



Mark McGowan MLA
Minister for Education and Training;
South West

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Portfolio: Environment

Green living earns WA Environment Award

17/11/06

Creating sustainable housing which halves energy consumption and cuts household waste by more than 80 per cent has earned National Lifestyle Villages the State's most prestigious environment award.

Environment Minister Mark McGowan presented the 2006 Western Australian Environment Award to National Lifestyle Villages for their outstanding achievement in the field of environmentally sustainable management and practices.

"National Lifestyle Villages (NLV) designs sustainable homes for active baby boomers regardless of their socio-economic position," Mr McGowan said.

"The company's environmental management strategies incorporate biodiversity protection, energy efficiency, atmospheric management, water and waste management, sustainable transportation, light and noise pollution prevention, and monitoring and evaluation.

"Murdoch University estimated that NLV homes can use 50 per cent less energy, 62 per cent less water, and can contribute 82 per cent less waste to landfill per household compared to an average Perth medium density home. "

National Lifestyle Villages was selected from 32 finalists across 11 award categories.

Capel conservationist Michael Tichbon was selected as the overall winner for the Individual Environment Award.

Mr Tichbon was well-known as the local expert in identifying and protecting rare plants and bushland in the Capel and Busselton areas.

"He has voluntarily undertaken responsibility for developing innovative weed control techniques in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation to protect rare vegetation communities," the Minister said.

"Mr Tichbon's pioneering research using controlled burning and selective herbicide use has helped local land managers protect threatened flora in and around local wetlands.

"He has shared his love for the local bushland through guided bushwalks and photographic displays, and regularly shares his knowledge with Government departments, community groups, farmers and other landcare organisations."

The awards attracted 71 entrants from business, Government and community projects throughout WA.

Mr McGowan commended the dedication of all entrants on developing outstanding projects which have helped to protect and restore the environment. Minister's office: 9222 9111

Category winners:

Community Achievement -
Individual: Michael Tichbon
Community/Volunteer group: Kimberley Toad Busters

Corporate Business Leading by Example - National Lifestyle Villages

Government Leading by Example - South East Regional Energy Group

Small Business Leading by Example - Smart Burn Pty Ltd

Bush, Land and Waterways - Swan River Trust

Coastal, Marine and Estuarine - Tangaroa Blue

Waste and Resources - Scott Print

Air Quality - Sustainable Transport Coalition WA

Community Energy Efficiency - South East Regional Energy Group

Littering and dumping prevention - no award.

Full details in the Winners Book at

http://portal.environment.wa.gov.au/portal/page?_pageid=93,6239775&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

or Google West Australian Environment Awards and then select winners