 - Consider purchasing green electricity to power your business.
- If you operate a restaurant:
- Offer a special meal or a day's special to recognize Earth Hour.
 - Offer candlelit dinner service.
- The Town of Halton Hills and Halton Hills Hydro are again co-hosting the very popular free astronomy pre-



Everyone is invited to partake in Earth Hour which is taking place this Saturday starting at 8:30 p.m. Residents are also invited to a free star gazing event starting at 7 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church. Submitted Photo

sentation and star gazing session on Saturday, March 19, in recognition of Earth Hour.

Cosmic Connections will guide us through the galaxy in an engaging presentation at St. George's Anglican Church. This public event begins indoors at 7 p.m. and at 8:20 p.m. we

will venture outside to view the stars through telescopes. This is a family event. Registration is required due to limited seating.

To register contact Jennifer Spence at the Town of Halton Hills via e-mail jennifers@haltonhills.ca or phone 905-873-2601, ext. 2290

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