

October 1, 2007

- News
Sports
Columns
Features
Archives

- Obituaries
Classifieds
Career Ads
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- Featured Links
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City gets bright idea

Project Porchlight promotes smart energy choices, light bulbs to be distributed to Wetaskiwin homes

Ruth Saunders; editor@wetaskiwintimes.com
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Porchlights will be lit throughout Wetaskiwin through a new program called Project Porchlight.

Project Porchlight is a program originally out of Ottawa, which has made its way to Alberta. The organization's mandate is to educate Canadians on making smart energy choices which will protect the environment and save money. To promote the idea, they have donated compact florescent light bulbs to be distributed to homes throughout Wetaskiwin in an effort to let people know how the CFL bulbs cut energy consumption savin money and the environment.

The City of Wetaskiwin's recreation department is working with the group to get the bulbs distributed throughout the city.

"The plan is to get one 13 watt compact florescent bulb to households, over 4,000 of them in Wetaskiwin," said recreation manager Byron King.

King explained that his department has received the delivery of the bulbs for Wetaskiwin and are storing them for distribution.

"A couple of the service groups are willing to put them out for us," he said.

The message delivered through the project will be how consumers can save money by using CFL bulbs and, at the same time, the will be helping the environment.

"I first heard of this at the (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) conference and thought it would be a good idea for Wetaskiwin," said Ald. Bill Elliot.

Upon returning home, he spoke to the Wetaskiwin Rotary Club, which he is a member of, and they agreed with the proposal.

Also on-board to deliver bulbs are the Elks Club as well as other service organizations. No time line on the distribution of the bulbs was noted at city council.

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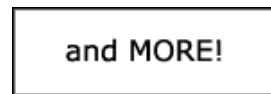
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