

Sustainable Living Education Program



Sustainable Living

Sustainable living is about making environmentally better choices every day in what we do, what we buy, what we use and what we throw away. We can all take simple actions around our homes, in our schools and at work to live more sustainably and save money too.

Wellington Shire Council supports community efforts through our Sustainable Living Education Program.

Schools and Early Years Education Program

Your school, kindergarten or community group can participate in our education program with visits from our Sustainability Education Officer to show you how to reduce waste, recycle and turn food scraps into valuable compost for growing a vegie garden. Guided excursions at our Kilmany Resource Recovery Centre and Landfill are also available.

Sessions can be tailored to where schools are at on their sustainability journeys and are age appropriate. Depending on the level of student interaction required, sessions go for 1 to 2 hours. A single session can be delivered to one class, or a series of sessions can be delivered to different classes throughout the day. Class resources and equipment are provided in the sessions and specific requirements can be discussed during the booking process.

NOW AVAILABLE – new and existing programs can be delivered in conjunction with our partner organisations at the brand-new Environmental and Cultural Education Centre, [Nakunbalook](#), located at Lake Guyatt in the Sale Botanic Gardens precinct.

The following sessions are available:

Get it Sorted! Waste Education - exploring the impact of our waste on the earth and how we can use the 4Rs to save valuable resources, money and the environment. This complements certification for the ResourceSmart Schools Program.

Wonderful Worms - exploring worms as recyclers of food waste in schools and kindergartens. It also explores worm characteristics, their habitat and what they eat. The students get to set up a worm farm (if the school doesn't have one) or look at the one already installed with further discussion around what can and can't be put into the worm farm and why. We can also set up a compost bin if that is preferred.



Biodiversity and wildlife – how do we measure biodiversity? What can we do to support wildlife in our school or community? This program introduces learners to some of the interesting living things we share our homes with and assists in planning for habitat creation to make our community a haven for wildlife. This program can be delivered at your location or at Nakunbalook and Lake Guyatt in Sale.

Glorious Green Gardens - for schools with an existing kitchen garden or wanting to start one up. Students have the opportunity to explore the living world of plants and seeds; they learn about the life cycle of a plant and discover what a seed needs in order to grow healthy and strong. We look at different types of garden beds and how they work. This session completes the organic cycle of how our kitchen waste is turned into compost by worms which feeds the plants that in turn give us food. Can be delivered at your location or the Seed Community Garden in Sale.

Tours of Kilmany Landfill and Transfer station (or local Transfer Station) - for schools that have held the Get it Sorted! session so students get to see their hard work in action. We look at the weighbridge, the walking floor and where 'stuff' is put when residents bring their rubbish in their trailers or utes. The students are shown what is recycled via Kilmany and we walk around the landfill so students can see the amount of material still going into landfill. Rural schools can go to their local landfill and transfer stations for a local version of this session.

School and Community Events – our Sustainability Officer can provide support to hold school events for Clean Up Australia Day, National Tree Day, National Recycling Week, Sustainable House Day, Walk / Ride to School days, Nude Food and piggy-back other sustainability events. If you have an idea and you would like some advice or support, please contact us.

For bookings or more information

Contact our Sustainability Officer, Sharon Ray, on 5142 3265 or email sharonr@wellington.vic.gov.au.

