

Tuesday 20 September 2011

Sustainability rewarded at Awards night

Indigo Shire Council is set to announce the winners of the 2011 Sustainability Awards on Friday 14 October.

The Awards ceremony will be held at the Rutherglen DPI Research Institute, Chiltern Valley Road, Chiltern with guest speaker Dr Scott Rawlings from the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability.

Indigo Shire Council Mayor Cr Ali Pockley said the judges have had a tough time. "All of the applicants have been great quality, and it has made judging hard," Cr Pockley said.

"The Awards are about promoting sustainability in the Community, and encouraging people to think smart about sustainability. There is not always enough recognition of the wonderful things that people do in our community, and these awards are a great opportunity for people to be recognised and rewarded for their efforts. Last year's nominations ranged from sustainable house design and construction to greener business operations and tree planting, and we have seen the same variety this year," Cr Pockley said.

This year, the category of 'Education' was added to the existing categories of Agriculture, Business, Community and Households.

"We added this category so that schools could be recognised for the work they do for sustainability, and will not have to compete against other applications from businesses and individuals. And let's face it, these young people will be inheriting what we leave behind, so it is up to them to drive their and our collective future together," Cr Pockley said.

"At Council, we are doing what we can to make the Shire as green as possible. Our Natural Resources Team run a number of projects to promote sustainability, including developing a Sustainability Toolkit, with four publications aimed to help people build and retrofit existing homes in ways that reduce operating costs and increase their comfort levels," Cr Pockley said.

The Sustainability Awards are judged by Council's Environment Advisory Committee, which is made up of local experts in their collective fields from across the Shire.

The Awards evening will start with a light supper and drinks from 5:30pm. Please RSVP by Wednesday 12 October to Shay Simpson 02 6028 1128, 1300 365 003 or ssimpson@indigoshire.vic.gov.au.

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