



Media Release

Horizon Utilities Brings *Energy Days* to Summer Camp

(HAMILTON, ONTARIO) August 12, 2008 - This summer, Horizon Utilities Corporation is helping kids in Hamilton and St. Catharines learn what it means to be part of 'Generation Conservation' through the first summer camp program focused on energy safety and conservation.

Generation Conservation Summer Camp Energy Days, with materials developed and supplied by Horizon Utilities, are being piloted in day camp programs run by YWCA Hamilton, Hamilton Wentworth District Catholic School Board (*HWDCSB*) and the City of St. Catharines. Targeted at kids aged five to 12, *Generation Conservation Energy Days* are jam-packed with fun games, creative activities and hands-on science experiments designed to teach what electricity is, how it works, how to use it safely and how to come up with a plan to conserve.

"It is all about the thrill of scientific discovery," says Sandy Manners, Director of Corporate Communications, Horizon Utilities. "Watching a child assemble an electrical circuit and hearing their cries of delight when they light up the LED bulb captures what the program is all about."

"Once they learn what energy is and how it is generated in Ontario," says Manners, "the camp counselors engage the children in experiments to discover how much electricity various appliances use. Armed with that knowledge, even very young children can understand why they should turn off their computer or video game when they are not using it. And voila! A new generation of conservers is born!"

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Interactive exercises like 'The Electron Game', 'What Appliance Am I?' and 'I Spy Electrical Danger', help campers retain what they're learning. Participants also get to build a circuit to light an LED bulb and use a meter to measure the wattage required to power common household appliances. Hands-on concepts are further reinforced through a workbook and craft activities.

"It's exciting to see the children move through different stations and activities in and outside of the school," says Mandy Tappay, YWCA Hamilton Recreation Supervisor who helped facilitate YWCA Hamilton's first *Generation Conservation Energy Day* on July 23, 2008. Camp counselor, Shane Steeves, echoes the enthusiasm. "It's learning and fun at the same time - an electrifying day." YWCA camper, Brandon Hertel says, "I really liked bouncing around like an electron."

In cooperation with their community partners, Horizon expects that more than 200 children, like Brandon, will experience *Generation Conservation Energy Days* this summer.

Generation Conservation Summer Camp Energy Days complements the 10-lesson Generation Conservation curriculum program sponsored by Horizon Utilities and being offered to 7,500 Grade 5 students in 200 schools in Hamilton and St. Catharines.

Horizon Utilities Corporation is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario, providing electricity and related utility services to 233,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon Utilities' employees are committed to delivering a safe and reliable supply of electricity, providing unparalleled customer value, and helping to create a culture of energy conservation in Ontario.

YWCA Hamilton is a women-led, service organization supporting individuals through health & wellness programs for women, families, seniors and people with special needs, and advocating for the improved status of women locally and through affiliation with YWCA Canada and the World YWCA.

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