

Introduction

The Mount Alexander Green Guide for Renters 2012-13 has been developed to assist renters in the Shire to make their rental property more sustainable and cost effective to live in. The Guide has been identified as a key action in Council's Environment Strategy.

Want to live more sustainably at home?



Sustainability Victoria

Visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au for practical tips on how to live more sustainably at home along with information on government rebates to implement energy-saving measures.



Australian Government – Living Greener

LivingGreener.gov.au has information, inspiration and practical tips on how to live 'greener' at home, including information on government rebates and assistance.



Environment Victoria – The Victorian Smart Renters' Guide

The Victorian Smart Renters' Guide has heaps of tips for simple things that you can do at home that result in big environmental savings. Visit www.environmentvictoria.org.au/renters or call 9341 8100 to order a free copy.



Alternative Technology Association – Renters Guide to Sustainable Living

The Renters Guide to Sustainable Living has heaps of tips for the whole house, showing you room-by-room how to cut your greenhouse gas emissions and utility bills. To download the guide, visit www.ata.org.au/sustainability/renters-guide-to-sustainability.

Want to become more involved in sustainability in the community?



Mount Alexander Sustainability Group

Mount Alexander Sustainability Group is a not-for-profit organisation working with the community on positive responses to climate change and peak oil. Their projects include the Hub demonstration food garden, Wash Against Waste trailer, Comfy Homes, Goldfields Solar Hub and Mount Alexander Community Wind. For more information, contact MASG on 5470 6978 or visit www.masg.org.au.



Mount Alexander Community Wind

Mount Alexander Community Wind is a project of the Mount Alexander Sustainability Group which aims to work with the community to build community-owned clean, renewable energy that brings environmental, social and economic benefits to the Shire. For more information, contact MASG on 5470 6978 or visit www.masg.org.au/projects/communitywind.



Castlemaine Community House Growing Abundance

Growing Abundance works throughout the Mount Alexander Shire with community members to increase food security and build community resilience. They offer backyard harvests of surplus produce, food growing and preserving workshops, host film nights and have produced a Local Produce Guide. For more information, contact Castlemaine Community House on 5472 4842 or register to find out what's on at www.cch.org.au/growing-abundance.



Connecting Country

Not-for-profit organisation working to improve local skills and restore landscapes for a healthy, resilient and productive natural environment. For more information, call 5472 1594 or visit www.connectingcountry.org.au.



Landcare – Looking After *Your* Patch

There are many Landcare and Friends groups in the Mount Alexander Shire. They help to protect and improve the local environment by removing invasive weeds, regenerating degraded areas with indigenous plants, and all sorts of other activities. They are also a great place to socialise with your neighbours and learn more about the diverse native plants and animals living around you.

For more information on Landcare in the Mount Alexander Shire, and to get in touch with a group near you, contact Max Schlachter, Mount Alexander Region Landcare Coordinator, on 5472 1594 or max@connectingcountry.org.au. A list of groups can also be found on the Connecting Country website www.connectingcountry.org.au.



Trust for Nature

Not-for-profit organisation that works to protect native plants and wildlife in cooperation with private landowners. Many threatened species depend on private land for their future survival. Landholders can help build a lasting natural legacy with Trust for Nature. For more information, visit www.trustfornature.org.au.

Want to know what Council is doing about sustainability?

Sustainable Home Audit Kits

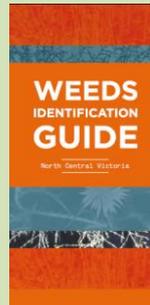


Portable electricity meters, lightmeters, non contact thermometers, water flow measuring cups and energy saving thermometers are included in two kits which are available to loan from Council's Town Hall Customer Service Centre. The kits can be loaned for one week at a cost of \$10. A bond of \$50 will also need to be paid at the time of receiving a kit, and is refunded when the kit is returned. For more information about loaning a kit, call Council on 5471 1700 or inquire at Council's Town Hall Customer Service Centre.

Waste & Recycling

Council provides a weekly domestic waste (garbage) and a fortnightly recycling service. To help you make the most of this service, Council has developed a Waste and Recycling Information Booklet and a Collection Calendar. You can download these from www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/wastemanagement or call Council on 5471 1700 to have hard copies sent to you.

Environmental Weeds



The North Central Catchment Management Authority has published a Weeds Identification Guide for the North Central region of Victoria. You can download it from www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/environment or call Council on 5471 1700 to have a hard copy sent to you.