

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Live Green

Sustainability Newsletter

In this Spring & Summer 2023 edition:

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hume.vic.gov.au/environment





Enviro Champions finalists in Premier's Sustainability Awards 2023

Hume's Enviro Champions program has been selected as one of three finalists for the Premiers Sustainability Awards for the Thriving Environment Community Champions category.

In 2023, nine residents completed a course and learned how to plan and deliver community-based projects. Projects included active transport, urban jungle, waste recovery, edible gardening workshops and creating better signage for dog owners to pick up after their pets.

Over 40 people attended the annual Great Green Get Together graduation at Hume Global Learning Centre Sunbury on 17 August.

Expression of interest for the Hume Enviro Champs 2024 program will open in late November.

For more information email us at EnviroChampions@hume.vic.gov.au

Introducing our Climate Action Plan 2023 – 2028

We have endorsed our new Climate Action Plan 2023–2028 that includes a carbon neutral target for all Council operations by 2030. The plan includes actions to reduce emissions in Council operations and to help tackle greenhouse emissions across the municipality.

Some of the key commitments listed within the action plan include:

- more solar installations and energy efficiency upgrades
- moving from gas to electricity in Council buildings and encouraging residents to do so
- moving Council vehicles to EVs and supporting EV recharging across the municipality
- energy performance contracts for large Council facilities
- methane treatment for Sunbury Landfill
- universal roll out of food and garden waste bins
- street lighting upgrades
- continuing to deliver the Household Energy Program including Council rebates for concession car holders who install solar through the Hume Household Solar Roll-out
- working with other local governments to tackle climate change
- advocating on behalf of the Hume community for enhanced climate action and much more.

Read more about the plan at www.hume.vic.gov.au/Climate-Action



Hume City Council program updates



Sustainable Schools

Hume’s Sustainable Engagement Team (SET) launched the Sustainable Schools program for Hume primary and secondary schools as well as early childhood centres. With 2023 being the first time the program has been run, the SET were able to support twelve learning spaces with free incursions and excursions focussing on Volcano Dreaming and Aboriginal perspectives for land use, edible gardening, compost, and waste reduction as well as providing support around FOGO (Food Organics Garden Organics) rollout in schools.

For more information regarding the Sustainable Schools program for 2024, please email environment@hume.vic.gov.au subject heading: **Sustainable Schools**



Join Council’s Environment Advisory Committee

Hume’s Sustainability Taskforce is Council’s community environmental advisory committee providing guidance to Council on sustainability matters including Hume’s Climate Action Plan, Land and Biodiversity Plan, Transport Strategy and Waste Strategy. Members advocate to Council on important environmental issues affecting the community. The Sustainability Taskforce meets six times per year.

To join the committee for 2024/2025 submit your Expressions of Interest at www.hume.vic.gov.au/Residents/Environment/Sustainability-Taskforce and complete an application form. Applications close Friday 1 December.

For more information contact **0477 021 301** or email environment@hume.vic.gov.au Subject heading: **Sustainability Taskforce**

What to plant for Summer and Spring

PLANT	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Asparagus	X	X	X	X		
Artichoke	X	X	X			
Basil	X					
Beans	X	X	X	X		
Beetroot	X	X	X	X	X	X
Broccoli						X
Brussel sprouts						X
Cabbage						X
Capsicum	X					
Carrots	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cauliflower						X
Celery	X	X				
Chilli	X	X				
Chives	X	X	X	X	X	X
Coriander	X					
Corn	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cucumber	X	X	X	X		
Eggplant	X					
Leeks	X					
Lettuce	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mustard	X	X	X	X	X	X
Parsley	X	X	X	X	X	x
Parsnip	X	X				
Potatoes	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pumpkin	X	X	X	X		
Radish	X	X	X	X	X	X
Rocket	X	X	X			
Silverbeet	X	X	X	X	X	X
Spring onions	X					
Sweet potatoes		X	X			
Tomatoes	X					
Watermelon	X	X				
Zucchini	X	X				

Source: Local Food Connect, North Melbourne Veggie Planting Guide, 2015.

Hume Events

There's lots of Live Green workshops happening over this spring and summer period! Keep up with all sustainability events happening around the municipality and beyond by signing up to our monthly Live Green e-newsletter www.hume.vic.gov.au/newsletters

Australian Pollinator Week

Australia Pollinator Week (11-19 November) is about celebrating and acknowledging the variety of pollinators in Australia during late Spring. This is open to individuals, businesses and schools to raise awareness about the importance of pollinators, their roles in the ecosystem and food production.

Here are ways you can get involved:

- Taking part in the pollinator census (like a bird count, but for pollinators)
- Global Waggle Dance Competition (an engaging way to be a bee!)
- Plant a pollinator friendly garden (native flowers and plants)
- Host a native pollinator event (a morning tea, a presentation or working bee)

Check out what's on at australianpollinatorweek.org.au/region/vic

Soil Care During Summer - it's free!

Sunday 12 November, 2pm – 4.30pm

Craigieburn Community Garden,
Hamilton Street, Craigieburn

Hume resident and horticulturalist Keith Notley has a passion for urban gardening and a deep understanding of local soil conditions. Utilising easily accessible, everyday items, Keith demonstrates how to look after the soil in your backyard over summer.

Register for tickets: <https://shorturl.at/hqwQX>



Indigenous Seed Collection, Seed Banking and Seedling Propagation Workshop

Thursday 23 November, 1pm – 3pm

Sunbury Neighbourhood House
531 Elizabeth Drive, Sunbury

This workshop will cover how to collect seed from indigenous plants, store seed, and how to propagate new seedlings from seed, cuttings and division. A light afternoon tea will be provided.

For more information, contact Melissa Doherty, Urban Biodiversity Officer via email

melissado@hume.vic.gov.au or call **0409 702 086**.

Hume Clean Days

Saturday 2 December, 8am – 4pm

Two locations:

Sunbury Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre,
515 Riddell Road, Sunbury

Bolinda Road Resource and Recovery Centre,
71 Bolinda Road, Campbellfield

Hume Clean Days are available to help you recycle electronic items, mattresses, whitegoods, tyres and couches. This is in addition to your yearly at-home hard waste collections and tip passes.

Rules:

- A limit of 15 items from the above list will be accepted per household.
- Proof of Hume residency (such as driver's license) is required when dropping off goods.
- Single-axle trailer, double axle-trailer, car boot, van, station wagon, 4WD or utility tray (ute) only.
- No trucks or commercial quantities accepted.

For more information visit hume.vic.gov.au



Grassy Plains Network presents: Tour of Evans Street Grasslands

Saturday 11 November, 1pm – 3pm
Corner Evans and Timins St Sunbury

Evans Street is one of the finest examples of Melbourne's Western Plains grasslands and puts on a great show through Spring and Summer. Join us in lovely Sunbury to marvel at what once was and what, with enough love, our other grasslands could come to be. Wear closed shoes, dress sensibly for the weather and bring sunscreen and water! This event is being run by the Grassy Plains Network.

For bookings call **0413 757 173** or email **adrian@vnpa.org.au**

Summer mulching days

Saturday 30 December, 9.30am – 11.30am
Council Parks and Services Depot,
42 Maffra Street, Coolaroo

Saturday 30 December, 12.30pm – 2.30pm
Craigieburn Service Depot,
153 Craigieburn Rd, Craigieburn

Sunday 31 December, 12.30pm – 2.30pm
Greenvale Recreation Centre,
Barrymore Road, Greenvale

There are numerous mulching days throughout summer to encourage residents to recycle their plant material and turn it into fertile mulch that can be used as landscaping mulch, a compost activator and even an organic garden path surface.

What can I bring to tree mulching days?

A maximum of four cubic metres of clean, freshly cut, tree branches will be accepted for mulching. You will also need to bring proof of Hume residency, such as your rates notice or driver's licence, to participate in the service.

What is not acceptable for mulching?

The following materials will not be accepted for mulching: bricks, concrete, plastic bags, dry timber, wire, grass clippings, thorny plants, roses, vines, palm trees, Yuccas, bracken, succulents or pots.

Commercial quantities of materials will not be accepted. Up to four cubic metres (four small trailer loads) can be taken to each mulching day per household. Trucks and trailers with garden maintenance or mowing advertising will not be accepted.

Does Council have mulch available to residents?

Mulch may be taken home at the conclusion of each mulching day. Mulch will be available between 2.45pm - 5pm or until dusk at selected depot locations. Alternatively, you can leave the mulch for Council to utilise for our parks and reserves.



Beekeeping Workshop

Sunday 10 December, 10am – 12.30pm
Sunbury Community Gardens,
Highgrove Drive, Sunbury

Jasmine Padua Bowditch will introduce beekeeping, which covers how to set up, care for and manage the safety of your hive. Come along to the beautiful Sunbury Community Garden to learn about the ins and outs of successful beekeeping at home.

Register for tickets: <https://shorturl.at/kwCE2>



Book review: Waste-Free Living by Lauren and Oberon Carter

A Family Guide to Waste-Free Living by Lauren and Oberon Carter provides clear steps, tips, and ideas on how to reduce waste in your life at home and at work. The book gives you advice on how to reduce your packaging by becoming an active shopper, how to reframe your perception of waste and how to be a community advocate for waste-free living.

The book's step by step guide, variety of topics and easy to understand activities make it a useful read for the whole household. Find and loan through the Hume library network.

From the kitchen

Strawberry Tops Cordial

Spring and Summer mean so many things to people. Sunshine, warmer weather, trips to the pool, longer daylight hours and summertime fruits!

No Waste Kitchen by Giovanna Torrico and Amelia Wasiliev contains ideas on how to make the most of your fruits, by using orange peels or strawberry tops in other recipes.

- Ingredients:
- 60grams strawberry tops (around 1 punnet)
- 80grams castor sugar
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Method:

1. Add all ingredients into a small pot with 125ml water and heat on low heat.
2. Stir until the sugar is dissolved and simmer for 20 minutes.
3. Use a spoon or masher to squeeze the strawberry tops, releasing their juices.
4. Take off heat and blend mixture.
5. Let cordial cool before pouring into a clean glass jar and storing in the fridge.
6. Use around 15ml cordial per 300ml water.
7. Serve with ice and mint.

No Waste Kitchen by Giovanna Torrico and Amelia Wasiliev is available for loan through the Hume library network.



Get the latest Live Green eNews

Our monthly eNewsletter is the best way to get up-to-date sustainability and environment news, straight to your inbox. Stay in touch with our calendar of events and activities as well as hear about seasonal grants programs and other sustainability news.

Don't miss out, subscribe today at www.hume.vic.gov.au/newsletters



Things to do, places to see and foods to eat.



Discover Hume in spring

Spring is the perfect time to get outdoors with friends and family. Whether you have guests visiting from overseas, interstate or other parts of Melbourne be the best host by treating them to local adventures in Hume City. From wineries, to surfing, wildlife and great eateries, Hume city has it all.



@discoverhume
#DiscoverHume

Volunteer

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Introduction to Volunteering

Tuesday 5 December 2023

**What does it mean to volunteer?
Not sure where to start? Want to know more?**

Come and learn about volunteering, the benefits and how to get involved in your local community.

Anyone can volunteer. It can be very rewarding and is a great way to:

- Meet new people.
- Gain new or use existing skills.
- Get experience.
- Make a big difference in your community.

In person session

10am - 12pm

Hume Global Learning Centre Craigieburn
75-95 Central Park Avenue, Craigieburn 3064

scan and/or click the QR code to register.

Register by Monday 4 December 2023

For more information, contact the Hume Volunteer Gateway on gateway@hume.vic.gov.au, or call on 03 9202 2200.



Hume City Council recognises the rich Aboriginal heritage within the municipality and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the existing family members of the Gunung-William-Balluk clan, as the Traditional Custodians of this land. Council embraces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander living cultures as a vital part of Australia's identity and recognises, celebrates and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

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