



Our Environment Our Future

Reducing Our Everyday Impacts

Everyone has an impact on the environment and everyone has a responsibility to reduce that impact. We can all contribute by taking a few simple actions.

\$58 million has been allocated to a package of initiatives that will help Victorian families change their behaviour and reduce their everyday impacts.

These include:

- I Learning to Live Sustainably Strategy:** learning and behaviour change package for sustainability, including the construction of six eco- houses like those at CERES and Port Phillip
- I Greenhome program:** a hands on program showing Victorians how you can make small changes to save water, energy and waste
- I Energy efficiency and sustainability campaign:** motivating Victorians to reduce the environmental impacts of their everyday actions
- I Rebates for being green:** rebates targeting key areas of household energy efficiency and conservation
- I Hybrid bus trials:** demonstrating the capacity of this technology for Victoria
- I Promoting more sustainable transport choices:** building on improvements to public transport, integrated land-use and transport planning to reduce the need for fuel-based travel, and continuing the Travel Smart Program, a travel behaviour program

Government Leadership

Government has an important role in delivering a more sustainable future in leading by example and ensuring that sustainability goals inform planning, decision-making and operations.

\$14 million has been allocated to a package of initiatives to demonstrate the Government's commitment to being sustainable in its own operations.

These include:

- I Greening our Hospitals and Schools:** investing in energy and water efficiency activities within hospitals and energy reductions in schools, TAFE institutes and corporate offices
- I Neighbourhood Renewal:** ensuring we integrate our social and environmental sustainability goals, particularly in areas of disadvantage through a new community grants program

For further information visit www.dse.vic.gov.au

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Support
for Victorian
Families





In the last five years, Victorians have really got behind the push to be a sustainable state. We now recycle more than 50 per cent of all our waste, our farmers and households are becoming more water smart and Victorians are now buying more Green Power than any other State, but we still need to do more.

That's why the Bracks Government is taking this major step forward with *Our Environment, Our Future*, a \$200 million action plan to help Victorians to reduce their impacts on the environment and deliver a lasting legacy for our children and theirs.

Key initiatives under *Our Environment, Our Future* to support Victorian communities to live more sustainably include:

Responding to the Challenge of Climate Change

Climate change is one of the most significant environmental challenges facing the world. Large cuts in greenhouse gas emissions are needed by the middle of this century if we are to avoid dangerous levels of climate change.

\$38 million has been allocated to a range of initiatives that will help Victorian families reduce their greenhouse emissions and adapt to a changing climate.

These include:

- | **Greener communities:** a program to show how leading Victorian communities can dramatically cut greenhouse gases by installing solar or wind power, being more energy efficient, installing smart meters and implementing demand management
- | **Greener appliances:** as part of the National Framework for Energy Efficiency, the Victorian Government is committed to encouraging minimum energy performance standards for television and home entertainment equipment, computers, chillers, heating and cooling, and lighting

Maintaining and Restoring Our Natural Assets

Victoria's rich and diverse natural environments support our lives, communities, industries, jobs and economy.

\$65.5 million has been allocated to a package of initiatives that will help all Victorian families maintain and restore our natural assets.

These include:

- | **Yarra Strike force:** a dedicated EPA team and boat to track the source of pollution and fine those responsible
- | **Landcare:** support for community landcare volunteers with the recruitment of a State Landcare Coordinator and 10 Regional Landcare Coordinators

Using Our Resources More Efficiently

Victorians use an enormous amount of resources to support their lifestyles. We have a responsibility to use our resources more efficiently

\$28 million has been allocated to a package of initiatives that will help all Victorian families use our resources more efficiently.

These include:

- | **Phase out of plastic bags:** legislate to enable a ban on free plastic shopping bags
- | **Take-back and recycling:** establishing twelve take back centres which will enable Victorian communities to recycle goods such as electrical items and household chemicals

Victorians should be proud of what we have achieved so far in our efforts to become sustainable