**Atholton Elementary School**

**Energy Conservation / Earth Day Week 2011**

**April 11th – 15th**

A Fact & Activity Sheet for Family Use

Electricity Facts

Yearly Average Appliance Energy Consumption:

Dishwasher (electric hot water) $24-$120/yr

Microwave Oven $6-$36/yr

Ninentendo WII $10/yr

42” LCD TV $16/yr

100 watt lightbulb, $7/yr

100 watt equivalent CFL $2/yr

Kids – talk to your parents about your utility bill. Give your parents an offer – if you’re able to help reduce your monthly electricity bill by 15%, will they split the savings with you (or perhaps allow you to play the WII a little longer?)

Glass Facts

**Glass** is made of soda ash, limestone and lots of sand. The mixture is put into a very hot furnace and when it melts, it turns into glass. Glass can be recycled and used over and over again! Recycled glass melts at a lower temperature than new materials, so it takes less energy to heat the furnace. Glass takes over 1,000,000 (one million) years to decompose (breakdown and disappear) in our landfills or dumps. In fact, most bottles and jars are made from recycled glass.

Aluminum Facts

**Aluminum i**s made from a natural resource called Bauxite Ore**.** Making products from recycled aluminum saves energy and Bauxite Ore. There is no limit to the number of times aluminum can be melted down and reused... that means aluminum can be recycled and reused over and over again! It takes 80 - 100 years for an aluminum can to decompose (break down and disappear) in our landfills and dumps. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough electricity to operate a TV for up to 3 hours.

Plastic Facts

Recycled soda and water bottles are made from PET plastic. PET is short for Polyethylene Terephthalate (pol-y-‘Eth-yl-lene ter-‘Eph-tha-late).It can take up to 700 years for plastic to decompose (break down and disappear) in our landfills or dumps. PET plastic can be recycled into; clothing, fiberfill for sleeping bags, stuffed animals, toys, rulers, and more!

(Thank you to Mrs. Dyson, Parent Green Team member, for putting this page together

for a home-to-school connection.) ☺