

Mayor's Message - June 2005

Lets do our bit!

It was an exciting time for Mandurah when the Mandurah Sustainable House was opened recently.

Congratulations to the City of Mandurah partners in this great achievement - Mirvac Fini, Ultimate Homes, Solar Dwellings and Sustainable Consulting who worked so hard together to bring this about. This unique development is at Meadow Springs stage 12 and it is open to the public. It has been built to show that we can do a lot to help the environment and still live in a house that the average home builder can afford. Please visit this house and get ideas of how you can help our environment.

Did you know that Australia's 7 million homes contribute 20 percent to the Greenhouse Gas emission which affects the way our climate is changing. When we make small changes in our homes we help the climate and so reduce the impact on our lives, of climate change.

The CSIRO have reported that our temperature is going to increase and rainfall, which has already declined, will decrease further with global warming. We now receive only one quarter of the rainfall that we received at the end of the Second World War.

Global Warming means for us here in Mandurah, that there will be a drying effect on the earth which will affect the way the crops grow and the way they ripen. It means a change to the mosquito cycles with the threat of more mosquito borne disease; it means less water; and it means for those of us on the coast in extreme weather events, an increase in storm and wind damage.

If we can use less heating and cooling energy by better designing our houses, by buying appliances that use less energy, and changing to natural energy sources, we will be doing our bit.

Mandurah City Council has a lot of information on what we all can do and our staff is keen to share that information with you. We want to look after our environment, live in a healthy city and leave it that way for our children.

The Sustainable Home website is www.sustainablemandurah.com.au.