

APRIL UPDATE



I-Save is a voluntary program developed by Wayne-Westland Community Schools as an internal energy conservation program that helps our district reduce our impact on the planet, educate our students about conservation, and redirect utility dollars back into the classroom. The program was launched in August of 2008 and has been offered to all District buildings.

Which Is Really Better?

Paper or plastic? Handwash or dishwasher? For the answers to these and other common questions, check out Reader's Digest at <http://www.rd.com> and search for article # 122140: "The Reader's Digest Version of Going Green: Simple Answers to 13 Common Questions".

Try a CFL at Home for Free!

In honor of Earth Day, Home Depot stores are giving away 1 million free CFL bulbs. Visit a Home Depot store near you while supplies last. If you like to shop online, the company is also offering free shipping on CFL bulbs. For more information, visit: <http://www.homedepot.com>

Kudos

During spot checks over Spring Break, classrooms at Marshall, Ford, John Glenn, and Wayne Memorial were found to have most classroom items (including refrigerators and printers) turned off and/or unplugged for the break. Way to go staff. Keep up the good work!

Great Idea!

Point person Linda Liedel, Chef Tony, & the culinary department at Ford Voc Tech have expanded their recycling program into the kitchen so that materials like glass and aluminum can be easily pulled out of the waste stream during the cleanup process.

Consider The Following:

According to energystar.gov, if every home in the United States replaced just one light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb (CFL), we would save over \$600 million in annual energy costs. If everyone in the U.S. used energy efficient lighting, we could close 90 average-sized power plants!

A/C Season Is Coming!

With the start of the air conditioning season, it's time to talk about another way to conserve. Propping the door open between the hallway and the gym, library, or office can increase the electrical consumption in your building...especially for those buildings where the gym is located directly across the hall from the front door. Take time this month to encourage staff and students to close the doors to these areas. Better yet, consider having a class project to create signs to spread the word about the doors in these areas. "The door is closed...the air is on...we're ready to learn!"

On Track

For the first 9 months of the I-Save program, the district-wide energy consumption is down over 13 percent and all buildings are closing in on achieving their individual goals of 7 1/2 percent. Please take time to congratulate staff for all their efforts as they do make a difference!

Got Ideas?

If you have energy saving tips or ideas that you would like to share, for home or at work, please forward them to Nick Thornton at: thorntonn@wwcs.k12.mi.us

Reynolds Goes Green...

One of the biggest users of energy in this country is the manufacturing sector. By creating products, like aluminum foil, from recycled material, there is an 80 percent reduction in the amount of energy used in the manufacturing process. 100% recycled aluminum foil is now available from Reynolds, including the packaging it comes in! Get more information and find out how you can get a rebate for a free roll on Earth Day by visiting: <http://www.reynolds100.com>