






# Sussex Inlet RSL saving big dollars on printing

## SUCCESS STORIES IN THE SHOALHAVEN

KEY FIGURES ACHIEVED	
 recycling	<b>Have saved over \$21,000 per year in printing costs and reduced paper usage by over 50 reams per year.</b>
 CO2 emissions	<b>Reduced paper usage by over 50 reams of paper and 260kg CO2 emissions per year.</b>
 Electricity consumption	<b>Reduced electricity consumption by 7% through behaviour change alone</b>

### Case study

Sussex Inlet RSL joined the Business Treading Lightly program in early 2010. Since that time, Sussex Inlet RSL has undertaken numerous sustainability initiatives that have reduced electricity consumption and paper usage and saved thousands of dollars.

### How did they do it?

One area in which they have really saved has been in office paper usage. Sussex Inlet RSL is leasing a brand new printer that has many printing saving features. The first is that this machine is able to send and receive electronic faxes and even receives an electronic notification once a fax has successfully reached its destination. This machine has also reduced printing costs – black and white copies are 90% cheaper to produce while colour copies are over 65% cheaper. This new machine is able to print and staple in one enabling the club to produce their own paper reports and newsletters.

Previously, the Annual Reports and newsletters needed to be sent to a commercial printer with a minimum run of 1500 copies. The cost of printing the Annual Report was \$4,500 for 1500 copies, most of which were never used. This year's cost of printing the Annual Report comes in at \$150 – a massive saving of \$4,350. The quarterly newsletters cost around \$12,000 per year. Now the staff print monthly newsletters as required. This not only saves paper but members have access to much more up to date information.

The newly leased printer replaces 7 other printers thereby reducing electricity consumption. In addition, its ease of use greatly reduces the amount of staff time wasted in printing documents.

The club has also reduced the amount of material that needs to be printed. Previously the club needed to print out a plethora of information for Board Meetings – minutes, reports, correspondence totalling in excess of 150 pages a meeting with copies distributed to all 9 Board members and managers. Now the Board and Managers receive a flash drive containing all the information they need. The Board are so keen to reduce their paper consumption that 6 of the Board members are learning how to use a computer – the other 3 are already computer savvy. This initiative reduces paper consumption by over 50 reams of paper a year.

So how much have they saved? Internal printing costs were around \$900 per month. Sussex Inlet RSL now spends \$500 per month on printing costs which INCLUDES the cost of the lease. When you add this to the massive savings made in changes to how reports and newsletters are printed and distributed, annual savings are expected to exceed \$21,000 per year and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 260kg per year.



**“The Board are right behind the changes. Their support has encouraged all of the staff to get behind our sustainability initiatives – and its working. We are saving money and lessening our impact on the environment.”**

Craig Smith,

General Manager, Sussex Inlet RSL

Sussex Inlet RSL has reduced their electricity consumption by 7% - through no cost behaviour change. This was achieved by:

- Having a great team! The staff are committed to the Business Treading Lightly program and the Board has supported this move.
- Staff turn off lights when not in use.
- The air conditioner settings have been adjusted slightly – a little lower in winter and higher in summer. The members haven't even noticed this change.
- All computers are off at the end of the day.

### Future projects?

Encouraged by their significant achievements to date, Sussex Inlet RSL has many plans for the future including:

- Using captured rainwater for toilet flushing in the club. Sussex Inlet RSL already use captured rainwater for watering their bowling greens.
- Installing air-cooled woks to replace their water cooled woks.
- Increasing the amount of natural lighting within the club through the installation of skylights.

- Will replace plastic bags with more environmentally friendly alternatives
- Replacing inefficient halogen down lights with energy saving lights such as compact fluoro's or LED's.



### Other initiatives:

- The creation of the Sussex Inlet RSL Treading Lightly committee.
- Replaced Styrofoam cups with biodegradable cups
- Replaced whole chickens in the meat raffle with vouchers thereby reducing the amount of fridges and freezers in use.
- Reviewed waste collection and now have separate cardboard and paper recycling facilities.

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*This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust*



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