



Ecological Stewardship

NEWS

"understanding our impact... creating positive change"



London Health Sciences Centre

Issue 02

October, 2007

ELEMENTS



"We hope that you find something useful to take from Elements and something to give back"

Engineering Services

This issue

Energy



Waste



Grounds



Procurement



Save Now on the Ecological Stewardship Website

<http://www.lhsc.on.ca/ecologic/energy/homesave.htm>

Up to \$5,000



You can save money while making your home more energy efficient. Through Natural Resources Canada you can apply for up to \$5,000 in grant money by following five easy steps. The paper work is filled out for you! The average grant is expected to be over \$1,000 with a 30% reduction in your home's energy use, which means you'll save even more. Read more about this opportunity on the ecological stewardship website at the web address listed above. Remember, saving energy helps us to protect our health and our environment. How often can we get paid for doing that?

Canadians who bought eligible vehicles starting on March 20, 2007 can now apply for rebates under the ecoAUTO Rebate Program. Canada's Government released the application form for the program on Oct. 2007, which offers Canadians rebates from \$1,000 to \$2,000 on the purchase of new fuel-efficient vehicles. Take a look at the vehicle list on the ecological stewardship website at the above web address. You'll save during the purchase... and every time you fill up afterward.



Up to \$2,000

ecoAUTO Rebate Program

Up to \$750

Save on heating and cooling renovations through the Cool Savings Rebate program from the Ontario Power Authority (OPA). Have a participating contractor install an ENERGY STAR rated heating/cooling system in your home and get up to \$750 dollars back.

Up to \$15 off

Download these coupons yourself online and save on energy efficient equipment. You'll get up to \$15 off lights, light fixtures, thermostats, power bars, timers etc. Visit the ecological stewardship website for more information.



New Outdoor Recyclers at LHSC

The Eco-stewardship program is proud to announce that new outdoor recycling containers have been installed at all the public entrances at University, Victoria and South Street Hospitals. These Canadian made outdoor recycling containers are manufactured from 100 per cent recycled milk jugs. They are all 3- slot units making it easy for separation of cans, plastic and garbage. The containers were installed in the last week of September and already Clintar is noticing a decrease in the amount of outdoor general waste as the recycling containers are being used. The dark green colour and attractive design as well as their quality and durability allow these recycling containers to fit in nicely with the surroundings of our entranceways.

To read about other Eco-stewardship activities, visit our website at <http://www.lhsc.on.ca/ecologic/>



Renovate, Repair & Rejuvenate with **Aeration & Reseeding**



In the last edition of Elements we talked about some ecological improvements being made in the grounds management program at the hospitals, which included reduced grass cutting and the creation of healing gardens. In this issue, we take grounds management to your homes.

As the summer season begins to wind down, you may notice that hot, dry weather has had some bad effects on your lawn. If your turf has a blueish-green hue, or if footprints remain in your lawn after you've walked on it, these are likely signs of stress from drought or insufficient irrigation. In addition, brown patches or chewed grass blades may be visible if insects or diseases are present. Other signs that your turf is in need of help include thinning grass or bare areas throughout your lawn.



Getting your lawn back on track

The best repair option depends on the specific needs and condition of your lawn. Some tried-and-true renovation methods include:

Aeration: All lawns need to be aerated from time to time. Plugs of soil are pulled up from your lawn to create more room for air, water and fertilizer to reach the roots. This results in expansion of the root system for thicker, healthier grass. Aeration can also help to break up harmful thatch layers.

Aeration with Overseeding: Following up aeration with overseeding is a great way to thicken up a thin lawn or add a hardier, more drought-resistant grass variety to your property. The new grass plants will have an easier time growing in the holes left by aeration.

Slice Seeding: This process cuts through thatch and plants grass seed into the soil in one pass, resulting in an entirely new lawn.



Survey to LHSC Vendors

During the summer months, LHSC developed and distributed a Green Procurement Survey to businesses that provide us with the majority of our products and supplies. The Ecological Stewardship Team is happy to report that there was almost a 50% response rate from our vendors, who showed great interest in participating with the Green Procurement Program. The survey asked vendors about their environmental management programs, the types of materials and processes used in manufacturing facilities and various waste management issues. Survey results have been tallied, and an aggressive communications and awareness program is being developed to continue encouraging LHSC vendors to consider their environmental impacts, and how they can help us reduce ours in the process.



New Pricing on Paper with Recycled Content



LHSC consumes nearly 200,000 lbs of paper per month! As a large consumer of paper, LHSC has the power to create positive change by simply switching the type of paper we use...if we collectively switched to paper with 30% recycled content, we would save 611 trees, enough energy to fuel 5 homes per year and reduce solid waste by almost 30,000 pounds. In response to these staggering numbers, the Ecological Stewardship Team and

HMMS worked together to encourage Lyreco to improve their pricing on paper with recycled content. After a few weeks of discussion, Lyreco came through and provided HMMS and the London hospitals with a much more cost effective option. We are pleased to introduce the ordering information below:

Lyreco product # 2837505- Cascades ReproPlus 8 ½ x 11, 30% post consumer waste- \$ 4.24 /500 sheets

Lyreco product # 2837493- Cascades ReproPlus 8 ½ x 14, 30 % post consumer waste- \$ 5.86 /500 sheets

*Let's make a difference TODAY...the next time you order paper for your office, floor or department, **choose paper with recycled content!***

Introducing the Green Directory for Londoners

Do you want to buy more natural, organic products, but you're just not sure where to go? Although you may not know it, there are many businesses right here in London that provide a variety of environmentally friendly products and services. Visit the TREA website at http://www.trea.ca/green_directory.htm to view a comprehensive listing of all the "green" businesses in London, and start buying better today!

