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## Springwater Reduces Energy Use 24/7

**SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP / March 22, 2010** – Once again, the Township of Springwater will be joining municipalities across Canada in participating in Earth Hour.

In an attempt to fight global warming and promote environmental awareness, the Township of Springwater will be joining other municipalities across Canada in participating in Earth Hour 2009.

In addition to participating in Earth Hour, the Township of Springwater Council contributed to environmental awareness through the design and building of their 21,000 square foot Administration Centre in 2009.

The Administration Centre helps to serve as an example for responsible, sustainable buildings. During the day, sensors detect when sufficient natural light exists, and overhead lighting is shut off. Existing trees were preserved, where possible, to provide natural cooling and protection of the building. The facility is heated and cooled by an in-floor heating system. This system is very energy efficient as it delivers heat where it is most effective and useable.

Built to accommodate growth until 2040, the Administration Centre is expected to be certified LEED (Leadership in Energy Efficient Design) Silver.

Policies such as the Reduced Use of Bottled Water policy, the Green Purchasing Policy and the Carpool Policy demonstrate Council's commitment to protecting the environment, and setting a green standard to future growth within the Township.

The overall objective of Earth Hour is to fight global warming and promote environmental awareness takes place on Saturday March 27, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

This Earth Hour began in Sydney, Australia in 2007, when more than two million Sydney businesses and households turned off their lights for one hour. That hour sent a powerful worldwide message that it is possible to take action.

Between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on March 27<sup>th</sup>, the Township of Springwater is encouraging residents and businesses to turn off (or reduce) their lights as a symbolic recognition of the fight against climate change. Businesses that are not in a position to turn their lights off completely due to operational requirements are encouraged to reduce and conserve power between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The Township of Springwater supports those municipalities that have already committed to participating, and would like to encourage participation by all municipalities.

For further information or to register as a participating organization or as an individual visit the Earth Hour website at: [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).

Springwater is a municipality of approximately 18,000 residents located in the heart of Simcoe County. The Township is governed by a seven-member council with a complement of 60 full and part-time staff. In 2009, the Township celebrated its 15th anniversary of the amalgamated Township of Springwater, and the opening of their first Administration Centre.

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