What you can do:

Energy Conservation is one of the easiest ways you can help the environment and save money at the same time. Making small changes like using energy efficient appliances, switching to compact fluorescent light bulbs and turning off lights and electrical devices when not in use can save hundreds of dollars a year and can significantly reduce your greenhouse gas emissions and your impact on the environment.

Ontario Home Energy Savings Program
Ontario Homeowners can get up to $5000 in home improvement grants though the Ontario Home Energy Savings Program, which is in effect until March 31st, 2011. To qualify for Ontario government rebates, homeowners must get a home energy audit before and after their home improvement work. Get up to $150 cash back on your first energy audit with a rebate from the Ontario's Home Energy Audit Program.

Consider Renewable Energy: Renewable energy is energy from a natural resource that is sustainable. Renewable energy technologies such as solar and geothermal can be applied for residential or commercial use. Increasing our sources of renewable energy will help clean up our air, reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and combat climate change.

For more information on renewable energy and access to a directory of businesses that operate in Halton Region:

Call: (905) 299-2327
Email: here.office@gmail.com
Visit: www.haltonenvironment.ca

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Halton Environmental Network

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Interested in RENEWABLE ENERGY?

HERE! can help you transform your home and your community!

Halton Enablers HERE! of Renewable Energy

HERE! helps Halton residents take advantage of the **Green Energy Act** to **reduce** greenhouse gases, **conserve** energy**, protect** the environment, **fight** climate change and **SAVE** or **MAKE** money while doing it all.

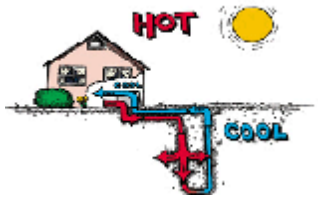
Investing in renewable energy **TODAY** makes economic and environmental sense!

Geothermal Systems

Geothermal Systems transfer the heat located immediately under the earth's surface (or in a body of water) into a building in winter and use the earth as a heat sink for cooling in the summer. Four basic types of geothermal sources are:

Horizontal loops: considered when adequate land surface is available. Pipes are placed in trenches, in lengths that range from 100 to 400 feet.

Vertical loops: used when available land surface is limited. Drilling equipment is used to bore small diameter holes 75 to 800 feet deep.



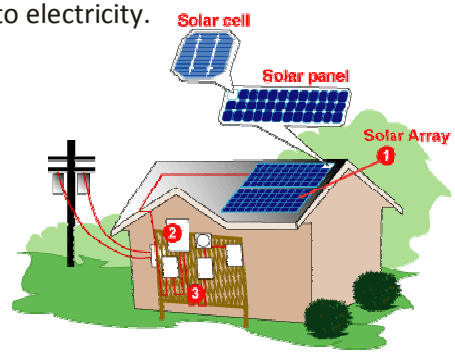
Pond (lake) loops: coils of pipe are simply placed on the bottom of the pond or lake.

Open loops and direct expansion: Installing these types of systems is not advised due to environmental concerns.

Incentives Include:
- Payback in 10 – 17 years
- Heat pump lasts 25—30 years
- Government Rebate: Ontario Home Energy Savings Program rebate on qualified systems ($4,375)

Solar Electric Systems

Solar Photovoltaic (PV systems) use semiconductors to convert the sun's energy into electricity.



If you install a PV System you are entitled under the **Green Energy Act** to participate in the **MicroFIT Program** (systems up to 10 KW) which includes the following:

You are paid 80.2 cents per KW-hour of electricity generated compared to the standard rate of 10-15 cents per KW-hour for the electricity you use.

A 200 sq ft roof can support a 2 KW system generating 2,300 KW-hour per year.

System costs can range from $7 to $11 per watt. For example a 2 KW system would cost approximately $20,000.

The contract is 20 years in length allowing the system to pay for itself in just over 10 years and can deliver at least an 8% return over the life of the contract.

Solar Thermal Systems

Solar thermal systems gather solar radiation to heat air or water. These systems can:
- preheat your home's hot water supply
- heat a pool or hot tub
- provide space heating

Solar Pool Heating Systems are used to heat a pool by using solar energy. Solar heating systems are generally composed of solar thermal collectors, pipes, and a pump to move the water.

Incentives Include:
- Extending swimming season 4- 6 weeks
- Replaces existing heating source
- As little as two year pay back

Solar Domestic Hot Water (SDHW) Systems use solar thermal technology to help heat your hot water supply. A storage tank is used in conjunction with your existing tank or an on-demand system.

Government Rebates Available:
Ontario Home Energy Savings Program Rebate on qualified systems ($1,250)