

WHAT'S YOUR ONE GOOD IDEA?

The aim of this year's competition is to take a photograph that will raise awareness of the things everyone can do to tackle climate change by using energy more efficiently and making changes to the way we live, work and travel.

If we reduce our carbon footprint we can make a big difference to ourselves, our pocket and the environment. As citizens we have a responsibility to care for the planet not just for ourselves, but future generations.

This is your guide on how to enter and ideas for taking the winning picture!

Pictures submitted to the competition will be shown on-line and the winning photographer will be awarded a prize at the ceremony in Dublin in May and their picture will form part of a calendar for 2011.

All winning pictures (from Ireland North and South) will be shown in a touring exhibition, which will visit the Northern Ireland winner's town or city.

The One Good Idea photo competition is an all Island competition and is organised by Sustainable Energy Ireland and the Northern Ireland Energy Agency.

The closing date is 24th March 2010, so get your thinking cap on and get snapping!

STEP 1: Choose one of the following topics

EVERYDAY ENERGY SAVING – At home and in school

Everyday we use energy when we cook, shower, watch TV, listen to music, use a computer and heat our homes and schools. We could be using less energy and still meet our needs. Being energy smart saves on bills, increases the comfort of our homes and helps reduce climate change in the process – spread the word!

CLIMATE CHANGE – Your carbon footprint

When we use energy from burning fossil fuels we release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Each of us has a "carbon footprint" related to the amount of carbon dioxide we are responsible for producing. The size will depend on how we travel, the energy we use at home and other aspects of our lifestyle. The average person is responsible for releasing 11 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year – do you know your carbon footprint?

CLEAN, GREEN, ENERGY –Renewable energy

We have access to lots of renewable energy resources like wind, hydro and solar power. So why do we still depend on fossil fuels for 97% of our energy needs? When we burn these fuels we release carbon dioxide into the air which is causing the climate to change – is it time to go green?

CLIMATE CHANGE – The big picture

Climate change isn't just about the energy we use; the food we eat, the clothes we wear, how we use natural resources and deal with our waste can all contribute to climate change. The consequences will not just affect people, but even small increases in temperature can have a huge impact on habitats and biodiversity – are your actions costing the Earth?

THE WAY TO GO – Energy and travel

Getting around is part of modern life; people use energy to go to school, work, the shops and on holiday. But how we travel can have a serious impact on the environment. Walking, cycling and using public transport are all more efficient than driving a car – can you inspire others?

BUYING POWER – Choose energy efficiency

We all have consumer power, that is the power to choose the things we buy. People can use this power to choose cars, washing machines or light bulbs that use less energy to do the same job or buy locally grown food, but are people aware – get the message out there!

STEP 2: Research

Before you take your picture, you will need to find out more about you chosen topic.

This will help you take a better picture by giving you ideas and you need to submit an explanation along with your entry on what your picture shows. This explanation should be kept short and concise and be no more than 200 words.

There are loads of ways to research:

- Books, magazines, newspapers
- Websites
- Contact environmental organisations

STEP 3: Take your picture!

Think about what message your picture is trying to give, who the picture is aimed at and be as creative as possible at getting your one good idea out there. The only limit is your imagination!

STEP 4: How do I enter?

Everyone wishing to enter must send:

- A completed application form
- Your picture
- A short explanation of your picture and the message and thinking behind it. This must not exceed 200 words.

Applications should be e-mailed to glyttle@nienergyagency.org

To view entries on-line:

Entries will be shown on-line at our Facebook page along with any updates on the competition.

For more information:

Websites: www.nienergyagency.org
www.brysoneducation.org/news
E-mail: glyttle@nienergyagency.org
Phone: 02890269956

POSTAL ENTRIES:

If you wish to enter by post, please burn your picture(s) to a CD and send them to One Good Idea, Northern Ireland Energy Agency, 1-11 May Street, Belfast, BT1 2NA

24th March 2010 - CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS