



Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 2011 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards



Congratulations Kyogle!

With its rich history, fertile location and strong community spirit, Kyogle is the winner of the 2012 Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Overall Tidy Towns, Sustainable Communities Award.

Kyogle, known as the 'Gateway to the Rainforests', lies on the banks of the Richmond River at the base of Fairy Mountain in the beautiful Northern Rivers region of NSW. With a population of 2800 the town is the administrative seat of the Kyogle Shire Council. It is located 758km north of Sydney, on the Summerland Way close to the Queensland border.

Like most NSW communities, Kyogle has diversified over time with cattle grazing, dairy farming and forestry now the primary industries. In recent years Kyogle has increased its emphasis on tourism, drawing heavily on its proximity to the World Heritage-listed 'Gondwana Rainforest' reserves in the Border Ranges.

Kyogle provides amenities and a standard of living and comfort far beyond what one might expect for the size of the town. Public spaces and recreational areas around town are noted for their commendable cleanliness and maintenance.

Care of its extraordinary environment is at the heart of this community. Kyogle Tidy Towns Committee is active in a range of advocacy issues and their action plans link in with plans that exist for the Chamber, schools and many Government and Non-Government Organisations. Kyogle Shire Council also has an Environmental Management Plan, developed in consultation with the wider public.

As the Tidy Towns assessor Greg Howling commented, 'I found community participation in Kyogle to be both wide in its reach, deep in commitment and inspirational in the quality of its vision. Council and youth combine remarkably well with senior residents to ensure an effective mix of energy, vibrancy and efficiency. The Tidy Towns Committee is worthy of particular commendation for its commitment to ensuring that anyone who has something to offer is able to find a place, encouragement and acknowledgement of their involvement.'

A QUESTION OF BALANCE

In 2011, a package of projects was presented which demonstrates a clear vision for the future of the town, ensuring a balanced emphasis on provision of core services, visual and lifestyle resources and maintenance of the region's unique natural and cultural heritage values.



A SNAPSHOT OF THESE DIVERSE PROJECTS SHOWS WHAT COMMUNITY COHESION CAN ACHIEVE:

- Council has actively supported the Youth Environment Committee and efforts to overhaul recycling services.
- The community has received excellent support from Envirofund applications, Landcare grants and the Catchment Management Authority.
- Council has supported the town with grants for environmental work.
- Community groups have had success with the National Trust and Telstra Grants.
- Kyogle Tidy Towns last year developed its own sponsorship grant program.
- Revenue from the markets is put back into the community with an award sponsorship program.
- Kyogle High School is a leader in school environmental initiatives and networking. Students have designed their own community garden in association with Kyogle Tidy Towns and course content involves a study of weed management in the Kyogle Botanical Garden. School assessments complement the work of Kyogle Council.

HISTORY & TOURISM

The area was home to the Bandjalung people for thousands of years, and the district maintains a strong connection with its indigenous heritage. The word 'Kyogle' is taken from the local aboriginal word for "plains turkey egg" referring to the scrub turkey.

The town was established in the 1830s as a lumber camp, with timber getters accessing the rich red cedar and hoop pine resources of the area. Industry has since diversified to include beef and dairy production.

The town has maintained the character of its main street, and hidden behind beautiful Art Deco façades there is a plethora of shops, cafés, galleries, and hotels, offering the visitor a uniquely Australian experience. Kyogle boasts spectacular natural and cultural attributes. With lush grazing paddocks interspersed with windbreaks and buffers of lowland forest, the general appearance of the district is one of fertility and enterprise. Visitors are drawn to the town and surrounding villages by the spectacular natural beauty of the area. Bundjalung cultural tours are available, and provide authentic Dreamtime stories as well as an opportunity to share the history of the local people.

Well done Kyogle for winning the State title!

2011 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Program Presenting the Award Winners for 2012

HOW DOES KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL NSW DETERMINE THE OVERALL WINNER?

The Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards are determined by a rigorous and lengthy process with many thanks to 28 trained assessors and judges, who are all volunteers. After each entry for the overall award is assessed, the town's submission and a report from its assessor are given to one of six state judges for evaluation. Results are statistically analysed and a winner from each of the six population categories is determined. The best of each population category is sent back to the state judges for ranking from 1-6. Lithgow, in population category E was ranked first for 2011. The Overall category finalists for 2011 were Nundle (A), Boggabri (B), Kyogle (C) Forbes & Young (D) Singleton (E) Wagga Wagga (F). From the seven finalists Kyogle emerged as the state winner. Congratulations Kyogle.



Office of Environment & Heritage Cultural Heritage Award

A	Winner HC	Rydal Delungra	Our Past, Present and Future
B	Winner HC HC	Bowraville Boggabri Rylstone	Museums of The Verandah Post Town
C	Winner HC	Portland Brewarrina Morpeth Wallerawang	Portland School of Arts Building Restoration
D	Winner HC	Maitland Leeton	Hunter Valley Steamfest
E	Winner HC	Singleton East Maitland	The Northern Agricultural Association
F	Winner HC	Tamworth Wagga Wagga	Munro's Mill



Office of Environment & Heritage Wildlife Corridors and Habitats Conservation Award

A	Winner HC	Nundle Tottenham	Nundle Riverside Project
B	Winner HC	Boggabri Jerilderie	Cox's Creek Rehabilitation
C	Winner HC	Kyogle Lake Cathie	Restoration of Old Quarry Site
D	Winner HC	Swansea Soldiers Point - Salamander Bay	Galgabba Point Reserve
E	Winner HC	Broken Hill Singleton	Living Desert Sanctuary
F	Winner HC	Northern Tablelands Orange	High Country Urban Biodiversity



Schools Environment Award

1	Winner HC	Cowra High School - Cowra St Paul's High School - Toronto
2	Winner HC	King Street Public School - Singleton Young High School - Young
3	Winner HC	St Philip's Christian College - Cessnock Kyogle High School - Kyogle
4	Winner HC	Cessnock East Public School - Cessnock Forbes North Public School - Forbes
5	Winner HC	Zig Zag Public School - Lithgow Nundle Public School - Nundle
6	Winner HC	Collingullie Public School - Wagga Wagga Wollombi Public School - Wollombi



Packaging Stewardship Forum Waste Management & Litter Reduction Award

A	Winner HC	Delungra Tottenham	Delungra Waste Management
B	Winner HC	Ellalong N/A	Keeping Ellalong Litter Free
C	Winner HC	Kyogle Wyalong/West Wyalong	New Era in Recycling for Kyogle
D	Winner HC	Forbes Soldiers Point - Salamander Bay	Twin City Recyclers
E	Winner HC	Griffith Singleton	Bat for Rotary
F	Winner HC	N/A Wagga Wagga	



Essential Energy Bush Spirit Award

A	Winner HC	Gooloogong Warrah Creek	War Memorial Extensions
B	Winner HC	Henty Murrurundi	Henty's 125th Birthday Celebrations
C	Winner HC	Appin Kyogle	Appin Bicentenary Festival
D	Winner HC	Tilligerry Peninsula Leeton	Henderson Park
E	Winner HC	Griffith East Maitland	Women Walking 4 Water 4 Food
F	Winner HC	Tamworth N/A	Ronald McDonald House



Water Conservation Award

A	Winner HC	Tottenham N/A	Irrigation at Tottenham Racecourse
B	Winner HC	N/A Boggabri	
C	Winner HC	Wyalong/West Wyalong N/A	Water Recycling
D	Winner HC	Tilligerry Peninsula Kurri Kurri	Water Wise Garden
E	Winner HC	Armidale Griffith	Armidale City Bowling Club
F	Winner HC	Wagga Wagga Orange	Effluent Recycling



Overall Town Category

A	First Second Third	Nundle Tottenham Boomi
B	First Second Third	Boggabri Euston Bowraville
C	First Second Third	Kyogle Quirindi Wyalong/West Wyalong
D	First Second Third	Forbes and Young Gloucester
E	First Second Third	Singleton Griffith Cessnock
F	First Second Third	Wagga Wagga Orange Tamworth

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Tidy Towns Awards, Overall Winners

1981 – Gloucester
1982 – Orange
1983 – Grafton
1984 – Leeton
1985 – Alstonville
1985 – Wagga Wagga
1986 – Wollongong
1987 – Camden
1988 – Wagga Wagga
1989 – Wollongong
1990 – Port Macquarie
1991 – Hay
1992 – Forbes
1993 – Kurri Kurri
1994 – Ballina
1995 – Kiama
1996 – Finley

1997 – Lithgow
1998 – Byrock
1999 – Tamworth
2000 – Dubbo
2001 – Salamander Bay
2002 – Cowra
2003 – Broken Hill
2004 – Gulargambone
2005 – Year Change
2006 – Singleton
2007 – Leeton
2008 – Dorrigo
2009 – Tamworth
2010 – Lockhart
2011 – Lithgow
2012 – Kyogle

Population category	Schools category	Award
A 1-350	1 701+students	HC Highly Commended
B 351-1,200	2 451-700	
C 1,200-4,000	3 301-450	
D 4,001-10,000	4 160-300	
E 10,001-25,000	5 26-159	
F 25,000+	6 Less than 26	

Dynamic education for a sustainable future

EnviroMentors, (formerly known as Waste Watchers), is Australia's leading mobile, environmental education program for schools, developed and operated by Keep Australia Beautiful NSW.

Offered as a service to enable Councils, Regional Organisations of Councils and other host organisations to educate their children on a wide range of local environmental issues, interactive workshops teach students the measures they can take to protect and conserve our fragile environments.

2012 MODULES:

In the Bin - Students use drama to gain knowledge of local waste issues, including the appropriate bin to place waste items in and the implications of littering.

Close the Loop - Through interactive games, students find out about the processes involved in recycling and what new items are made from recycled materials.

Let's Do it Now! - Exploring the concept of sustainability, students work in groups to identify sustainable actions they can do in their daily lives at home and school.

Worms, Worms, Worms - Students learn about worm-farming as a simple, effective way to recycle food scraps and have the opportunity to experience a real worm farm.

Compost Critters - Through fun games and activities, students explore composting as an environmentally sound alternative to reduce waste going to landfill.

Catchment Action - Students role-play the harmful activities carried out by characters in a catchment story and workshop practices to protect our fragile waterways. Our 3D Interactive catchment models are a fascinating component of this module.

Drip, Drop, Splash - Students examine the water cycle and are challenged to consider strategies to conserve and share our limited supply of water.



This memorable and efficient form of education has been assisting local councils achieve positive environmental education outcomes in their communities since 1995. In June 2011, Keep Australia Beautiful rebranded the program from Waste Watchers to EnviroMentors to reflect the diversity of our modules and the expertise of our team.



Please contact Program Manager, Peta Golla on (02) 9633 3380 for information or to secure a booking.

SPECIAL OFFER:

Book your local or regional EnviroMentors sessions for 2012 now and save 10%. For full terms and conditions please visit the website www.kabnsw.org.au

2011 Tidy Towns Assessors

A big thank you to all our assessors for volunteering their time, efforts and energy to this year's program:

Brian Birkefeld

Peter Clark

Greg Croft

Dennis de Kantzow

Mike Dodkin

Peter Evans

Rosemary Hadaway

Gary Howling

Chris Jeffreys

Phil Kelly

Richard Li

Doug MacDonald

Yolande Presland

Heather Ranclaud

Peter Ryall

Andrew Scott

Jennifer Tisdell

Sponsors

Our sincere appreciation to all our partners who continue to generously support the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Program:



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