

HOPE e:news bulletin - Tuesday, 15 July 2008

Hello!

The Queensland Government has initiated some great programs over the last few weeks. There is for example the Low Carbon Diet to encourage the people of our Sunshine State to make energy savings where they can. Another fantastic initiative is the Climate Smart Home Service. You can read about these programs below.

Also, at the HOPE office we are working hard to get the next newsletter ready. If anyone would like to submit an article please do so before 25 July.

Miriam Sharp, HOPE secretary, hopequeensland@yahoo.com.au

Office news

Low Carbon Diet

HOPE has been invited to take part in the **Low Carbon Diet** initiative from the QLD State Government. The program is designed to equip Queenslanders with the know-how they need to make energy savings at home. The Diet is a 30-day challenge designed to help Queenslanders lose 2,000 kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions annually by making small, commonsense and relatively inexpensive changes to the way they use energy. We could get a grant to carry out this work. For more information on the Low Carbon Diet visit www.climatesmart.qld.gov.au. If anyone is interested in participating please contact the office.

Give-aways

If anyone needs firewood, there is still some available for free from 20 Gore Street, Westbrook. You can just go and collect it from the front yard, or phone 4630 6695.

General

ClimateSmart Home Service

The Queensland Government has announced a new service to help Queenslanders tackle climate change and reduce their greenhouse emissions around the home. The new **Climate Smart Home Service**, which will start from **1 January 2009**, will improve energy efficiency in households across Queensland. The service will operate in a similar manner to the successful Home WaterWise Service. For a \$50 service fee, a qualified tradesperson will visit your home to conduct an energy audit, provide energy advice, install energy saving tools such as a household energy monitor and a water efficient showerhead, and also supply 15 compact fluorescent light globes. Further information on

the service will be available in coming months. You can register early interest in this new service by completing the online form or by phoning 1300 130 372. For more information go to the website: http://www.climatesmart.qld.gov.au/your_home/climatesmart_home

Greenpeace petition

Greenpeace is holding an online petition to be presented to Kevin Rudd to stress the need for an *Energy [R]evolution* away from fossil fuels - to a future in which Australia is a true leader in technologies like solar. The government is making positive noises about adopting serious climate change measures. But there is also the real prospect Australia's powerful 'coal mafia' and irresponsible political scare mongering could block vital progress. The best antidote to corporate self-interest and partisan politics is public pressure. We need to demand the future we want, and demonstrate a willingness to stand up for it. So check out the website and sign the petition: www.greenpeace.org.au/energyrevolution.

Resources

The **Kids for Future** website <http://www.kidsforfuture.net> is a web based resource especially for children, created by 'Japan for Sustainability'. This very informative and well set up website shows tips to help you think about the environment and your actions. By understanding the current state of the environment, the causes of environmental destruction, and ways to solve these problems, it is possible and desirable to redesign the world for a sustainable future. The website is a wealth of information and teaches children (and adults) about a wide range of matters.

From the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA): Invitation for feedback on renewable energy target design paper

Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator Penny Wong, has invited feedback from business and the community on issues relating to the design of an expanded national renewable energy target. The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Working Group on Climate Change and Water, chaired by Senator Wong, has released a design options paper as part of the consultation process. "The expanded renewable energy target will help deliver on the Government's commitment to ensure at least 20 per cent of Australia's electricity supply comes from renewable energy by 2020," says Senator Wong. For more information read: <http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/wong/2008/pubs/mr20080702.pdf>

Global Learning Centre Library

The Global Learning Centre is reopening its library! The library is now also online at <http://webdb.central.sa.edu.au/glc.htm>. What this means is that you can now search the [online catalogue](#) to find out what books we have in our collection. For the moment, the videos and DVDs are still listed in the [Audio-Visual Resources](#) section of the website and they will be added to the catalogue at a later date along with the games and resource kits. Please note that once you've found what you are looking for in the catalogue, you will still need to contact the GLC staff to make sure that the resource is available. Phone GLC on 07 3857 6666 or email glc@glc.edu.au

Updates on upcoming events

Veg Futures conference

Greening Australia and Land & Water Australia invite you to *Veg Futures 2008* - the national conference about vegetation management. It promises to deliver comprehensive, practical papers and ideas about the nation's most pressing challenges for vegetation management in regional and peri-urban landscapes. Registration and Program details now available on the website: <http://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/resources/veg-futures-08>
Dates: **Monday 20 - Thursday 23 October 2008**, Toowoomba, Queensland

Library and Office hours

HOPE's library resources are available:

- Monday, 1pm-5pm
- Wednesday, 9am-1pm
- Friday, 1pm-5pm
- or by appointment.

The library hours have been extended to facilitate access to these resources, and we would like to invite anyone to make use of this service. Teachers in particular may find this useful. There are books, journals, magazines, videos and CDs - a full list of titles is available by emailing the HOPE office at hopequeensland@yahoo.com.au.

Remember, you CAN make a difference!

Think before you print! 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4 kg CO₂ in the atmosphere; 3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

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