



A project of the Eden Mills Millpond Conservation Association Inc.

Newsletter # 24 - October 28, 2009

MARK YOUR CARBON NEUTRAL CALENDARS!

Come to another practical WORKSHOP!

DON EATON
returns to continue his exploration of

A GOOD HOUSE
Saturday, November 7
10 am- noon
Eden Mills Community Hall



ATTICS!

DECREASING HOUSEHOLD CARBON EMISSIONS IS NOT ONLY AN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE – IT IS ALSO A FINANCIAL ISSUE!

CAULKING!

- What can we do to lower the carbon footprint of our homes?
- How can we make our household energy use more efficient?
- Tips and techniques which meet our personal needs.

AIR LEAKAGE!

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DON EATON!

Informed and articulate, Don has years of experience with houses and most recently with the Elora Centre for Environmental Excellence where, as Executive Director, he spearheaded the Centre's household energy audit program. He can provide you with the concrete answers for which you are looking as you prepare for winter and the future. **Videos of Don's 2008 presentation will be available!**

AND MORE!

WINDOWS!

MOULD/MILDEW!

HAVE YOUR OWN QUESTION ANSWERED

If **you** have a specific question you would like Don to address at this upcoming workshop, please send it to Charles Simon at simon.edenmills@everus.ca. Don will build part of his presentation around your particular information needs.

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COOL NEWS!

- **Book Sale** – Bravo to Brian Skerrett and Kit Bresnahan – and all the volunteers who helped with last week’s BIG book sale. The event raised \$1040, important funds for the Eden Mills Community Hall and Eden Mills Going Carbon Neutral.
- **October Food Workshop** – Thank you to Tom Bowes for organizing October’s fabulous workshop on **Food** – local, organic gardening, buying and EATING! We were inspired by Martha Gay Scroggin of the University of Guelph’s first organic plot (which feeds the children at the University Day Care!) and dizzied with the fabulous produce shared with us by Whole Circle Farm, part of the Community Supported Agriculture network. Thanks also to Ruth Bowes for morning coffee service! And to Charles Simon, who coordinates all our workshops and has the whole carbon neutral context in his head and hands!
- **The Eden Mills Eco Conference, Activating Your Environmental Voice** – We congratulate **Kit Bresnahan, our intrepid leader of youth, who reports below!**



“On Monday, October 19th The Eden Mills Carbon Neutral Youth Group and the Community Environmental Leadership Program (CELP) co-hosted an environmental conference at Camp Edgewood in Eden Mills. **The Eden Mills Eco Conference, Activating Your Environmental Voice**, was for environmental clubs in the Upper Grand District School Board. One hundred students from eight different schools attended the one day conference. The day was divided into four sections: **Voices of Environmental Clubs, Activating Your Environmental Voice, A Conversation Café** and **Voices of Elders**.

Voices of Environmental Clubs had three Environmental Clubs share what their club has done at their school in the last year. They explained what worked and how they organized their initiatives. Topics ranged from special Earth Week Activities and an Environmental Fashion Show to organizing School Recycling Programs. Centennial Secondary School, Norwell District Secondary School and our own Eden Mills Carbon Neutral Youth Club were the three clubs presenting. **The Eden Mills Youth Group, represented by Lyon**

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Lay, Robin Bresnahan and Julian Del Bal Bulluz, talked about the hamlet of Eden Mills, our Going Carbon Neutral Initiative, club activities, volunteering in the community and organizing the Earth Day Celebration each year.

Activating Your Environmental Voice saw three highly motivated and articulate environmental student leaders explain what they have done to share the environmental message, why they became involved in environmental issues and what they have learned being involved in their school's or community's environmental club. Leslie Bothwell represented Centennial SS, Anna Bishop from J. F. Ross spoke and Chris spoke from Norwell SS.

Voices of Environmental Elders had ten adult environmental leaders share with the students in smaller workshops, their area of environmental expertise. Workshops included how to organize tree planting at your school, led by Green Legacy's Rob Johnson, funding sources for environmental clubs by Stan Kozak now working for the Gosling Foundation, and local and organic food by Chris Jess from Centre Wellington Secondary School. **We also had two workshop leaders from Eden Mills: -- Charles Simon spoke on Passive Solar energy and Libby Little on Straw Bale buildings. Both Charles and Libby took students on tours of their homes.**



Over lunch, which was provided by the Eden Mills Youth Group and Centre Wellington's food cooking class, we had a **Conversation Café**. Students discussed two questions as they ate their lunch. The questions were "What challenges does your club face?" and "What are the most effective environmental projects you have been involved in?"

The day also included a number of quick warm up activities that energized students, got them interacting with each other and having fun. Students left the conference with renewed energy and new ideas to take back to schools."

COMING SOON!
The 2010 Annual Household Footprint Survey –
WATCH FOR NEWS!!