

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL HELPS TO KEEP THE EARTH CLEAN!

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22

We are all stewards of the Earth and as such it is our responsibility to be aware of how our actions affect the environment, including ways that we can make a positive impact. One easy way to do this is by reducing the number of times children are driven to and from school. Active travel, including using the school bus, helps to lower our carbon footprint. Driving your vehicle, even for short distances, requires a lot of energy, which contributes to the burning of fossil fuels, creating pollution and sending greenhouse gases into the air we breathe. These gases harm the Earth's atmosphere and contribute to pollution, smog and climate change, which are all harmful to both our physical and mental health.

Earth Day is an annual worldwide event and is celebrated on April 22. Earth Day is a time to reflect on our habits and consider making small changes to our routines. Do your part to keep the Earth clean by using Active School Travel to get to and from school! For those who are unable to walk or cycle to school every day, you could choose an active mode of travel two or three times a week. You can also consider parking a short distance away from the school and walking a block or two to decrease the pollution around the school playgrounds. For Earth Day suggestions, as well as school and classroom activities, visit: <http://ontarioactiveschooltravel.ca/spring-into-spring/>.

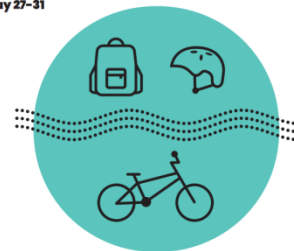
BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK: May 27th – May 31st

Let's get rolling! Bike to School Week runs from May 27 – 31. We ask all schools to register their schools by May 10th and actively promote Bike to School Week! Schools that register by May 10th will receive a package of incentives, while supplies last. The package includes a bike repair kit, valve lights, reflective bands, bicycle bells, front lights, posters and stickers! This package can be used as prizes to motivate students. Schools that register after May 10th, will be notified where they can pick up an incentive package.

- To register visit: <http://www.bikemonth.ca/biketoschool>.
- To assist in promotion at your school, visit: www.bikemonth.ca/getting-started.
- For free York Region general and event posters, visit: www.bikemonth.ca/posters.

**Bike to
School
Week**
May 27-31

Discover the
fun of biking.



If your school is planning a Bike to School Week event or celebration or requires assistance to get started, email: activeschooltravel@ycdsb.ca.