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Welcome to the first edition of 'Our Queensland' an e-magazine showcasing all programs of Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland in 2010.

Ergon Energy Tidy Towns 2010 Competition Launched

The Ergon Energy Tidy Towns program for the year 2010 was officially launched on Friday, the 19th of February at the reigning tidiest town, Rockhampton. The main dignitaries of the function were Steve Leighton of Ergon Energy, Emeritus Professor Tor Hundloe, the Chairman of Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland, Mayor Brad Carter, sponsors and guests from Rockhampton Regional Council, neighbouring shires and the local community.

Tidy Towns celebrates Queensland's most sustainable communities by recognising local achievement. Keep Australia Beautiful is calling on community groups, service clubs, businesses, tourism organisations and councils from across the State to get active in their local environment and enter the Ergon Energy Tidy Towns 2010 competition.

It is the 39th year of the ever popular competition and Keep Australia Beautiful judges will visit all entered communities to assess them against a full range of environment and community development criteria to find the overall title of Queensland's Tidiest Town along with 11 Outstanding Achievement Awards up for grabs in 2010

Simply complete the online registration form at www.KeepAustraliaBeautifulQueensland.org.au. Remember entries close on Friday 26 March 2010.

Come along and Adopt-A-Road in 2010

Adopt-a-Road is a wonderful way for volunteers and groups to give back to their local environment and help build strong and vibrant communities by removing litter from local roadways and streets.

Adopt-a-Road supports volunteer groups/ clubs to undertake coordinated litter cleanups and other activities along approved streets and roadways in their community.

Adopting groups decide on the section of road they wish to adopt and register it with Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland at www.KeepAustraliaBeautifulQueensland.org.au. All applications are forwarded to the Department of Main Roads and/or the local council to assess whether

the proposed section of street or road is suitable (safe) for inclusion in the program.

Once the section of road has been approved, a Site Safety Plan to ensure that issues such as personal safety is prepared by the group followed by the group receiving a Resource Folder and other materials for clean up to efficiently carry out the Adopt-a-Road program.

Adopt-a-Road groups carry out their activities on a regular basis - at least four times a year for two years followed by an activity report after each clean-up. And after a period of three to six months; permanent signage is installed on adopted streets and roads to publicly recognise Adopt-a-Road group efforts in their community.

2010 has started well, as the 612 ABC Brisbane radio station has partnered with us to campaign on the Adopt-A-Road. The campaign is full on till 20th March and ABC is all geared up to get more groups adopt a road.

In 2010 we have 20 active groups, of which the West Toowoomba Apex Club and Wallangarra & Jennings Progress & Arts Association had their clean ups in February and our best wishes to the Rotary Club of Salisbury, the Dual Sport Motorcycle Riders Association (Condon), the Rotary Club of Moreton Bay, the Gayndah Freemasons and Gayndah Lions Club and who have their clean ups scheduled in March 2010.

And congratulations to the Rotaract Club of South Brisbane who will get their signage installed on March 6th 2010 to recognise their committed efforts towards Adopt-A-Road.

So why wait, when the road you reside could be adopted and kept clean!!!

Get involved in 2010 AAEE Conference

The 2010 AAEE Conference aims to:

- Meet the needs of education for sustainability practitioners
- Bring together the education and business sectors to support a green skilled workforce
- Encourage youth (15 -25) to develop an agreed vision for a sustainable future
- Showcase organisations and individuals that demonstrate leadership in reducing their footprint at work, home and play
- Provide direction for the second half of the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development - where do we want to be in 2014?
- Is of low environmental impact

The conference offers participants from government and non-government organisations a robust and dynamic forum where they can exchange ideas, experiences and research to build the capacity of people to innovate and implement solutions. It would be done in a participative way through reflective dialogue and panel forums as well as a wide variety of field trips and interactive workshops.

The conference will be held at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra. The conference coincides with Floriade, Australia's premier spring festival where over one million blooms create a stunning backdrop to a month long festival filled with music, cultural celebrations, artistic displays, entertainment and recreational activities.

For more details visit <https://www.conferenceco.com.au/aeee/index.html> or Email:

Wild Endurance 2010

The Wilderness Society's 100km team challenge set in the Blue Mountains will take place over the weekend of 1st and 2nd of May 2010.

The society will recruit 150 teams of 4 - 6 people to take the challenge and help to double the funds they raised last year to \$400,000. You might consider putting a team in yourself or can certainly help in recruiting teams. You can spread the word to those interested, who may love bushwalking and to those who like a challenge.

Remember whilst 100kms sounds like it's a long way, this event is eminently achievable for just about anyone from 18yrs to 80! It is an unforgettable experience both in bonding with your team and the personal challenge, as well as being a great way to get fit and do your bit to save the planet!

Tackle Cigarette Butt Litter On Your Premises

We are known as the state's leading anti-litter organisation, with a 39-year history of encouraging Queenslanders to care for their environment and dispose of litter appropriately.

With smoking prohibited in all enclosed public places, including those on licensed sites/grounds such as pubs, sporting clubs, nightclubs and restaurants, premises have created new designated smoking areas for their patrons.

We would like to support your organisation in preventing an increase in cigarette butt litter in the area surrounding your new designated smoking zone.

Research shows that many smokers do not realise the impact cigarette butt litter has on our environment, and often smokers do not even consider dropping butts to be littering. Fines of \$200 for general litter and \$300 from a vehicle are in place now.

When smokers are provided with information and appropriate litter bins, they are made aware that butts are in fact litter, and many are prepared to change their behaviour.

Free-standing or wall mounted cigarette butt bins and personal ashtrays are available for purchase from Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland. A portion of the proceeds from every bin or ashtray is reinvested in Keep Australia Beautiful litter prevention programs. Personal ashtrays can be branded with your logo and used as promotional giveaways.

For more information or to order cigarette butt bins or personal ashtrays, please checkout our website at www.keeppaustraliabeautifulqueensland.org.au

Thank you for playing your part to keep Australia beautiful.

Become the Biggest Loser.

An exciting new initiative being run in partnership with Department of Environment and Resource Management is the Low Carbon Diet Challenge that invites communities, school groups and others to reduce their carbon footprints.

A Low Carbon Diet involves making small adjustments to your lifestyle to reduce your carbon emissions. Simply, this can be achieved by turning off lights when not needed, or substituting a car journey for public transport or walking!

Like any diet, we see it as a challenge and to make it a bit of fun, we are throwing down the gauntlet to find out which school community can be the 'biggest (CO2) losers' by engaging in activities, which reduce carbon emissions. Take up the challenge and you could win some rather special prizes.

http://www.keeppaustraliabeautifulqueensland.org.au/programs/low_carbon/info

Solar Air Conditioning & Solar Cooking

Griffith University EcoCentre welcomes you to the launch of the EcoCentre's 2010 Community Forum Series. This year's series begins with an interesting forum on solar air conditioning and includes a presentation on solar cooking. Speakers on the evening are: Dane Muldoon, Local expert from the Solar Guys who will discuss on problems with the current approach to air conditioning and the impact that air conditioning is having on peak load demand. Followed by Jane and Stan Cadjler from Sizzling Solar Systems will share some of their extensive knowledge and experience of solar cooking.

Event: Free Community Forum with complimentary light refreshments at 5.30pm

Date: Wednesday 3rd March 2010 at 6.00pm

Venue: Griffith University EcoCentre, Nathan Campus

Limited seats available- RSVP to the EcoCentre to avoid disappointment by Telephone: 07 3735 7992 or Email: L.Malcolm@griffith.edu.au

Greenpages Report's

Greener Apple

Apple's three new patents indicate the company is getting into the clean energy business and has created a new wave of speculation about the eco-friendly direction of the gadget behemoth, suggesting it may be set to lead the pack in terms of product-integrated solar power and smart charging devices. .

London's sustainable Olympic stadium

The London 2012 Olympic Stadium will be made from recycled metal salvaged from guns and knives. Over 57 tons (52 tonnes) of scrap metal from old keys, knives and guns were collected by the Metropolitan Police over the past year to be sold for use in buildings around the city, including the Olympic Stadium. .