

## **REAL and Climate Change – September 2007**

### **REAL Programs that Mitigate or Help Us Adapt to Climate Change:**

**EcoEnergy Retrofit Incentive Program** - delivery agent in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville counties for this program which provides financial incentives for homeowners to implement insulation, air sealing, new furnaces, solar water heaters, and other devices in their buildings. 1<sup>st</sup> audit - \$350, 2<sup>nd</sup> audit - \$150. \$150 rebate from Ontario government for audits. Up to \$5,000 rebates from federal government for retrofits and up to \$5,000 from the provincial government.

**Ontario Power Authority Energy Efficiency Assistance Program for Houses** (limited-income electricity retrofit program) delivery agent in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville for this project which invests up to \$5,000 in low-income homes for insulation, air sealing, replacing fridges, hot water heat recovery etc. Free to qualifying candidates.

**Kill-A-Watt Meter** - rentable from the Smiths Falls Library to determine the amount of electricity a particular appliance uses.

**Idle-Free** - promotion of turning off vehicles when unnecessarily idling, at store stops, schools, lock crossings etc.

[www.RideauReuses.com](http://www.RideauReuses.com) - REAL operated website for posting and shopping for free goods and anything less than \$99.

**Rural Backyard Garbage Burning** - promotion of the elimination of rural backyard garbage burning, which is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest contributor of dioxins in Ontario, and a contributor of numerous other pollutants.

### **REAL Programs Coming Soon:**

**Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Take It Back Recyclopeda** - Website with specific listings of retailers that “take back” waste materials from grocery bags to oil to batteries, etc.

**REAL Deal Store and Environment Centre** – REAL operated a store for the resale of used household items and building supplies from January 2006 to March 2007. REAL is actively pursuing a new Smiths Falls location, and hope to be open in early 2008. The Environment Centre will offer a range of additional environmental services.

### **Printed Materials:**

REAL has a wealth of booklets, flyers, pamphlets and factsheets on a wide variety of environmental topics at the REAL Office, 2 Gould St., Smiths Falls (former SFDCl). Please call (613) 283-9500 before you come.

Some topics: Idle-Free, Tire Pressure, Backyard Garbage Burning, the EcoEnergy Retrofit, the limited-income electricity retrofit program, Kill-A-Watt meters, electricity conservation, solar, wind, natural landscaping, Native Plant Buyers Guide, pesticide reduction, water conservation, Well and Septic, Climate Change posters, Well Aware DVDs, Keeping the Heat In books, COG Farm gate list, etc. etc.

### **Other Programs of Local Interest:**

**Energy Star Retail Tax Exemption** – Ontario is providing a point-of-sale provincial sales tax exemption on ENERGY STAR qualified household products until July 20, 2008.

[www.LanarkCommuters.ca](http://www.LanarkCommuters.ca) - a free carpool website to allow residents to post and find carpooling partners

**ecoENERGY for Renewable Heat** – provides up to 25% of project cost for profit and non-profit organizations . See <http://www.ecoaction.gc.ca/ecoenergy-ecoenergie/heat-chauffage/index-eng.cfm>

**EcoEnergy Retrofit Incentive Program** - program will eventually be available for small businesses as well.

**The Great Refrigerator Roundup** - Hydro One program that offers free pickup of old, inefficient full-sized refrigerators and freezers. If pickup is being made for a primary appliance, mini fridges and window air conditioners can be accepted as well.

**ICI Solar Thermal Heating Grants** - The Ontario government will provide up to 25% of the cost of installation of a solar thermal heating system up to \$80,000 businesses, industries, schools, universities, municipalities and hospitals. Linked to the federal government's ecoENERGY Renewable Heat Program . See [ecoaction.gc.ca](http://ecoaction.gc.ca) website.

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