

# UGDSB ECO UPDATES

*Quarterly updates to UGDSB staff from the GBO Eco Team*



## Saving Energy

*Easy ways to reduce energy consumption*

Making little changes to save energy at work and home can really make a difference. Energy conservation will help reduce pollution and the effects of climate change. Using less energy also saves money that can be spent on other essential items.

What can we do?

- Walk, bike or roll to school/work - use the car less often
- Turn off lights when the room is empty or natural light is sufficient
- Put computers, monitors, printers, photocopiers and other electronics on hibernation or sleep mode when not in use, and turn them off at the end of the day
- Use blinds/curtains to either keep heat out in the summer or let heat in (sunlight) in the winter
- Close windows during heating and cooling seasons
- Keep areas in front of vents on walls, ceilings or windowsills free of obstruction
- Wear a sweater if cold, dress in layers to maintain personal comfort during any season
- Buy energy efficient appliances, take shorter showers

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## Did You Know?

### Computers

A modern Dell computer uses about 32.5W of electrical power and costs about \$32.50 a year to power. If there are 1496 hours in a school year, each computer that is left on wastes around \$27 a year. If left in hibernation mode, a computer uses 1/10th of this power, or around 3.2W (\$3.20) during this time period. By turning computers off or putting them into hibernation mode, we can all work together to save electricity and money!

## Spotlight: Eco Resolutions

*Helping the environment, one resolution at a time!*

This January, staff and students across the Upper Grand District School Board pledged to make changes in their lives to reduce their carbon footprint, live waste-free and adopt environmentally-minded habits. At the outset of the new year, Upper Grand was issued a challenge – think about an environmental issue that concerns you and make a pledge to do something about it.

Hundreds of Eco Resolutions poured in, with many critical topics addressed. In February, winners were announced in a variety of categories: elementary students, secondary students, collaboration, multi media, and staff.

To see the results of the 2020 Eco Resolutions Contest, visit:  
<https://www.ugdsb.ca/blog/uglearn-green-ugdsb-pledges-to-make-a-difference-through-eco-resolutions/>



## UPCOMING ENVIRONMENTAL DATES

- World Water Day - March 22, 2020
- Earth Hour - March 28, 2020: Earth Hour will be celebrated in UGDSB schools and offices on Friday March 27. Turn off the lights!
- Earth Day (Week) - April 22 (20-24), 2020
- World Environment Day - June 5, 2020
- World Oceans Day - June 8, 2020
- Share your eco initiatives on Twitter #UGLearnGreen