



Go Greener Objectives:

Go greener was launched in March 2008 with the Aim of Reducing ER Carbon Footprint

To raise the Awareness of the impact of climate change/global warming

To raise the Awareness of the impact of current behaviour and lifestyles on the local and world environment

To enlighten and persuade local people to make the necessary changes in behaviour and lifestyle to make a difference

To be imaginative, innovative and forward thinking in developing new approaches and ideas

To reach out to engage and involve every person, living, working or involved in East Renfrewshire

Brief History of Go Greener

Launched at Eastwood Park Theatre September 2008

Barrhead Festival July 2009

Apple Day September 2009

First AGM October 2009

Eco Schools Meeting Nov 09 at St Ninian's HS

High School Conference March 2010

Children's Apple Orchard to be planted in Rouken Glen Park

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Go Greener

East Renfrewshire Eco Schools Newsletter

Go Greener in partnership with East Renfrewshire Council Education Department held a Secondary School Conference at Woodfarm High School on the 4th March. Ian Gibson Headmaster and his staff provided an excellent venue, catering and IT support.

Guest speaker Stuart Allison (Quality Development Manager) Eco Schools opened the meeting. He emphasised the importance of gaining Green Flag accreditation and thanked Go Greener for acting as the community element in the process leading to the winning of this prestigious award.

Councillor Eddie Phillips (Chair of Go Greener) set the tone for the meeting by highlighting the worldwide effects of global warming and climate change. He described how Scotland was a leading campaigner in the world implementing practices that will reduce carbon emissions.

Paul Cortopassi Development Officer with Eco Schools Scotland overviewed the main topics for discussion: -

- ✚ **The 7 Elements & 9 Topics of the Eco-Schools Programme with the 'Litter Pick' being the compulsory Topic**
- ✚ **Providing Evidence To Support Accreditation As An Eco-School**
- ✚ **Curriculum For Excellence**

Following the presentation each school identified issues that had presented a barrier to achieving Green Flag accreditation. This was followed by a short surgery and recommendations from Paul Cortopassi.

A workshop then took place when each of the schools formed a group to discuss the development of an '**Action Plan**'. This was followed by a presentation by each of the schools on how their Eco Committees supported by their Headmaster and Eco Teachers would work with all the pupils on the schools Eco development.

Paul Cortopassi commented on the presentations and provided guidance on how High Schools in East Renfrewshire could move forward successfully and achieve their first 'Green Flag'.

Glyn Jones (Eco Group Team Leader) highlighted some of the other initiatives that Go Greener was promoting. Expertise in each one of these activities existed in East Renfrewshire schools and would be made available to any school that wished to use a particular campaign to demonstrate to the assessor the adoption of an Eco activity. The topics currently available are:

- ✚ **Junk Mail**
- ✚ **Walking Buses**
- ✚ **Activity Trails**
- ✚ **Plastic Bottle Greenhouses**

Eddie Phillips will be leading an Eco Interest Group in a campaign to reduce '**JUNK MAIL**' and another to look into raising the profile of '**WALKING BUSES**' in local schools.

Rosemary Crossan (Neilston PS) has offered to assist another group to look at the planning associated with developing an '**ACTIVITY TRAIL**'.

Mark Weir (Netherlee PS) has been involved from the beginning in the installation of an '**ECO GREENHOUSE**' and will be pleased to offer advice to any school who wishes to start this project that includes the acquisition of funds.