

Exemplary Environmental Leadership/Sustainability Program or Initiative

School Board: **Thames Valley District School Board**

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Name of Program/Initiative: **Teaching Toolkit**

Hyperlinks to Documents or Website(s) Describing this Program/Initiative **www.london.ca/teacher**

Description of Program/Initiative

Our TVDSB Environmental Education & Management Learning Coordinator has collaborated with City of London staff to develop a Teacher Toolkit of resources to connect teachers and students to local environmental processes and issues. Resources were developed over the summer, and this February, City of London Water, Waste and Parks experts, our five TVDSB Environmental Educators, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority educators, and ten of our teachers will collaborate, during a one day workshop, to develop further engaging activities for our students which will then be made available to all as part of the online resource.

The lessons are designed to support teachers to develop inquiry-based activities, to create living case studies, as well as stewardship campaign suggestions which offer teachers an opportunity to empower their students to effect change in their community. Our intention is to support teachers in extending the learning provided at our environmental education centres. The new resources generated will build on our existing programming at our centres to support teachers in the grade 3 Plants & Soils unit, grade 7/8 Geography (GPS & mapping), grade 6 Biodiversity, grade 5 Conservation of Energy, and grade 8 Water Quality.

What has been the Impact on Student Learning?

Students who have taken part in the activities thus far have learned about the local impacts of climate change, and how this will affect their particular watershed in an experiential manner. Through the municipally supported stewardship campaign, students were given a platform for their voice to be heard, and to engage the broader community by promoting awareness of increased storm water pollution.