



Taking responsibility for
a sustainable future



www.lincolnenvirotown.org.nz

Lincoln Envirotown Trust Newsletter December 2007- February 2008

"Source Reduction is to garbage what preventive medicine is to health." - William L. Rathje, Atlantic Monthly, December 1989.

We hope your holidays have been restful and restorative and that you will join the exciting, sustainable efforts of the Lincoln Envirotown Trust (LET) for Lincoln and beyond in 2008!

Winners of the 2007 Zerowaste Street Challenge Announced!

It's official Roblyn Place and Glebe Close are the joint winners of the Second Annual Zero Waste Street Challenge. An afternoon tea will be provided for the winning streets. This challenge allowed participants to get to know their neighbours better and compete to be the street who are making the best efforts to reduce their waste. 15 streets took part, even more than last year. From our survey, 93% of respondents now separate material for recycling compared to 55% in 2006. Well done.



(Left) Envirokids Holiday Pageant Recycled Costume Winners (L-R): 2nd Place, Amy Burney, 1st Place, Jamm Hostetler, 3rd Place, Malina Hofmann).



Envirokids Holiday Pageant Float And Recycled Costume Contest

LET Envirokids participated in the Annual Lincoln Holiday Pageant December 8th, 2007 with a float and recycled costume contest. A first, second and third place was awarded for the best costumes, and the LET float allowed the costumed children to participate with an environmental message. All of the Envirotown kids were winners as they came away with a native tree to plant in the community. Thanks to Joy Hurley for organizing the costume contest, and thank you to Faye Parfitt and the folks at CRT Real Estate for the help with the float.

Support Zero Waste In And Around Lincoln

Sustainable Living Workshop

A sustainable living workshop was held in Lincoln on November 25th, 2007 to help interested residents learn more about a wide variety of environmental topics. The **next workshop** will be held Sunday, March 30th. **Ring Raewyn at 325-2454. To learn more and participate, watch the LET Web site or, <http://www.sustainableliving.org.nz>**

LET Reusable Bags Delivered/ Additional Bags Available

The Lincoln Envirotown Trust delivered a free, reusable bag to each household in Lincoln over the holidays. Already, we are seeing these bags being used for all sorts of good through the community – groceries, library books, farmer's market items, picnic bags, general totes - their uses are endless. If you would like an additional bag or know someone who could use one, the LET reusable bags are available from the LET Caravan, Lincoln 4 Square, CRT Real Estate, and the Natural Resources Engineering Building at Lincoln University for a small donation of three dollars or more. Moneys raised go to help the LET continue to run its programming for the community (*see new donation legislation article below*).

Tax Legislation Passed, Increasing Incentive For Donations

Now is a great time to make a donation to the Lincoln Envirotown Trust to help continue its mission of sustainability for Lincoln and to be a role model for other communities. New legislation taking effect April 1 for the 2008-09 income year, increases tax incentives for donating to charitable organisations. The changes remove the current \$1,890 rebate threshold on donations made by individuals and the 5 per cent deduction limit on donations made by companies and Māori authorities. It means that people and companies can claim rebates and deductions for donations up to the level of their annual net income.



Learn more about the
Lincoln Envirotown Trust online at
<http://www.lincolnenvirotown.org.nz>



Planting Pride, Not Litter – Envirokids Cleanup Liffey

During the school holiday, the LET Envirokids held a Zero Waste Lunch and litter cleanup of the Liffey. The Envirokids and their families collected litter from the square block from the North Belt to Gerald Street. Items were sorted into four large moving boxes labeled "Reusable", "Recyclable", "Compostable", and "Rubbish". The results were graphed and are on display in the Lincoln Library and at the LET Caravan. Thank you Joy Hurley for organizing this holiday program, and thank you for all the kids and parents for coming out!

Sustainable Expo – Rolleston

One of the aims of LET is to not only help Lincoln become more sustainable, but also serve as a role model for other communities. To this aim, LET participated in the Sustainable Expo in Rolleston, January 26 –27, 2008. Information was exchanged and many Lincoln and surrounding-community residents expressed interest in renting the LET Cent –a-Meter (*see below*).

Speakers available: If you would like us to come and talk to your organisation, or you live in another community and would like our help in setting up your own action for sustainability group, **please contact Sue Jarvis, 329-5858.**

LET Cent-a-meter For Hire

The LET Cent-a-meter is a tool that assists homeowners with information about their own energy use. The Cent-a-meter is available for hire from LET for five dollars and a \$100 refundable deposit. **If interested, contact Sue Jarvis at 329-5858.**

Upcoming Events / Get Involved

Earth Hour Lincoln: Get Involved!

Switch off the lights for Climate Change, 8:00pm March 29th, <http://www.earthhour.org/cities/christchurch/>

LET Invited To Participate In Jack Johnson Concert

LET has been invited to take part in the Village Green for the Jack Johnson concert to be held March 20th, 2008. As part of this invitation, LET received a \$500 contribution to help with LET efforts and ten concert tickets to help raise funding for the Trust. Envirotown information will also be posted on the Jack Johnson web site, www.jackjohnsonmusic.com, under Christchurch. This is an exciting opportunity to take part in this global tour and get out the message of sustainability to our own community and that of the greater Christchurch area.

Contact us if you are interested in tickets, 329-5858.

Children's Day

On Sunday, March 2nd, 2008, Children's Day will be celebrated at the Prebbleton Reserve. Children's Day is about celebrating family life and how special and important our children are. This year's theme is "New Experiences." LET will be participating with a table/activity. **Please contact Joy Hurley if you would like to help or would like more information, 325-7497.**

TV2 KidsFest™ Contest

TV2 KidsFest™, New Zealand's biggest children's festival, is celebrating its 17th year with an explosive winter festival returning to Christchurch between 5 and 18 July with the broad theme of Imagination. TV2 KidsFest™ provides the opportunity for a wide range of community groups, amateur and professional organisations as well as related businesses, to create and produce special events just for children. LET will participate for the third year in a row with holiday activities for 3-12 year olds on the theme of the house and family of the future, probably combined with an story contest for children of all ages about the "House of the Future." Watch the LET Newsletter and Web site for further information.

Get Involved With LET!

It's the New Year and a great resolution is to help the environment. Lincoln Envirotown Trust meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Lincoln Community Center Supper Room. If you are interested in learning more about and participating in what LET is doing or have some ideas you would like to share regarding environmental matters, please come and join us (see info to right)!

Upcoming LET Ideas For 2008:

Watch out for workshops and community events on the topics you asked for in your survey returns and in the discussion groups:

- Water quality and water availability in Canterbury
- Sustainable urban design planning and housing design
- Renewable energy, practical help and information
- Biodiversity, creating corridors for native birds and other animals
- Climate change
- How to reduce energy use at home
- How to reduce household landfill waste
- And many other ideas!

Do your friends want to know when these are happening? Ask them if they want to join our email newsletter list. Also look in the Council Call section of the local papers and on our Web site. Get involved by adopting one of the actions on our action plan (see Actions not yet adopted below). Help build a sustainable community by joining with your neighbours. This year could we aim to be Carbon Neutral Lincoln?!

Please contact Sue Jarvis at 325-2121 or 329-5858 for more information about and to become involved with the Lincoln Envirotown Trust.

Ideas for additional future funding for the Lincoln Envirotown Trust are also welcome.

REMEMBER to regularly check the LET Web site for what is happening, www.lincolnenvirotown.org.nz

Actions not yet adopted (These seeds await champions in the future) –

- Car Free Days
- A Community Owned Wind Turbine
- Preserve Our Waterways (Liffey/Te Waihora)
- More Events To Bring Community Together
- More Resting Spots For Social Interaction
- More Recycling
- Toxic Chemicals
- Reduce Water Wastage

Actions adopted and awaiting action:

- Reduce Energy Use
- Community garden
- Car Pool to Christchurch

Please contact us if you would like to be involved with any of the actions, or if you would like to suggest other actions that were not brought up at the action-planning meeting – Sue Jarvis 325-2121 or 329-5858.