

# **National School Lights Out Day**

**March 30th, 2012**

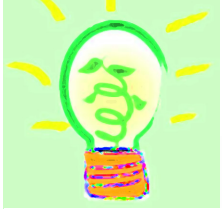
## **THE HOW-TO GUIDE**

**This packet includes:**

- **Flyer**
- **How-to Page**
- **Factsheet**
- **Sample Letter to Principal**
- **Sample Letter to Faculty**



STUDENTS  
SAVING  
ENERGY



**THIS MARCH 30<sup>th</sup>,  
JOIN STUDENTS ACROSS THE NATION FOR...**



# NATIONAL SCHOOL LIGHTS OUT DAY

March 30 2012

There a new movement brewing, one fueled by student activism. It's simple, yet contains a powerful message. We want you to...

## **TURN OFF THE LIGHTS!**

For one whole day, students will encourage their schools to leave classroom lights off. We want to raise awareness about school-wide energy consumption and the educate communities about where our energy comes from. We want to change daily habits and perspectives. We want to show that by working together, students, the minds of our future generation, have the ability to make change.

**BE the change in your school today!**

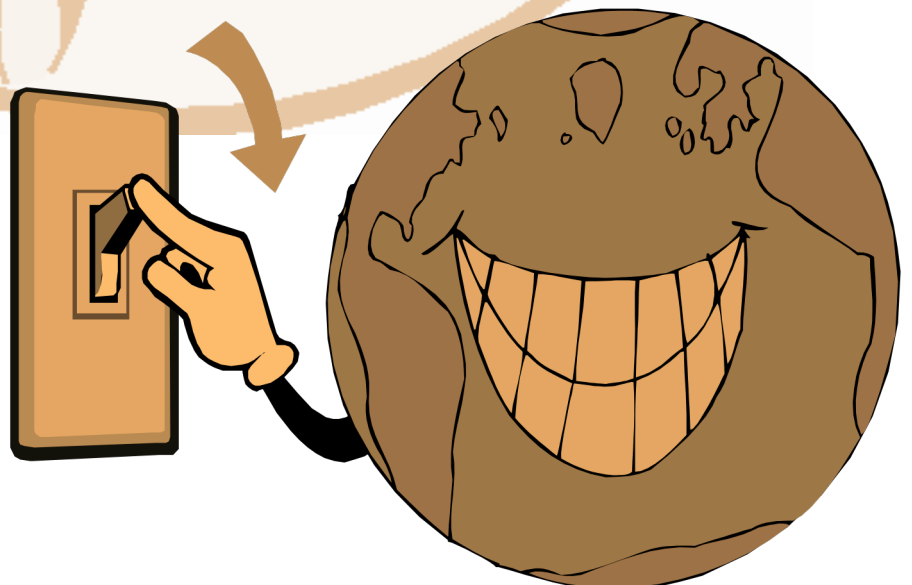
Get involved by emailing us at:  
[studentssavingenergy@gmail.com](mailto:studentssavingenergy@gmail.com)

Website:  
[www.studentssavingenergy.org](http://www.studentssavingenergy.org)

Find us on



Inspired by Earth Hour 2012:  
<http://www.earthhour.org/>



STUDENTS  
SAVING  
ENERGY



# How to implement National School Lights Out Day



**March 30, 2012**

**...in your own community!**

## **A day to learn in the natural light**

Join students across the nation in the movement against dirty energy. By choosing not to use artificial light for one day, we can save thousands of dollars and tons of energy—in just a matter of hours. But we must work together!

## **How to join the movement in your own community:**

- 1) Contact us at [studentssavingenergy@gmail.com](mailto:studentssavingenergy@gmail.com)
- 2) Get permission from your school administration
- 3) Download flyers from the website, print them out and distribute!
- 4) Reach out to students that you know in other high schools the spread the campaign
- 5) On March 30<sup>th</sup>, it's LIGHTS OUT!

## **How to convince teachers to do this:**

- Classes with windows can be conducted by natural sunlight
- Teachers can plan ahead to organize their class period with lessons that do not necessarily require light (i.e. screen projectors, films, etc).
- Taking the class outside for a lesson. There are so many creative ways to have a class outdoors and still teach effectively.
- Have a "get to know each other" type day, and talk about themselves to their students, what they're doing that weekend, what the students are doing, interests, etc

For more information, emailing us at: [studentssavingenergy@gmail.com](mailto:studentssavingenergy@gmail.com)

Website: [www.studentssavingenergy.org](http://www.studentssavingenergy.org)

# Factsheet

- The nation's 17,450 school districts spend more than \$6 billion annually on energy – more than is spent on computers and textbooks combined
- As much as 30 percent of a district's total energy is used inefficiently or unnecessarily
- National average in energy costs per school: \$181.53
- Electricity demand in the U.S. will grow by at least 40% by 2032
- Average school energy use in 2005/2006 was \$1.15/ft., of which electricity was 63%
- Average electricity prices were \$0.09 kWh in 2006 and rose an average 6% per year over the last three years

The biggest source of energy in schools is the lighting, which accounts for about 30% of total energy use.

## Where does your energy come from?

- To find out where your school/town's source of energy comes from, visit [ilovemountains.org](http://ilovemountains.org) and enter your zipcode. You can use this information to present to the administration to gain support for your project!

**YOU HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

[http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/challenge/learn\\_more/Schools.pdf](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/challenge/learn_more/Schools.pdf)  
<http://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=2908>

Dear Principal \_\_\_\_\_,

On Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Students Saving Energy (SSE) will launch a massive campaign with one simple goal—to encourage schools across the nation turn off all the classroom lights for one day. It is called the “National School Lights Out Day.” I am requesting your permission to allow our school to participate in this event.

Inspired by Earth Hour 2012, the goal of this campaign is to raise awareness about school-wide energy consumption and to show the amount of energy and costs that can be saved through such a quick and easy act as turning off the lights. Most of all, we want to send a powerful message about taking a stand on climate change. We hope to change daily habits and perspectives. We want to show that by working together, schools, the institutions of our future generation, have the ability to make change.

I am asking to have your support for that day to encourage the entire faculty to keep all their lights off in the classroom.

There may be minor inconveniences for teachers to make lesson plans that don't include lights, but there are many ways to still make an educational day out of it. Some ideas include:

- Taking the class outside for a lesson. There are so many creative ways to have a class outdoors and still teach effectively.
- Opening the shades to let light in, and teaching class as normal
- Using screen projectors, showing a film, etc
- Have a “get to know each other” type day, and talk about themselves to their students, what they're doing that weekend, what the students are doing, interests, etc.

We all love convenience. But convenience is slowly destroying the world. Simple sacrifices need to be made. I realize it's a sacrifice most do not want to make, but making that effort will truly mean something. We're not asking people to change their life-styles. We're just asking people to make a small sacrifice by leaving the lights off for one day. If schools across the nation participate in this together, imagine how much of an impact it will make! It can start the ripple that will trigger a tidal wave of change.

Thank you for your time,

Your Name  
Your Environmental Club

Victoria Pan  
Students Saving Energy

Nicole Dallara  
Sierra Club

Participate today! Email us at [studentssavingenergy@gmail.com](mailto:studentssavingenergy@gmail.com)

Website: [www.studentssavingenergy.org](http://www.studentssavingenergy.org)

Dear Faculty,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am part of \_\_\_\_\_(environmental club). On Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, our school will be participating in a massive campaign called the “National School Lights Out Day.” It has one simple goal—to encourage schools across the nation turn off all the classroom lights for one day. I am asking you to please keep all your lights off in the classroom on that day.

Inspired by Earth Hour 2012, the goal of this campaign is to raise awareness about school-wide energy consumption and to show the amount of energy and costs that can be saved through such a quick and easy act as turning off the lights. Most of all, we want to send a powerful message about taking a stand on climate change. We hope to change daily habits and perspectives. We want to show that by working together, schools, the institutions of our future generation, have the ability to make change.

There may be minor inconveniences for you to make a lesson plan that doesn't include lights, but there are many ways to still make an educational day out of it. Some ideas include:

- Taking the class outside for a lesson. There are so many creative ways to have a class outdoors and still teach effectively.
- Opening the shades to let light in, and teaching class as normal
- Using screen projectors, showing a film, etc
- Have a “get to know each other” type day, and talk about themselves to their students, what they're doing that weekend, what the students are doing, interests, etc.

We all love convenience. But convenience is slowly destroying the world. Simple sacrifices need to be made. I realize it's a sacrifice most do not want to make, but making that effort will truly mean something. We're not asking you to change your life-style. We're just asking you to make a small sacrifice by leaving the lights off for one day. If schools across the nation participate in this together, imagine how much of an impact it will make! It can start the ripple that will trigger a tidal wave of change.

If you cannot think of any lesson plan that would fit in with your schedule that doesn't involve lights, email me at \_\_\_\_\_ and I can give you more specific suggestions.

Please email me before you decide not to participate! The environmental club may be able to think of a creative way to make your lesson work with no lights!

Thanks so much, and hopefully you will participate in the National School Lights Out Day on March 30<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you for your time,

Your Name  
Your Environmental Club

Victoria Pan  
Students Saving Energy

Nicole Dallara  
Sierra Club

Participate today! Email us at [studentssavingenergy@gmail.com](mailto:studentssavingenergy@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.studentssavingenergy.org](http://www.studentssavingenergy.org)