



Destination Conservation Saskatchewan Description of In-services

Each in-service is typically 2 hours long. Year End Celebrations are often longer.

The **initial in-service** (lead teachers, principals, custodians, maintenance staff, trustees) is to “kick start” the program. We do an overview of the whole program – retrofits and education – then split the teachers from the facility staff. The teachers get a complete description of the DCS program, including the resources we provide, and what is expected of them. The caretakers and maintenance staff review the plans and implementation timelines for the retrofits in each school. Question and answer is a major component of this session. The principals would go with either the teachers or the facilities staff.

The **technical in-service** (lead teachers and lead students) is designed to teach the participants about the various technologies involved in energy and water conservation, and waste reduction. We use hands on displays to demonstrate efficient lighting, timers for lights and vehicle heaters, weatherstripping, low flow faucets etc. We also teach the students to conduct audits in their own schools.

During the **lifestyle in-services** (lead teachers and lead students), we highlight some issues that the students might want to act on, and teach them how to run “lifestyle campaigns” in their schools.

The **retraining in-service** (lead teachers and lead students) is a combination of technical and lifestyle, designed to remind participants of what they learned last year, or to introduce new staff and students to the program.

The **professional development in-services** are for teachers (no students). We have them share information, ideas and challenges they’ve had. We also do activities with them, and give them the information to do the activities later with their students. In some divisions, we have replaced the year 3 professional development in-service with an in-service that students attend. Last year, we focused the activities at that in-service on “ecofootprint” (a concept that shows how much of the earth’s resources it would take to sustain each of us)

At each in-service, we give the teachers additional resources – either DCS materials, or other related materials. We also tell the teachers about other resources and funding opportunities that we are aware of.

The **year end celebration** (lead teachers and lead students) usually includes a barbeque lunch, and a program or activity. For the 2004-2005 school year, we are planning a 4 hour event that will focus on solar energy. Last year we had a combination of programs ranging from a Science Centre show on alternate energy sources; to building bat houses; to hikes through forests, sand dunes, valleys etc. A couple years ago, we provided a concert by “Scrap Arts Music” in conjunction with the Children’s Festival.

Division staff, administration, and interested parents are welcome at each of the events.

