




Minimising Waste

SUCCESS STORIES IN THE BEGA VALLEY SHIRE

KEY FIGURES ACHIEVED	
 <p>recycling</p>	<p>49% or 388 tonne of material removed from the club is recycled in 2009</p>
 <p>waste to landfill</p>	<p>Reduced waste to landfill by 62 tonnes</p> <p>Saved \$1,718 in waste costs</p>
 <p>Organic composting</p>	<p>About to start worm farming and reusing the fertiliser on bowling greens</p>

Case study

Club Sapphire is a leading club in the Bega Valley Shire. With humble beginnings as a lawn bowls club, Club Sapphire now has over 175,000 visitors per year, employs more than 100 staff and serves up around 200,000 meals from their bistro.

The business joined the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water's Sustainability Advantage program, facilitated by Business Treading Lightly in 2008.

One of the early wins for Club Sapphire was improving their waste management. With the drive of a determined cellarman and support from local waste contractors, they've streamlined their processes and seen financial savings.

“We thought recycling more would be a cost to us but re-negotiating our contract actually saved money”

Lerryl McDonald,
Deputy CEO, Club Sapphire

How did they do it?

- Reviewed contracts which were previously with two waste companies. By having one contractor remove both recycling and waste to landfill, a better price could be negotiated on the waste to landfill
- Increased the size of landfill waste bins from 240L sulo to 660 litre. Also decreased the frequency of collection to get the best value. This has also reduced transport emissions



660 litre bins require less collection

- Introduced new bins behind the bar to make it easy to separate recycling from general waste



New bins for behind bar separation

- Improved rates of recycling on co-mingled items such as glass, steel and plastic
- Worked with suppliers so they now take back, polystyrene boxes and waxed vegetable boxes on return loads. This is a benefit in waste reduction and the supplier reduces costs in packaging purchase



Polystyrene and waxed boxes ready for return to the supplier

- Introduced plastic film recycling for shrink wrap and all other beverage wrapping



Plastic film is baled and recycled

- Ensure items such as cooking oil, printer toner and mobile phones are recycled appropriately

What else?

- Investigating worm farms as a way to reduce organic waste. There are also opportunities to use the castings and juice to replace chemical fertilisers on the bowling greens