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COMMUNITY



Pexels

Waste management is one element local schools are focused on.

## Halton Hills schools going green with Ontario EcoSchools

**VERONICA APPIA**  
vappia@metroland.com

Schools across Halton Hills are showing off their green initiatives and have been certified with Ontario EcoSchools.

The organization, which began in 2002 and expanded across the province by 2005, focuses on fostering environmental stewardship within schools.

For 2018, they have partnered with Halton Environmental Network to promote environmental sustainability across the region.

This year, 11 schools in Halton Hills were certified and local students have been involved in a number of projects and activities including recycling, planting flower boxes, using less waste, cleaning up outdoor areas and finding unique ways to remind fellow students to be cognizant of wastefulness.

Some schools, including McKenzie-Smith Bennett and St. Joseph in Acton, created catchy rap songs, reminding students about

*"They are such a tiny school, but they have a big eco team with a lot of enthusiasm and a lot of great projects."*

- Heather Govender, Halton Environmental Network program director

ways they can be more environmentally conscious.

One Halton Hills school in particular that stood out to Halton Environmental Network program director Heather Govender was Limehouse Public School, specifically for its impressive waste management program.

"They are such a tiny school, but they have a big eco team with a lot of enthusiasm and a lot of great projects," she said. "They did a lot of work around waste minimization and those students were excited to share with me how they worked with the custodians to empty the green bins and blue bins and their challenges that they ran at their school where they replaced their

garbage bins with a really, really tiny bin and see how all the classes do."

Govender added that about 20 per cent of the school population is involved in the eco team at Limehouse.

Other Halton Hills schools that have been certified are Acton District High School, Ethel Gardiner Public School, Glen Williams Public School, Park Public School, Silver Creek Public School, Christ the King Secondary School, Holy Cross Catholic Elementary School and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School.

For further information about Ontario EcoSchools, visit <https://www.ontarioecoschools.org/>.



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