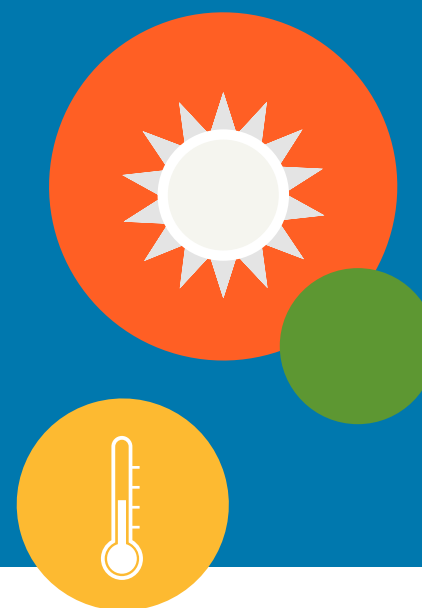


CLIMATE CHANGE

It's time to act, adapt and build resilience



What is climate change?

Climate change refers to long-term changes in Earth's temperatures and weather patterns. Rising temperatures impact the weather, the land, our water resources, animals and even people.

Human activity has been the primary factor in rapid worldwide climate change in the last century.

The main activities causing climate change are:



Clearing forests.



Generating a massive volume of waste and sending it to landfill.



Burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas to produce energy.

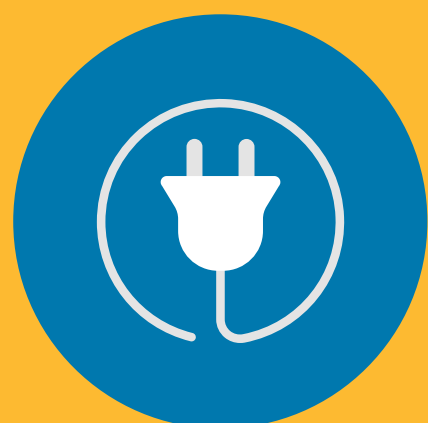
Why should you care?



- Our country is experiencing more extreme weather events like droughts, fires and floods.
- More frequent bushfires are burning closer to our cities. They burn and damage vegetation that takes hundreds of years to recover; they kill or injure wildlife; threaten human lives and homes; and cause poor air quality and water pollution.
- Hotter, drier conditions and frequent droughts threaten our food security and the cost of food.
- A changing climate affects human health, too. Evidence from recent heatwaves shows people, especially the sick and elderly, can suffer from heat stress, which can be fatal.

That's the bad news. The good news is, in collaboration with good government policy, businesses and individuals can make a difference to the future of our planet and its livability for future generations.

How can we adapt and build climate resilience?



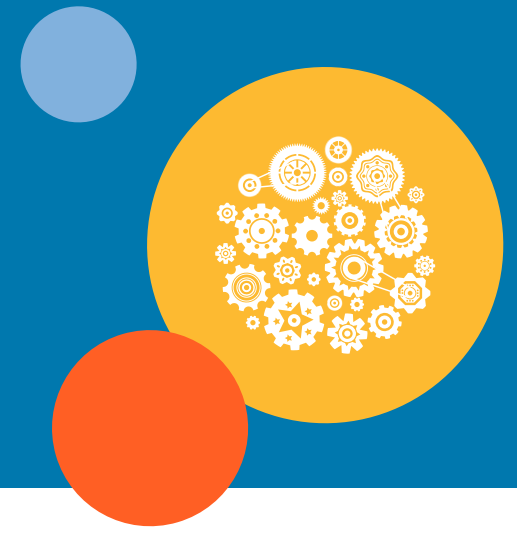
We should recognise that the earth's resources are finite.

If we all make small changes to our daily habits, we can adapt to the changing environment and help protect the planet.



We must reduce our consumption where we can.

What can you do?



Reduce, re-use, re-cycle



Reduce your use of the car – walk, ride or take public transport when you can.



Take your own reusable bag to the shops to avoid buying a plastic bag.



Reduce the amount of plastic you consume by switching to paper or bamboo-based products that can be recycled, such as disposable plates and straws.



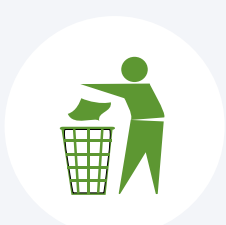
Do not buy disposable plastic water bottles. Instead, buy a refillable water bottle that can be reused for years.



Buy a keep-cup (reusable coffee cup) for your coffee and tea.



Before you buy something, ask yourself, “Do I really need it?”, “Will it last?” and “Can it be repaired if it breaks?”



Instead of throwing an item you no longer need or want in the bin, think about whether you can donate it to a charity or second-hand shop or offer the item to a friend or family member who can reuse it.



You can recycle many household items that are broken or that you are no longer using. Simply drop them off at the collection centre near you.

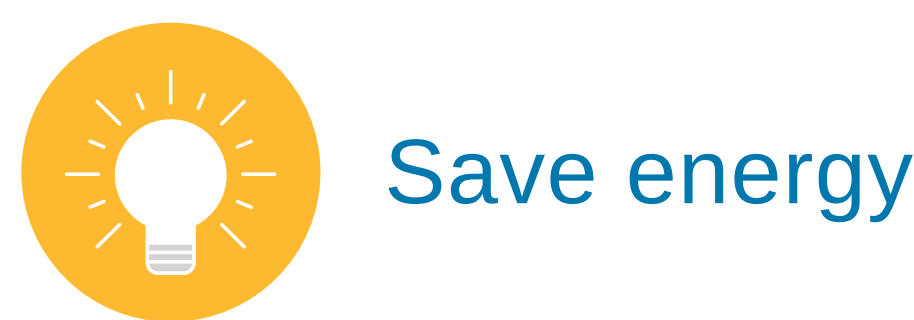


What can you do?



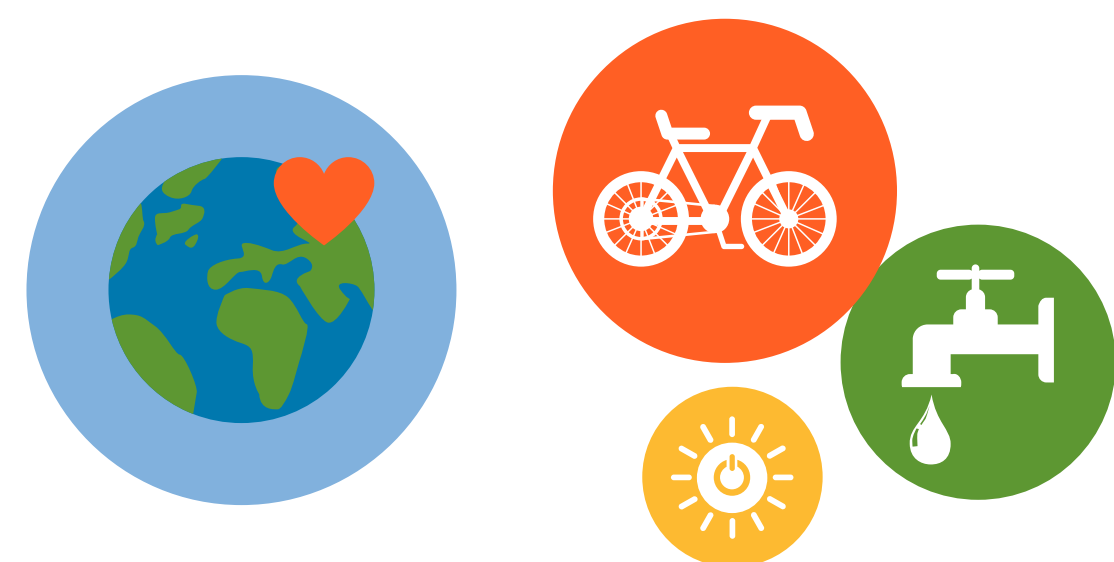
Save water

- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or washing dishes.
- Fix any leaking taps around your home.
- Install water-efficient taps and shower heads.
- Take short (4-minute) showers.
- Buy water-efficient appliances.
- Scrape dirty plates, instead of rinsing them, before stacking the dishwasher.
- Re-use washing-up water on the lawn or garden.
- Sweep or rake leaves, rather than hosing them off the pavement.
- Choose native plants, which don't require much water, for your garden.



Save energy

- Turn off lights when you leave the room.
- Turn off appliances at the power point when not in use.
- Wash clothes in cold water.
- Shut doors and close curtains to maintain a comfortable temperature in your home.
- Switch to energy-efficient LED light globes.
- Buy energy-efficient appliances .



Items you can recycle	Organisations that may offer in-store recycling	Find a drop-off recycling centre near you
Soft plastics, like plastic bags and food packaging	Coles and Woolworths	
Computers and televisions	Local councils	TechCollect eCycle Solutions
Mobile phones	Mobile phone stores, Officeworks, local councils and libraries	MobileMuster
Empty printer cartridges	Officeworks, Australia Post, Cartridge World, Harvey Norman, The Good Guys, JB Hi-Fi	Printer Cartridge Recycling - Planet Ark
Batteries (including electronics that contain batteries)	Aldi and some electronics stores	Battery Recycling - Planet Ark

