

SPRING 2009

A proud part of the community since 1978

DARLINGTON NUCLEAR

Neighbours

IN THIS
ISSUE

WATER
SAFETY

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
YEAR ROUND

GANARASKA FOREST
CENTRE

MARCH BREAK
MADNESS



Join us for March Break Madness

Ontario Power Generation is pleased to offer fun and educational opportunities for families during March Break again this year. Our 2008 program was enjoyed by over 2000 people, including these sisters who attended a program at the Darlington Information Centre. To find out more about our programs be sure to review the back page of this newsletter.

Energy Efficiency Year Round

At 8:30 on the night of March 28, people across Durham Region and around the world will turn their lights off for one hour, Earth Hour.

Ontario Power Generation will participate by minimizing lighting as much as possible in our major administration buildings across Durham Region. In addition, we will reduce common area and exterior lighting where reasonably possible. In minimizing lighting, we will ensure that we do not jeopardize the safety and security of our employees.

While Earth Hour is a symbolic event to raise awareness about energy conservation, we should strive for increased energy efficiency every day. Energy efficiency is an important part of Ontario Power Generation's sustainability efforts.

At Ontario Power Generation, we work as hard to save a kilowatt as we do to make one.

Since 1994, our company has saved 2.3 terrawatt hours of energy. That's enough electricity to power almost 200,000 homes for a year and offset as much as 2.2 million tonnes of CO₂ that would have been emitted into the air. It also represents

a cost saving of about \$109 million per year (4.6 cents per kilowatt-hour).

In fact, Ontario's Chief Energy Conservation Officer Peter Love presented OPG with a certificate of achievement recognizing "the leadership role taken by organizations that have made long-term commitments to conserve electricity in Ontario".



June 2008 Community Advisory Council meeting where Peter Love presented Cara Clairman with the recognition certificate for our energy efficiency achievements.



ISO 14001 Certification - Darlington Nuclear
Environmental Management System

ONTARIOPOWER
GENERATION

STAY CLEAR STAY SAFE

as warm weather melts

Spring-like conditions
mean dangerous ice
and fast, cold water

With spring-like temperatures on their way, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and local conservation authorities are urging people to exercise extreme care around Ontario waterways.

"Our message is: Stay Clear! Stay Safe! The warm temperatures and rainfall create potentially unsafe conditions," said John Murphy, OPG's Executive Vice President Hydroelectric. "This could result in ice that's thinner than expected and water flows that are higher and faster than normal," he added.

Clarington's local conservation authorities warn that local watercourses continue to be extremely dangerous. The Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) and the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) are asking all residents and children to stay

away from all watercourses and structures such as bridges, culverts and dams. Elevated water levels, fast flowing water and slippery conditions along stream banks continue to make these locations extremely dangerous.

OPG has a number of educational materials available on water safety around dams and hydroelectric stations including a brochure, a DVD for adults and an educational interactive computer game for children. The OPP and OPG also have a television ad that warns people to stay clear, and stay safe near hydroelectric dams and stations.

To order a free "Stay Clear, Stay Safe" water safety package, which includes a video, brochure and poster for your family or community organization, please call the Information Centre at (905) 623-7122.

Environmental Study for Refurbishment Complete

"Thanks for input and support."

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has approved the environmental assessment (EA) for the refurbishment and continued operation of Pickering B.

"The CNSC's decision reflects the results of the two and a half year comprehensive environmental impact study that was conducted," said Pat McNeil, Senior Vice President for Generation Development. "Having generated more than 4,000 pages of documentation, OPG's study involved extensive stakeholder input from the community, organizations, elected officials, and

many local, provincial and federal agencies to ensure we completed the most thorough EA possible."

"Our thanks go out to everyone for their input into the EA and involvement in the process," acknowledged McNeil. "The community supports our operations and demonstrated that commitment throughout the EA process."

While the CNSC's decision on the EA is one input to the ultimate decision of whether to refurbish Pickering B.

"This is a complex decision," said Mr. McNeil, "and we are continuing our due diligence to consider all aspects of the proposed project. It is a decision that will be made in consideration of all of OPG's plans for creating a cleaner generation portfolio that will reliably, safely, and effectively meet Ontario's future electricity needs with one of the cleanest generating portfolios in North America."

Earning Ontarian's Trust and Support



A message from
Wayne Robbins,
Senior Vice President,
Darlington

The people of Ontario expect electricity to be available when they need it and at a reasonable cost. Since Ontario Power Generation produces

about 70% of the electricity used in our province, we understand the accountability that comes with those expectations. And our employees understand that we must reliably deliver every day to continue earning the trust and support of the people of the Province of Ontario.

In 2008, our nuclear fleet safely produced 48.2 terrawatt hours of electricity. Those are our highest production numbers in over seven years. And it means that Ontario Power Generation's nuclear units produced 33% of the electricity used in Ontario last year.

Darlington Nuclear Generating Station alone produced 29 terawatt hours of electricity last year, meeting 20% of Ontario's electricity needs. Darlington's strong 2007 performance of 89.5% capability was further improved upon in 2008 when we reached 94.5% capability.

Last year, we completed a review of support services across Ontario Power Generation and launched initiatives that will increase productivity and lower costs. As part of these efforts, we have further increased our already strong commitment to finding energy efficiencies in all our operations.

Targeted maintenance programs, equipment upgrades and plant condition improvements help to keep our nuclear fleet and other generating units at strong performing levels.

In April and May we will be carrying out a significant amount of maintenance, inspections and modification upgrades at Darlington as we undertake the vacuum building outage. Every twelve years, federal regulations require us to carry out physical inspections and testing to ensure continued availability of the vacuum building.

The vacuum building is one of our station's safety systems, and it's always on standby should there ever be a buildup of pressure in one of our reactor buildings. We're proud of our safety record and have never had to utilize the vacuum building since Darlington started generating electricity.

During this major planned outage, we will be completing approximately 35,000 tasks. There will be an additional 1700 support staff at the Darlington site to help us complete this large amount of work. As always, the safety of the close to 4000 employees who will be working together on this outage is our first priority.

Redeveloped Ganaraska Forest Centre

An enhanced wilderness experience

If you've been feeling cooped up after a long winter, and feel the need to get outside, the Ganaraska Forest (just east of Highway 115) has lots to offer. Whether it's hiking, biking, snowmobiling or horseback riding, the centre has a huge network of trails to explore as well as picturesque scenery.

OPG is a proud sponsor of the Ganaraska Forest Centre Building for Change fundraising campaign. Funds raised for the campaign will support the construction of a new facility, a unique, 'green' building that will continue the legacy of conservation education while allowing for new ventures such as special events and hosting groups for conferences or retreats. Construction of the new facility began in May 2008, with the grand opening for the redeveloped centre scheduled for this September.

OPG has enjoyed a long-standing partnership with the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, through many educational events across the community, including the Spring Water Awareness Program. "We are proud to be part of the team of community partners who will bring to life the next era in environmental education with the redevelopment of the Ganaraska Forest Centre," said Pat McNeil, Senior Vice President, Nuclear Generation Development, OPG.

"We are committed to the responsible environmental operation of our facilities and to bringing environmental programs and education to employees and our community. We look forward to seeing everyone at the new Ganaraska Forest Centre and Ontario Power Generation Conservation Gallery."

The redeveloped Ganaraska Forest Centre will be a unique building that adheres to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards, showcasing renewable-energy opportunities and resources.

"I grew up right down the road from the Ganaraska Forest Centre, and it was a big part of my life growing up" said Paul Quantrill, Chair of the Building for Change Fundraising Committee, who says the new facility will add significant value to the programming. "I continue to be very much an outdoors person, and these days my kids are among the 6000 kids who visit the centre every year."

Visitors are invited to continue coming to the centre to enjoy the area throughout the construction. To find out about the many programs and activities available for individuals, families and groups, or to contribute to the Building for Change campaign, please visit www.grca.on.ca or call (905) 885-8173.



Ganaraska Forest Centre under construction.

'Make a Connection' with your local farmers

Visit the Durham Region Farm Connections Open House

When was the last time you milked a cow? Families and local residents are invited to attend an Open House to meet farmers and their livestock from across Durham Region and to participate in hands-on farming demonstrations. See how to protect the soil, air and water; learn about crops and farm machinery; and view agricultural murals made by participating schools.

OPG is a proud supporter of the Durham Region Farm Connections agricultural

education program. Started in 2005 by a group of volunteers, Farm Connections aims to build appreciation for the agriculture and food industry in Durham, and to help students understand where their food is grown. Each year over 1200 Grade 3 students from across Durham attend the program.

"It's a tremendous volunteer effort," said Farm Connections Committee Chair, Mary Anne Found. "Over 150 farmers donate their time, produce and livestock each year to help educate our neighbours about Durham's number one industry – agriculture."



Farm Connections was the recipient of the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence in 2008.

The Open House takes place Wednesday, April 8 at the Vipond Memorial Arena in Brooklin from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. While admission is free, donations of canned goods will be gratefully accepted on behalf of the local food bank. Visit www.durhamfarmconnections.ca for more information.

March Break MADNESS

2009

It's March Break Madness and you're invited! Join **OPG Darlington Nuclear** for a variety of fun, entertaining and educational family-friendly activities... there is something for everyone to enjoy! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

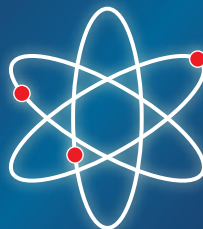
SIGNS OF SPRING

FREE

Monday, March 16, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Darlington Waterfront Trail (see map)

Search for "Signs of Spring" as you explore the Waterfront Trail on a guided tour. Join Friends of Second Marsh for a fun nature activity, enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride, and then warm up with a yummy treat and hot drink around the campfire.



Interactive Energy

Wednesday, March 18, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Darlington Nuclear Information Centre (see map)

Join us at the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre. During your visit you can explore the world of electricity, learn about energy, watch a movie, play a game and make a craft. We look forward to seeing you!

FREE

SKATING PARTY

Tuesday, March 17, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

South Courtice Arena

Pad A - Parents & Tots Skate
Pad B - General Public Skate

Beginner or expert, tot or teen, skating is fun for everyone. Sharpen your blades, lace up your skates, put on your helmet and join us at the South Courtice Arena, 1595 Prestonvale Rd. in Courtice (just south of Bloor St.).

FREE

DINOSAURS AND COMPANY

Thursday, March 19 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Clarington Museum & Archives
Registration Requested

Take a journey back to the time of the dinosaurs. Discover where they lived, what they ate and how they became extinct. There's lots more facts, fossils and fun crafts too, at the Clarington Museum & Archives, 62 Temperance St., Bowmanville.
Pre-register on-line at opg.com/community or call 905-623-7122.

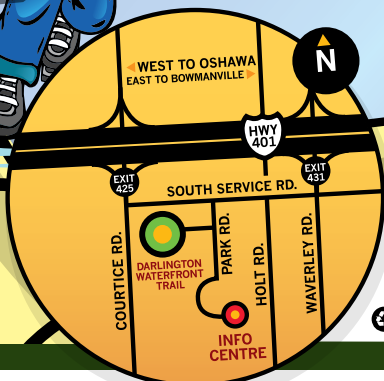
FREE

Early Settlers at Purple Woods Conservation Area Maple Syrup Festival

Friday, March 20, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Visit the "early settlers" from Pickering Museum Village for pioneering activities. Purple Woods is located in Oshawa, approximately 20 minutes north of Taunton Road, at the intersection of Simcoe Street and Coates Road.

(Note: \$7 per family admission fee to Purple Woods.
OPG-sponsored activities with Pickering Museum Village are FREE.)



For more information on our March Break program, as well as other Darlington Nuclear Information Centre events, please call **905.623.7122** or e-mail darlingtonnuclear@opg.com.

**ONTARIO POWER
GENERATION**

Neighbours



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