

The Eco-friendly Youth Project



Photo caption: Byron Youth Services have taken the 6 Steps to become more a sustainable eco-friendly centre.

“Have you ever heard of a green youth centre? I didn’t until I attended the session on ‘Integrating sustainable practices in youth centers: 6 Steps to an Eco-friendly Youth Centre’ at the YAPPA Youth Work Conference this year. Simon DuBois from Bryon Youth Services (BYS) gave an inspiring presentation on how BYS and the Youth Activities Centre (YAC) became eco-friendly.” Isabel Seidel



Workshop Outline: Become an Eco-friendly Centre

With the impacts of global warming on the rise, there is an increasing recognition that each of us has a fundamental role in living and working in a sustainable way, considering how our actions impact on the environment around us, and what we can do to protect our environment for future generations. Youth centres and youth workers are placed in a unique position to generate youth and community empowerment to undertake change and implement environmental initiatives. This workshop will showcase how youth centres, youth workers and young people can become eco-friendly and promote sustainability by following a 6 Step approach to becoming an Eco-friendly Youth Centre.

Workshop Content

The one-day workshop will give participants the knowledge, skills and resources required to put the award winning 6 steps to an eco-friendly youth centre program into practice and cover:

1. The 6 Step approach – covering the easy steps to become an eco-friendly youth organization.
2. What’s your centre/organisation doing now: waste, water and energy use.
3. How to take action in your organisation and become more sustainable – exploring ways of reducing waste, water and energy use.
4. How to involve and motivate young people and other staff, management and community through the process
5. Where to find funding and support for taking action to become an eco-friendly centre.

Background

The North Coast Eco-friendly Youth Project is being coordinated by the North East Waste Forum, on behalf of its member Councils of Byron Shire, Ballina Shire, Lismore City, Richmond Valley and Clarence Valley Councils. It is funded through the NSW Environmental Trust, and also has a number of project partners who are taking an active role in the design and implementation of the project.

The Eco-friendly Youth Project has worked with youth centres on the north coast of NSW to assist them in integrating waste reduction, energy and water conservation practices into their work practices, policies and programs for young people through a 6 steps approach. A website and toolkit, including DVD and CD-Rom, has also been developed to assist other youth organisations in taking on the 6 Steps to an Eco-friendly Youth Centre. Visit our website www.ecofriendlycentre.com to find out more about becoming eco-friendly.



This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust



Environmental workshop with local young people in Byron Bay seeking their views and opinions about environmental issues and needed actions both locally and globally.

Registration

North East Waste forum will be conducting three workshops. To register your attendance contact Simon DuBois via **email** on simondubois@yahoo.com.au or **text** on **0401440329**. Please provide your name, the workshop location you are attending and the organisation you work for. Look forward to catching up!

Thursday 8th of April (10am – 4pm)
Marrickville Youth Resource Centre Inc,
Cnr Yablsey Ave and Northcote St, Marrickville (Sydney) NSW 2204

Friday 9th of April (10am – 4pm)
Emerge Youth and Family Services Inc
51 Allenby Road, Orange NSW 2800

Tuesday 11th of May (9:30am – 3:30pm)
Y P Space MNC Inc,
108 Seat Street, West Kempsey 2440