



Yarra Ranges Council Sustainability Report 2022 – 23

Financial Year

In the 2022/23 Sustainability Report, our organisation reaffirms its commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainability. Over the past year, we have made significant strides across various programs aimed at addressing climate change, promoting environmentally sustainable design, preserving nature, conserving water, fostering sustainable living, and enhancing environmental stewardship and waste management.

Highlights from the year:

- We have reduced our greenhouse gas emissions by 48% from our baseline year of 2004/2005.
- Completed microgrid feasibility studies for key townships.
- Supplied over 70,000 plants to private properties through the Ribbons of Green Program, supporting local revegetation activities and planting of over 37,000 plants into Council bushland reserves.
- Championed the protection of our local environment by reducing vegetation loss through planning processes by assessing 197 environmental referrals from Statutory Planning.
- Supported over 60 environmental volunteer groups to achieve positive environmental outcomes.
- Assisted schools to save over \$600,000 through sustainability initiatives.
- Organised and delivered over 25 community education environmental engagement events.
- The Community Waste and Resource Recovery Plan 2023–2030 was adopted by Council.
- Reduced the volume of stormwater discharging to our local waterways by 54 megalitres and removing 530 kilograms of nitrogen and 24 tonnes of gross pollutants.
- Attracted 193 new participants to the Gardens for Wildlife Program.

Through these efforts, we strengthen our commitment to creating a positive impact on the planet and advancing a sustainable future for all.

Resource Recovery



15,484t
recyclables
diverted
from landfill



16,004t
organics diverted
from landfill

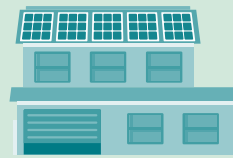
Climate and Environmental Sustainable Design

4

community
buildings equipped
with solar systems
totalling 36.5kWp



3 township
microgrid
sessions



42

environmental
sustainable design
referrals completed

Sustainable Living and Stewardship

60+



environmental
volunteer groups



24

Yarra Ranges schools in the
ResourceSmart Schools program

75

Gardens for Wildlife
property visits
conducted by
volunteers



40+

community
events

Nature

37,000

natives planted on
council-owned land



12ha

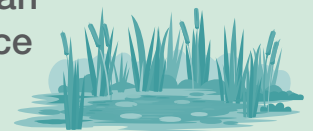
of land designated
to biodiversity habitat
restoration on
private property



Water sensitive urban
design assets reduce

54 ML/y

of stormwater discharging to
waterways and remove 24 tonnes
of gross pollutants per year



24

Facilitated biodiversity
offset trades worth
over \$366,000 within
the Yarra Ranges