



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

News Release

December 3, 2010 - Students help to make camp facilities more energy efficient

Today at the Salvation Army Beaver Creek Camp, the Salvation Army and SIAST announced the SaskEnergy Home Energy Efficiency Project (HEEP) has surpassed its five-year goal to reach 2,500 Saskatchewan families with energy efficient upgrades.

Participating in the announcement are Saskatoon Public Schools' Brightwater Science and Environmental Centre and 27 Grade 8 students from Westmount Community School's Nikanetan (Let's Lead) program and their two teachers. Brightwater staff and Nikanetan teachers and students will spend the afternoon making energy efficient retrofits to the camp facilities. These Saskatoon Public Schools representatives join the previous 2821 volunteers who have helped in the success of the Home Energy Efficiency Project during the past 5 years.

Saskatoon Public Schools' Brightwater Science and Environmental Centre is operated out of the Salvation Army's Beaver Creek Camp and adjoining Saskatoon Public Schools land located 15km south of Saskatoon. Brightwater is an out-of-school environmental education program that provides students with an opportunity to actively participate in ecological studies in the native prairie habitat. Brightwater provides an overnight camping experience for middle years students and one day field trips for Biology 20 and Science 10 students.

SaskEnergy, the Salvation Army and Brightwater are working together to make the camp facilities more energy efficient. SaskEnergy is providing the product and training, the Salvation Army is providing the facilities and lunch, and the Let's Lead - Nikanetan students and teachers and Brightwater project leader, are providing the willing and eager hands.

The retrofits include fitting the windows on the cabins and halls with plastic coverings; changing the light bulbs to energy efficient bulbs; retro-fitting the shower heads to conserve water; insulating light switch covers and plug covers; and installing draft dodger on doors.

Let's Lead - Nikanetan is an experiential education program for students in Grade 8. A full year program, Let's Lead - Nikanetan is for students who enjoy being in the outdoors and who want to improve their leadership and teamwork skills. The program is for students who have the potential for leadership, but may not have been able to realize or develop this potential due to barriers such as cost. All equipment, transportation and food costs, along with any other fees, are completely covered by the program.

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