



Warwickshire Climate Change Community Newsletter

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership

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Switch It Off

Switch It Off week 2009 took place on the week commencing the 9th November with the Big Switch Off on Friday 13 November from 4.30 - 6.30pm

The Switch It Off campaign, which is took place across Warwickshire, Coventry and Worcestershire, aims to encourage public bodies, businesses, communities, schools and residents to Switch Off non essential appliances which are left on when they're not needed.

During the weeks before during and after Switch It off a number of initiatives are run in order to increase awareness of energy efficiency. Initiatives include ...

Giveaways - Useful information on saving energy and energy efficiency was given out across Warwickshire. During the week we provided over 500 people with energy efficient light bulbs, switch it off bags and leaflets.

Dine By Candlelight – Over 30 vouchers were requested for the Dine by Candle Light initiative with diners enjoying a romantic candle lit meal and 10% of the final bill.

Schools – Warwickshire schools have been supporting the campaign by entering the Switch It Off poetry competition. Over 300 entries have been received with winning entries being published. Winning poems will be announced in January. See poem by Coten End Primary School.

Colleges - North Warwickshire and Hinckley College have been supporting the Switch It Off campaign with students carrying out energy audits, using the infra red camera, and watching environmental films.

The Big Switch Off took place be on Friday the 13th of November between 4:30 and 6:30pm with Central networks monitoring peak demand. Results showed another successful year with a saving of 26.9 megawatt hours of energy saved, this is equivalent to 154,598 householders in Coventry, Warwickshire and Worcestershire completely switching off a sharp 32" LCD TV for the full two hours of the Big Switch Off

Coten End Primary School Climate Change Poem

10 children on the eco committee ranging from 6 – 11 years old wrote this poem

At Coten End we do our best,
To put our knowledge to the test.
So we have formed an Eco-Committee
Who got together to write this ditty!

Here at school we love to learn,
About fossil fuels we seem to burn.
But is this a sensible thing to do?
Soon they will run out for me and you.

Turn the lights and the computers off,
To give them rest, they've had enough!
Saving electricity is our goal,
So help us out and save some coal.

We recycle paper in our red bins,
And staff recycle all their tins.
But what about batteries, I hear you ask,
Well we've got it in hand, that's our task.

Saving water, valuable to us,
Turn off the taps, that's a must.
Into our water butt the rain does run,
So water the flowers and have some fun!

Litter is another problem,
Check the school grounds and check them often.
Our wildlife here is much too treasured,
It's importance to us can't be measured.

Let's plant those seeds to grow our food,
It might even put you in a good mood.
Growing your own is healthy too,
Try some organic food, we do!

We are the generation of the future here,
So listen loud and listen clear.
Wind power, wave power, nuclear too,
There is lots of research for us to do..

Sustainability is our aim,
It's not a joke, it's not a game.
So go ahead and do your best,
Put your knowledge to the test.



News



- Loft insulation at a £1 a roll a roll inc VAT and delivery. A Government subsidised carbon reduction scheme. For more information go to www.npower.com/web/diylloftinsulation/index
- The Wave: Come Together To Stop Climate Chaos – Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change will be joining The Wave in London on Saturday 5th December. This is a family friendly event where people from all walks of life will be joining together to show support for the EU deal and make a safe climate future for everyone. A coach will leave Snitterfield Village Hall at 9:00am on Sat 5th Dec. Tickets, Adults £10, Children Free. For more information call 01789 731348
- NEA's Footprint Award: Bigger Steps, Smaller Footprint – NEA's Footprint Award is open to all not for profit organisations. It awards best practice in the fields of fuel poverty awareness and energy efficiency. A winner in each of the 9 English regions will win £2000 towards their project, and an overall National winner will win a further £3000. For more information and to download an entry form please go to www.nea.org.uk/footprint-award
- A map illustrating the consequences of failing to keep global temperature rise below two degrees, has been launched by the UK government . Created using the latest Met Office Science, it demonstrates the human impact which might happen if our planet warms by four degrees above pre industrial climate average. To view this map go to www.metoffice.gov.uk
- Long Compton suffered badly in the floods of July 2007, and have experienced floods since. Surrounded by hills and a stream running along a great part of the main road, a great many properties are at risk. Long Compton Parish Council has worked together with Stratford Upon Avon District Council to plan the construction of a western by pass to the south west of the village, taking water from the village through culvert and ditches across farmland to drain in a stream leaving the village on a road to Barton on the Heath. This with the initiative of a local farmer who has constructed a holding pond to the North East of the village, the local parish council hope will go some way to combating flooding problems in the future.

10:10

10:10 is a national carbon cutting campaign initiated by Age of Stupid director Franny Armstrong.

The UK government has set CO₂ reduction targets for the 2020 and 2050 , but scientists have warned we need to act now, which is why the 10:10 campaign is aiming for a 10% reduction in CO₂ emissions by the end of 2010.

Individuals, businesses and other organisations are asked to sign up to reduce their emissions by 10% by 2010. All three are supported in various ways by 10:10 and its partners.

To find out more log onto www.1010uk.org

Future Proofing Your Community

On the 31st October Warwickshire Rural Community Council held its Future Proofing Your Community event at Ettington village Hall.

The event was well attended with stalls from 16 community groups and individuals, (these included Long Itchington LIFE, Stratford Transition Town and Marton Pig Club) , four professional exhibits and two commercial stands. A total of 129 people attended as stall holders or members of the public.

Jacky Lawrence, Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership, provided the key note speech for the day providing attendees with information on national indicators, the work of the Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership and the work of the numerous community groups around the county. Jacky posed two questions, what were community groups and individuals doing to make things better and what would happen if that community spirit disappeared? She went on to say "it is important to build resilience into our communities. We have to try and predict the future and adapt it. Future Proofing means anticipating challenges, investigating the possible negative consequences and planning for them. The problems of climate change, peak oil, adverse weather, economic crises, homelessness, hunger, and crime would not go away

Following the presentation attendees had an opportunity to learn more from stall holders and feedback comments.

Have your say

This is your newsletter and your opportunity to publicise any events you may be holding, and let other groups know what you are currently up to share your experiences. What do you want to see in future editions?

Please send all comments or enquiries about this newsletter and suggestions, for news items, case studies, details of events etc to emmaclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk