



Environmental Standards for Facility Operations and Maintenance

Board Received: January 26, 2015

Review Date: February 2019

Policy Statement

The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to the operation and maintenance of green and healthy equitable and accessible education facilities that contribute to a sustainable future. All facility operation and maintenance processes and procedures will consider the Board's Environmental Standards for Facility Operations and Maintenance Guidelines which are committed to achieving green and healthy facilities.

Accountability:

1. Frequency of Reports – As needed
2. Criteria for Success – All Board facilities are operated and maintained following the established Environmental Standards

Procedure – Facility Operations:

The Grand Erie District School Board's Environmental Standards for Operations provides an overview of the targets and guidelines for operating our facilities in a manner that is environmentally friendly and healthy. The Environmental Standards for Facility Operations illustrates the Board's commitment to green and healthy education facilities.

The Environmental Standards for Facility Operations address six categories directed to achieving green and healthy facilities:

- 1.0 Waste Management
- 2.0 Hazardous Waste
- 3.0 Green Clean
- 4.0 Water Conservation
- 5.0 Energy Conservation/Building Automation System
- 6.0 Environmental Education

A list of action items for achieving our Environmental Standards for Facility Operations is attached as Appendix A.

Procedure – Facility Maintenance:

The Grand Erie District School Board's Environmental Standards for Facility Maintenance provides an overview of the targets and guidelines for maintenance to our facilities in a manner that is environmentally friendly and healthy. The Environmental Standards for Facility Maintenance illustrates the Board's commitment to green and healthy education facilities.

The Environmental Standards for Facility Maintenance address four categories directed to achieving green and healthy facilities:

- 1.0 Energy Conservation/Building Automation System
- 2.0 Purchasing Equipment
- 3.0 Waste Minimization
- 4.0 School Ground Greening

A list of action items for achieving our Environmental Standards for Facility Maintenance is attached as Appendix B.

Appendix A:

Guidelines for achieving our Environmental Standards for Facility Operations1.0 Waste Management:

- The Grand Erie District School Board shall, where possible, aim to reduce, reuse and recycle waste materials in all departments, schools and facilities.
- The Board shall conduct waste audits at a minimum of one elementary and one secondary school each school year. Based on audit results, a reduction plan will be developed and posted at all board facilities. This is in accordance with Ontario Regulation 102/94.
- The Board will support, however possible, initiatives and programs to divert materials from disposal in landfills by encouraging the reuse and recycling of items.

2.0 Hazardous Waste:

- The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to the safe and environmentally friendly management of all hazardous waste generated through curricular activities and facility processes.
- The Board recognizes the importance of proper management and disposal of hazardous waste and compliance with legislative requirements (Ontario Environmental Protection Act), statutes, by-laws and procedures.
- Hazardous waste collection will be done each June where school staff will be responsible for completing the Hazardous Waste Inventory Forms and submit to Facility Services.
- Examples of hazardous wastes created within our facilities include:
 - o Chemicals, minerals, radioactive wastes, specimens, aged or obsolete chemicals.
 - o Paints, wood, metal, chemical and construction wastes generated through technology.
 - o Chemicals and supplies used in photo processing.
 - o Oil, paints, solvents and lubricants used within auto technology programs.

3.0 Green Cleaning:

- The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to using the most human and earth friendly products which leave the least negative impact on the building occupants and the environment.
- Through a management program, The Grand Erie District School Board will:
 - o adopt a green clean program;
 - o strive to use certified green products through standards, such as: Forest Stewardship Council, EcoLogo and GreenSeal;
 - For all products without green certifications, we are committed to considering and evaluating chemical contents and composition, including pH levels and raw materials used.
 - o Include Green Cleaning product specifications in all requests for proposal and tenders issued for cleaning products.

4.0 Water Conservation:

- The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to the protection of our local watersheds and resources.
- The Board recognizes the importance of water conservation and will seek to identify opportunities to reduce water consumption while promoting efficient use of water among staff, students and school community.
- The Board is committed monitoring and measuring potable water quality and consumption. This is in accordance with Ontario Regulation 170/03 and 243/07.

5.0 Energy Conservation/Building Automation System:

- The Grand Erie District School Board will consider renewable energy options, when economically feasible, as a way to minimize the building's environmental impact.
- The Board will conduct annual energy audits, which will include saving and cost analysis. Based on audit results, a reduction plan may be developed in order to identify energy saving opportunities and trends of inefficiency. This is in accordance with the Ontario Green Energy Act.

- The Grand Erie District School Board supports the ongoing accountability and optimization of building energy performance and identifies opportunities for additional energy-saving investments through their Building Automation System (BAS).
- The Board's BAS monitors and controls the performance of mechanical equipment and major building systems, including heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting, regulating indoor comfort and conditions during occupied and unoccupied times.
- The Grand Erie District School Board supports the purchasing and installation of energy-efficient equipment, where feasible.

6.0 Environmental Education:

- Refer to Grand Erie District School Board's Policy SO18

Appendix B:

Guidelines for achieving our Environmental Standards for Facility Maintenance1.0 Energy Conservation/Building Automation System:

- The Grand Erie District School Board will consider renewable energy options, when economically feasible, as a way to minimize the building's environmental impact.
- The Board will strive to conduct annual energy audits, which will include saving and cost analysis. Based on audit results, a reduction plan may be developed in order to identify energy saving opportunities and trends of inefficiency. This is in accordance with the Ontario Green Energy Act.
- The Grand Erie District School Board supports the ongoing accountability and optimization of building energy performance and identifies opportunities for additional energy-saving investments through their Building Automation System (BAS).
- The Board's BAS monitors and controls the performance of mechanical equipment and major building systems, including heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting, regulating indoor comfort and conditions during occupied and unoccupied times.
- Through the BAS, information is collected and stored in order to make informed decisions regarding the buildings operations and potential energy-savings.
- The Grand Erie District School Board supports the purchasing and installation of energy-efficient equipment, where feasible.

2.0 Purchasing Equipment

- The Grand Erie District School Board's maintenance division is committed to adhering to the Board's procedure F107, including subsection 19.0 titled *Environment Protection*:

3.0 Waste Minimization:

- The Grand Erie District School Board Maintenance division shall, where possible, aim to reduce, reuse and recycle waste materials.
- The Grand Erie District School Board is committed to the safe and environmentally friendly management of all hazardous waste generated through curricular activities and facility processes.

4.0 School Ground Greening:

- The Grand Erie District School Board will strive to provide school grounds that are safe, functional, maintainable, aesthetically pleasing and environmentally responsible.
- The Grand Erie District School Board Maintenance division shall, where possible, partner with school's administration, staff, parents and local community to support, design and implement school ground greening projects, enhancements and rehabilitations.
- School Ground Greening projects will increase educational opportunities related to the Ontario Curriculum; encourage active, passive and learning spaces; improvements to the safety, comfort and aesthetics; and/or contribute to greening and environmental initiatives. Projects include, but are not limited to, tree planting, outdoor classrooms, shade areas/structures, creation of gardens, sports areas and passive play areas.