

## Greening Your Office

...one tip at a time!

We care about the environment and we know you do too. Your office is a great place to make little changes that make a big difference. Here are some ideas to help you do just that. Provided monthly by R.E.A.P.S., we hope they inspire you to create change!

## **GREEN TIP #60:**

**April** 2015

## Green Washrooms

Washrooms can be the most expensive to upkeep and waste the greatest amount of resources in your entire building. Here are some tips to follow to save both the environment and your pocket-book:

- Use cloth towels or hand dryers instead of paper towels.
- Install a displacement toilet dam in the toilet reservoir: place a plastic container filled with stones (not bricks) in the toilet's reservoir. This can displace approximately 4 litres of water per flush, greatly reducing your water usage even within a year.
- Put motion-sensor lights and taps in the washroom. Just like at some freezer aisles in grocery stores, they will only be used when someone walks into the room.
- Ensure all cleaning products are non-toxic and environmentally safe
- Install a low-flow faucet aerator to reduce water flow from taps to only what is necessary
- When you are done using the taps, immediately shut them off and make sure they don't drip. A tap leaking at 1 drop/sec can waste more than 25 litres of water each day, equaling 10 000 litres per year (Environment Canada)
  - Fix continually running toilets: they waste huge amounts of waters. Instead try a low-flow toilet.
  - Check for toilet leakage by putting dye or food colouring in the tank. If any colour appears in the toilet bowl without flushing, you should get the leak repaired.
  - The toilet is not an alternative garbage can! Do not flush things like tissues down the toilet to dispose of them. Put them in the garbage can where a dozen litres of water is not needed to remove them.



Do you have any questions or suggestions? Call or email us at green\_solutions@reaps.org!