



GREEN ACHIEVER NEWSLETTER

April 2012

Dear Deb,

With the hosepipe ban coming into effect in parts of the south-east last week, we could be facing the driest summer ever. The restrictions have been imposed following two unusually dry winters which has left rivers, reservoirs and aquifers well below normal levels. In reducing water use now, water companies are hoping to conserve water in time for the summer, when water use increases.

Obviously the hosepipe ban applies to householders only but the Environment Agency has published some guidance as to how businesses can conserve water and save money at the same time. For more information, please see www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/water/32070.aspx

Did any of you take part in any activities for Climate Week and did you remember to turn off your lights for Earth Hour 2012? If you did, we'd love to hear from you.

We'd also love to hear any feedback you have about the Green Achiever Newsletters or if there is anything that you would like us to include in future editions.



World Environment Day - 5 June 2012

This year is the 40th anniversary of World Environment Day, an annual event organised by the United Nations Environmental Programme. Participants are encouraged to take part in environmental activities all year round with efforts culminating on 5 June.

This year's theme is 'Green Economy: Does it include you?'. The Green Economy affects many aspects of our lives from sustainable energy, green jobs, low carbon economies, green policies, green buildings, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, industry, energy efficiency, sustainable tourism, sustainable transport, waste management to water and other resource efficiency.

For more information or for ways to get involved in World Environment Day, please see - www.unep.org/wed



Nairns Oatcakes get closer to zero-waste to landfill target

Nairns Oatcakes is achieving a recycling rate of 90% of waste generated from its two Edinburgh manufacturing sites.

The company, who produce around 3.5 million oatcakes a day, has identified additional recyclable waste streams that could be prevented from entering landfill. Packaged food waste from their sites is now being turned into energy through anaerobic digestion. Other recyclable materials are passed to a local recycling facility in order to recover materials that would have otherwise been sent to landfill.

They have also reduced the number of recycling bin collections to one per week in order to reduce carbon emissions.

For more information about how to reduce your waste entering landfill or anaerobic digestion, please contact us on 01743 343403.

Company Profiles

Mercat Tours

Edinburgh's Mercat Tours specialises in historical walks and ghost tours in and around the streets and old buildings of the city and the Lothians. Established in 1985, the company uses costumed characters, guides and storytellers bringing the stories to life. In addition, Mercat Tours International offers tours of key World War I and World War II sites in France, Belgium and Germany. Commenting on its Green Achiever scheme accreditation, Kathleen Brogan, head of development at Mercat Tours said: "Mercat has been committed to enhancing and promoting our unique heritage and environment for 27 years, operating walking tours with enthusiastic guides and sharing the history of the city. As a family business, we believe passionately in the collaborative spirit of employing local expertise, sharing best practise in the industry and working in partnership with like-minded businesses such as those involved in the Green Achiever scheme.

"Also in recognition of our commitment to social, environmental and economic sustainability, the Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) has just awarded Mercat gold status, describing us as 'pioneers'. We are incredibly proud to win this coveted award, particularly on our first application to participate in the scheme. I'm delighted to say that

with the support of Green Achiever and GTBS, we will keep 'engaging, enthralling and entertaining' all our visitors as we walk the greener Mile!"

www.mercattours.com Kathleen Brogan - Head of Development



Follow Green Achiever on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Blog](#)



Sincerely,

Mandy Stoker
Green Achiever Scheme