

# Sustainability Victoria

## Delivering Solutions to Climate Change

Sustainability Victoria is the Victorian Government's lead agency on climate change.

We are committed to showing the way to using our resources more efficiently and reducing our everyday environmental impacts.

We work across communities, industries, businesses, and governments to apply the best ideas and make things happen.

We are proud of what we have already achieved together

### Saved energy

**2.7 billion megajoules saved**

### Reduced greenhouse gases

**one million tonnes abated**

### Generated renewable energy

**Over 1.1 million megajoules created**

### Reduced waste

**Over 10,000 tonnes avoided**

### Recycled materials

**Over 650,000 tonnes saved**

### Invested in the future

**\$300 million in private sector investment stimulated**

We have had a great first year... here is just a taste of the programs, projects and partnerships that have helped move Victoria to a more sustainable future.

# Green and Clean Commonwealth Games

## **The 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games has left a lasting environmental legacy, setting new sustainability benchmarks for planning and staging a major event.**

The Victorian Government's aim to make the Games water efficient, carbon neutral and low waste was achieved with outstanding success.

Over 5000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions were abated with 29 tonnes of waste avoided and over 235,000 tonnes of materials recycled.

Sustainability Victoria was integral to this, providing advice, support and assistance in the lead-up to, and during the Games.

Our activities included working with building companies to reduce waste dumped in landfill during construction and refurbishment, and ensuring venues incorporated waste and energy saving features.

A major state-wide litter campaign 'Let's Start Training for the Games' was launched in the lead up to the Games and targeted the most commonly littered items like cigarette butts, lolly and ice cream wrappers, drink containers and chewing gum.

The Campaign included mass advertising across TV, radio and outdoor sites, and was supported by extensive public relations and media activities at a community level, particularly through local government partners.

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LET'S START TRAINING FOR THE GAMES



More than 57 organisations actively participated in the Campaign which used events such as the Queen's Baton Relay and Litter Free Month as opportunities to involve communities in positive action.

Research undertaken during the Games found that:

- there was a 29% reduction in litter on the ground compared to baseline measures conducted prior to the games
- less than 10% of people with waste to dispose of were observed littering compared to 30% in 2005, and
- 49% of councils used campaign materials.

### **Cigarette Butt Litter**

The next step in Sustainability Victoria's litter charge will be to focus on cigarette butt litter to coincide with the introduction of new tobacco laws banning smoking in licensed premises from 1 July 2007.

For information on how you can tackle cigarette butt litter and other litter challenges in your local area visit [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au](http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au)



Photo Caption: Olympic Rower James Tompkins, Games Mascot Karak, Captain Sustainable and helpers promote being WasteWise at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games.

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# Landmark Energy Saving Campaign Launched

**Black balloons squeezing from household appliances and floating out and up was at the centre of a landmark campaign launched in June 2006 to encourage Victorians to save energy and cut greenhouse gases.**

The 'You have the power. Save Energy' campaign is a new initiative designed to help Victorians understand how their energy use has environmental impacts, and to encourage them to save energy, money and the environment.

The advertising campaign is the largest energy saving campaign ever launched in Victoria and will continue to unfold this year. The well known black balloons featured in the campaign illustrate the link between energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

Each balloon represents 50 grams of greenhouse gas, and every Victorian household produces over 12 tonnes (240,000 balloons) of greenhouse gas emissions each year.

The creative concept using the black balloons to illustrate the link between energy use and the greenhouse gases has been extremely successful and attracted public interest in Victoria, as well as from other national and international environment agencies.

Victorians have been provided with lots of practical advice about ways you can save black balloons and cut energy use while keeping your home comfortable all year round.

By saving energy, you'll save money, as well as help protect our environment from the impacts of climate change.

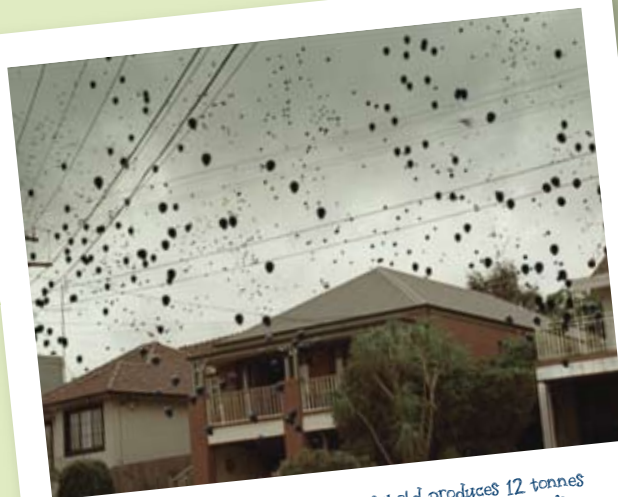
We all have the power to cut our energy bills by doing something simple like turning down our heating thermostats during winter, washing clothes in cold water, changing light globes to compact fluorescent globes and turning appliances off at the switch when they are not being used.

The campaign is being delivered through the joint efforts of Sustainability Victoria, Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Department of Infrastructure.

The next phase will concentrate on changing attitudes and inspiring Victorians to save energy every day at home and at work.

Visit [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au](http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au) today for more information about the energy saving campaign and ways to help save even more greenhouse gas, energy and money.

**Each balloon represents 50 grams of greenhouse gas, and every Victorian household produces over 12 tonnes (240,000 balloons) of greenhouse gas emissions each year.**



*An Average household produces 12 tonnes of Greenhouse Gases each year, that's approximately 240,000 balloons!*

**YOU HAVE THE POWER. SAVE ENERGY.**

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# GreenPower Gives a Lift

**You may already know that Victorians are the largest users of GreenPower in Australia? But did you know that one of the state's biggest chairlifts in the Alpine region has also made the switch?**

Falls Creek Ski Lifts Pty Ltd's major chairlift, the Falls Express, is a massive 920 metres long and powered by GreenPower.

On a busy day it lifts 2,880 skiers an hour up the snowy mountain which is 207 metres high.

By using clean, renewable GreenPower instead of electricity produced from fossil fuels, Falls Creek Ski Lifts Pty Ltd is reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by around 370 tonnes per annum – that's the equivalent of taking 86 cars from off the road each year.

Alpine regions like Falls Creek are among a number of businesses that may be at risk from the impacts of climate change. And responsible businesses in those regions are working hard to care for the sensitive environment in which they operate.

So it's no surprise that, as a smart and responsible operator, Falls Creek Ski Lifts has recognised the importance of utilising GreenPower. "It's an energy source that is environmentally sustainable and beneficial to the long term future of the mountain resorts. And a sustainable future for the alpine environment is at the heart of our operations," explained Lyn Gibbs, General Manager of Falls Creek Lifts.

Accredited GreenPower is government guaranteed and provides assurance that the renewable energy that business and individual customers purchase is reducing greenhouse

gas pollution and helping to develop a robust renewable energy industry in Australia.

"Natural resources are not infinite. It's extremely important to participate in the responsible usage of resources and to source renewable energy wherever available. GreenPower is a very important part of this and is an important option for our company and resort.

"The benefit for our local community is a sense of commitment and well being. Not only are individuals working toward improving their use of energy, we feel that Falls Creek Ski Lifts' commitment and leadership creates a sense of trust as we are all working toward a common goal to ensure a healthy environment," said Ms Gibbs.

By switching to GreenPower households can immediately cut their greenhouse gases by up to 70% and be confident that they are helping to reduce greenhouse pollution and the impact of climate change.

Sustainability Victoria is actively promoting GreenPower as a cleaner energy alternative. More than 160,000 Victorian households and businesses have already signed up for GreenPower in Victoria with more making the switch every day.

For more information visit [www.greenpower.gov.au](http://www.greenpower.gov.au) or call your energy supplier today to find out how you can make the switch to clean, renewable GreenPower™.

\*Calculations: Based on an average Australian household's use of 6.47 megawatt hours per year, 400 megawatts hours will supply 62 households a year - with an average household size 2.6 people.

**Business Operator: Falls Creek Ski Lifts Pty Ltd**

**Energy Supplier: TRUenergy**

**Location: Falls Creek, Northeastern Victoria**

**Green Power Use: 400 megawatt hours of electricity per year, equivalent to powering a village of 160 people**

**Greenhouse Gas Abatement: 370 tonnes per annum – equivalent of taking 86 cars from the road a year**



Falls Creek major chairlift, the Falls Express, is powered by GreenPower