



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER
DIRECTOR

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Dear Educator:

We cordially invite you and your students to participate in promoting pollution prevention (P2) through energy efficiency. The **Bright Idea** program highlights how the replacement of incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) in homes can impact both energy costs and environmental quality through a reduction in power plant emissions.

The Bright Idea website will be available on Earth Day. Classrooms across the state will be able to access information, instructions and forms necessary for the program. If you have limited internet access, an information packet can be mailed to you. Your classroom results can be returned or submitted by fax, mail, or via the internet. The MDEQ will calculate the energy and environmental savings from each class's efforts and publish them on the internet as part of the P2 Week website. Participating classrooms will also be sent a certificate of appreciation for their participation in the **Bright Idea** program.

The Bright Idea program is designed to demonstrate the environmental impacts that can be made by individuals through simple, everyday choices. CFLs are now widely available in the stores like Meijers, Lowes, Home Depot, hardware stores, etc. If you don't locate sources in your area, the Bright Ideas website will list a supplier that can provide them and other suppliers can be found on the web. For schools in Kalamazoo County, contact Steve Leuty, the County recycling coordinator, for possibly getting a free CFL. He can be reached at 269-384-8110.

This is the first year for the state-wide program. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) plans to promote this program around Earth Day (April 22) each year, however, you can participate at anytime during the year.

For additional information about energy efficiency, please visit the following web sites:

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	www.michigan.gov/deq
Home Energy Savers	www.eere.energy.gov/consumerinfo/energy_savers/index.html
Dr. E's Energy Lab	www.eren.doe.gov/kids
Kids Zone – Energy Games	www.energy.gov/engine/content.do?BT_CODE=K_GQ
Urban Options Sustainability Education Handbook	www.urbanoptions.org
P2 Week Website	www.michigan.gov/deqp2initiatives

For additional assistance with **Bright Idea**, please contact us.

Sincerely,

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