

# Contest!

## CUPE members and locals green photography contest

### Send us your photos!

Put your photography skills to use by capturing environmental actions taken by CUPE in your workplace and/or your community. The best photos will win prizes and your photo could be published in a CUPE publication to highlight environmental actions.

Here are some possible themes:

- Actions to green your workplace (recycling, carpooling, public transit, etc.)
- CUPE participation at community Earth Day events
- Green community initiatives

All CUPE members and locals are eligible. Send as many photos as you like. Please provide a brief description of each photograph you submit.



## Earth Day poster contest

### Children in kindergarten and up are eligible

Use the Earth Day Colouring Contest Poster insert that comes with this newsletter to draw your Earth Day Poster. You could win a prize! Winning posters will get cool, environmentally-friendly prizes. Your poster should show what the earth does for you and what you can do for the earth. Need more specific ideas? Why not draw something on one of these environmental themes:

- Climate change
- Air quality
- Waste, recycling and composting
- Water

Children in kindergarten and up can participate in the Earth Day Poster contest. Teachers can use the poster contest as part of their Earth Day lesson plans and activities.

**Online entry:** Submit your media or art work by email to [enviro@cupe.ca](mailto:enviro@cupe.ca)

**Mail-in entry:** Submit your work to CUPE Earth Day Contest, c/o CUPE Health and Safety Branch, 1375 St Laurent Blvd., Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 0Z7

Entries must be received by Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

# Enviro facts for Earth Day



## Climate change

- 2012 was the 36<sup>th</sup> year in a row that the average global temperature was above the long-term norm. Earth's temperature hasn't been below normal since 1976.
- Arctic Sea ice cover hit an all-time low in September 2012.
- Super Storm Sandy in October 2012 showed how more-intense storms and ocean water surges can have devastating effects.



## Air quality

Pollutants in our air from transportation, industrial, agricultural and other sources harm human health, environmental quality and all life.



## Waste/over-consumption

Too much waste and too much consumption (buying stuff we don't really need) add to greenhouse gases that cause climate change, and are linked to air, water and soil contamination.



## Water

Bottled water causes serious environmental harm. Less than 50 per cent of bottled water containers are recycled in Canada. Each year, 17 million barrels of oil are used in the United States to make 31.2 billion litres of bottled water.

## Actions and Solutions!

**Take action in your workplace and your community to drive environmental change:**

- Form workplace environment committees where workers offer solutions to cut greenhouse gas emissions, reduce waste, and make other good green changes.
- Cut your waste. Recycle whatever can be recycled. Compost at home, school and work.
- Audit your workplace to see where it can be made greener.
- Walk, bike or use public transit to get to work, school and around town.
- Drink only tap water.
- Buy local and grow your own fruits and vegetables.
- Call for a green economy and society where jobs can be quality union jobs that reduce our harmful impact on the environment.

**Want more ideas? [cupe.ca/environment](http://cupe.ca/environment)**  
For more information: [enviro@cupe.ca](mailto:enviro@cupe.ca)