

# Green Impact

Great Forest Australia

Issue #14 – 460 Lonsdale St

Spring 09

## It's The Little Things That Count

### In This Issue:

- 8 Tonnes of Greenhouse gases saved
- Green Subsidies
- National Recycling Week

### Recycling Rates Up

The recycling rate has been steadily increasing over the last few months, which is fantastic. The recycling rate for this period (by volume) is 58%, which is the same as last year's Spring quarter. Over the last 3 months, 460 Lonsdale St has diverted 3.5 tonnes of waste from landfill.

#### 460 Lonsdale St Environmental Results July - Sep 09

Paper/cardboard recycled	3 Tonnes
Trees Saved	40 trees
Oil Saved	8 barrels
Electricity Saved	12,660 kWh
Water Saved	98,133 litres
Greenhouse Gas avoided	8 tonnes

The actions **you** take have a direct impact on the program. Thank you to all staff for their participation.

### Green Subsidies....

There are many programs and subsidies for taking green steps in your home – here is a summary of *some* of the programs currently up for grabs.

#### NATIONAL PROGRAMS

##### Green Loans

This involves undertaking a Home Sustainability Assessment which looks at how to save water and energy. Then you can apply for an interest free Green Loan of up to \$10,000 to make the changes recommended in the assessment. *More*

*info:* [www.environment.gov.au/greenloans/](http://www.environment.gov.au/greenloans/)



##### Solar Hot Water

This program offers a \$1,600 rebate for new solar hot water systems replacing an electric hot water

system. This rebate is only available to people who have not already claimed the ceiling insulation rebate *More info:* [www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/solarhotwater/](http://www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/solarhotwater/)

##### Ceiling Insulation

This scheme provides funding for ceiling insulation worth up to \$1,600 for owner-occupiers, and up to \$1,000 to help landlords or tenants install ceiling insulation in rental properties. *More info:* [www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/insulation/](http://www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/insulation/)

##### Water Saving

The Federal Government offers up to \$500 for installing a water tank (connected to laundry and/or toilet) and permanent grey water treatment systems.

*More info:* [www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/nrgi/](http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/nrgi/)



For Victorians, there are currently four different incentives available replacing an existing hot water system with a solar hot water system. Some households who are not eligible under the Federal Government scheme may be eligible under this program. There is also a rebate for electric hot water systems being replaced by a gas hot water system. *More info:* [www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for\\_households/rebates.html](http://www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for_households/rebates.html)

### National Recycling Week

National Recycling Week can help you find ways to reuse useful items, clear out your cabinets, and learn more about recycling. Planet Ark is hosting NRW from the 9<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009.



**The Big Aussie Swap** – host your own or visit a party and get new stuff without costing the earth. Swap your unwanted item

for a token you can then exchange with others.

**Friday File Fling** – Set some time aside on Fri 13th Nov and encourage staff to clean out their files, and make a party out of it.

For all the details, Swap party locations and more visit: <http://recyclingweek.planetark.org/>

Put it in your calendars!