



VC's Office Goes Green

Recently the Vice Chancellor's Office received a green makeover including:

- Desktop bins and under desk recycling boxes to reduce landfill waste and increase recycling
- Replace bottled water with non-refrigerated filtered tap water
- A digital timer installed on the hot water boiler to prevent water being boiled overnight and weekends.

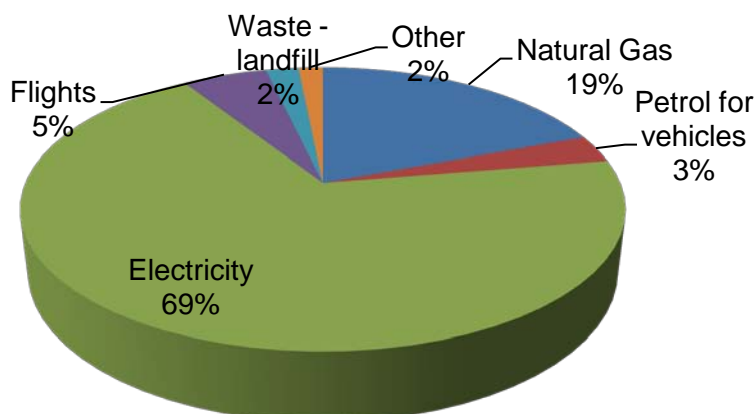
If your Department needs a green makeover then contact Sustainability Officer Dale Boucher. We will provide desktop bins, large yellow recycling bins, myki cards for staff and a digital timer for hot water boilers.



2010 Sustainability Report

2010 was a great year for reducing our impact with greenhouse gas emissions falling by a whopping 8%! The biggest losers were electricity falling by 6%, air travel falling by 49% and paper consumption falling by 30%. However it's not all good news with water consumption rising dramatically by over 9 million litres and natural gas consumption going up 7%.

Greenhouse gas emissions 2010



Read all about it in the 2010 sustainability report:

http://www.ballarat.edu.au/vfed/sustainability/sustain_docs/2010AnnualSustainabilityReport.pdf

New Bus Stop (Mt Helen Campus)

A new bus stop has been installed along University Drive, Mt Helen. This bus stop will service nearby residents and residential students. The Department of Transport has provided funding to improve the path leading to the residences.



Herbal Education

Hmmm. I can smell those fresh herbs already!

The Horticulture students have done a sterling job cultivating the soil and installing the automatic watering system for the herb garden behind the SMB library. Seeds are being propagated in Primary Industry Centre's hot houses and will soon be transported to the herb garden for planting.

The SMB herb garden is a sustainable project to encourage local food production for Hospitality students. The garden is a collaboration project between Horticulture and Hospitality departments.



Time to Replace Bottled Water

Do you still have bottled water in your department? Bottled water is expensive when you consider the cost per bottle, the rental and energy costs of refrigeration units and the inefficiencies of delivering water to our workplace. We also pay for a fuel levy for every bottled delivered too. Last year the University spent around \$ 15,000 supplying bottled water to staff.

A number of Departments have made the switch to filtered tap water to reduce costs while supplying staff with a more sustainable product.

Filtration systems will remove chlorine, chemicals and bad taste from tap water and we have the option of refrigerated or room temperature systems.

Under sink (non refrigerated) – Install an under sink filtration system to filter potable water at room temperature. Total installation price is \$750 (including 2 years of filters). Filters need to be replaced every 12 months.



Sustainability@UB

Autumn Edition

Refrigerated Tap Water – Rent an ‘office spring’ for \$ 41 per month. This is a water cooled unit that filters potable water. Price includes connection to taps and regular replacement of filters. A number of these systems have been installed at Mt Helen campus including Human Movement and Student Services.

To discuss further contact John at Clearwater on 0416147511.

<http://www.clearwaterfilters.com.au/home.php>



e-waste Program picks up pace



The ICT Services team were working hard recently disposing unused printers, computers and other electronic equipment as part of UB’s e-waste program.

Our electronic waste goes to PGM refiners (UB’s preferred e-waste recycler) who recycle 90% – 98% of the products.

Do you have old printers or computers sitting in storage in your Department? If you do then log a job with the service desk at [servicedesk@ballarat.edu.au](mailto: servicedesk@ballarat.edu.au) and they will collect and safely dispose.

If staff/students have e-waste at home then take your old equipment to Officeworks in Creswick Rd. They will take e-waste as part of the byte-back program. <http://www.bytebackaustralia.com.au/>

Look Cool in UB Lycra!

UB and TravelSmart have subsidised the purchase of 50 cycling tops for staff and students who participate in the upcoming Ballarat Autumn Day (B.A.D) ride on 1 May. The ride attracts over 1,000 participants and distances vary from 25km to 100 km.



Keep Cups



A lot of our waste in UB cafeterias is from disposable coffee cups. This waste can be eliminated by purchasing a keep cup from Ubuy at Mt Helen and SMB cafeterias. The cups sell for \$14.95 and you get your first coffee free.



Earth Hour Saturday 26 March

Earth Hour is this Saturday night, 26 March. Unfortunately the University cannot turn off security lighting but we can turn off unnecessary equipment. Staff are encouraged to switch off unnecessary items on Friday to observe Earth Hour. Bottled water refrigeration units, faxes, photocopiers and computers are some examples of appliances that can be switched off to reduce energy.

Sensor Lights for Lecture Theatres

The National Centre for Sustainability has won a grant to install movement and sound sensors to four lecture theatres at Mt Helen campus. The sensors will be installed in H101, H102, T101 and T102.

These new sensors incorporate a microphone so lights will remain on when there is movement and/or sound in the theatre. Lights will switch off automatically during other times.

The sensors will be installed during the lecture break.



Coming Soon UB's Sustainability Strategy

We're almost ready to release the 2011 Sustainability Strategy. The strategy will set goals and actions for all areas to reduce their environmental footprint.

An Environment Committee will also be established and we'll be calling for a number of positions to the committee in the coming weeks.

Further information will be released soon!

Contact:

Dale Boucher, Sustainability Officer
d.boucher@ballarat.edu.au
03 53278414

