

Monday, 12.12.11

Dear School District & Community--

Please find our green **Tip of the Week**, and **PFEWG™ News/Resources** below. PFEWG™ is a model for sustainability that we use to implement the Cambridge Green Schools Initiative.

It covers the categories of Products, Food, Energy, Waste, and Greenspace. Click here to read more about it on our district website: http://www3.cpsd.us/sustainability/pfewg_model

Tip of the Week: Maintain tire pressure. **Why?** Because this action improves vehicle mileage and reduces emissions.

Products: "**Eco-Tips for the Holidays.**" The Ecology Center's guide: http://www.ecologycenter.org/factsheets/holiday_tips.html.

Food: "**Our Schools' Food Department Website.**" Click here to visit the Food Department's website for lots of information on our healthy and delicious food menus: http://www3.cpsd.us/departement/food/Food_Services.

Energy: "**Reduce Energy at Peak Times.**" At peak times during the hottest and coldest days of the year, demand for energy goes up. On these days it is even more important than ever for us to save energy. Here are a few simple ways to cut back on our energy use in our schools. Every effort is meaningful:

- Turn off non-essential lights
- Use the stairs instead of elevators
- Turn off lab equipment or smartboards when not in use
- Unplug appliances when not in use
- Shut off copiers and computers at the end of the day
- Set air conditioners/space heaters on Low instead of High

Waste: "**National Recycling Report.**" Check out a new report called "[More Jobs, Less Pollution](#)" which shows that a 75% national recycling rate would create 1.5 million jobs, reduce 267 million metric tons of pollution by 2030 -- about the same as taking 50 million cars off the road. The report was released by the BlueGreen Alliance, Natural Resources Defense Council, Teamsters, SEIU, Recycling Works! and the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives.

Greenspace: "**Massachusetts Nature.**" Learn more about natural spaces and land preservation in Massachusetts--many of these spots are great for hiking or visiting: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/massachusetts/placesweprotect/index.htm>

Have a great week.
-Kristen

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