

Community Leaders in Sustainability - Course Overview

Community of the inner west are doing great things and you can be part of it!

Have you got a community environment project idea or project you are passionate about?

The free Community Leaders in Sustainability course provides you with training in project management, grant writing, building partnerships and urban sustainability. You'll meet experts and connect with other like-minded people.

Participants put their knowledge and skills into practice, and work towards delivering a community environmental project that creates positive outcomes in their local communities, with the support of the program. Projects must be based locally for example in a local workplace, street, school, natural area or neighbourhood and take a community-led approach.

The course will run in the Inner West from **Tuesday 11 September 2018** to **Tuesday 13 October 2018** with a two week break during school holidays. There are also two Saturday field trips (22 September and 20 October) and a graduation ceremony on Thursday 6 December.

Have some questions? Talk to the course coordinators:

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Kate Jackson 9335 2147 kate.jackson@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

To apply

Apply [online](#) or download an application form.

Applications close: Tuesday 24 July 2018

What's in it for you?

- New friends who care about community and environment
- Expanded knowledge and networks in your local community
- Learning how to work collaboratively on a specific project
- Free training
- Increased knowledge and skills in running projects and environmental sustainability
- A lot of fun

What is a community environmental project?

A community project involves members of the community taking action to improve, protect or nurture their natural environment, or to reduce their impact on the environment. The list of possible projects is endless. Some examples from the last course are:

- developing a school community composting system where people can take food waste
- promoting and planting habitats for butterflies
- starting a tool library
- working with local businesses to reduce plastic bag use



How does it work?

The course is managed and facilitated by the Inner West Council's Green Living Centre. It was developed by the City of Banyule and City of Darebin as part of their Sustainable Homes and Communities Program which has generously shared course materials with Inner West Council. The group will include up to 20 community members who live, work or study in the inner west local government area.

Workshops and field trips

There will be eight workshop sessions, two field trips and a final graduation event.

The workshop sessions have guest presenters on topics such as community project management and planning, leadership and change practice, group work and communication, and obtaining funding.

At some sessions local community members will showcase their projects and discuss their experiences, successes and challenges.

As the weeks progress, groups will form to plan and deliver community projects. Note that there are no workshops or events scheduled during school holidays. Most leaders will be in a position to start planning, preparing or delivering projects towards the end of the workshop sessions.

Community project

The course can help you develop and bring to life your project concept, develop a project that is already in the planning stage, or improve a project that's well underway.

Whatever stage you are at, you'll have support to plan it and link with others who can help you.

What do we ask of you?

- We ask that you commit to and attend all sessions
- We ask that you will arrive at sessions on time
- We ask that you bring a positive, courageous and open outlook to all the activities we undertake together, along with a willingness to listen, to share, to contribute and to support and encourage those around you whenever you see the opportunity.

2018 Course Schedule

Venue: Council Function Room – Petersham Service Centre

Session	Date & time	Topic
1	Tuesday 11 September 6.00 – 9.00pm	Getting to know the program and each other
2	Tuesday 18 September 6.00-9.00pm	Planning a community project
3	Saturday 22 September 9.00am-1.00pm	Field trip- exploring local natural places
4	Tuesday 25 September 6.00 – 9.00pm	Community collaboration & leadership
Break during school holidays		
5	Tuesday 16 October 6.00 - 9.00pm	Community projects – ideas and plans
6	Saturday 20 October 9.00am- 1.00pm	Field Trip- Inner West built places
7	Tuesday 23 October 6.00-9.00pm	Creativity, sustainability and connecting with nature
8	Tuesday 30 October 6.00-9.00pm	Group dynamics, working with groups, sharing the load
9	Tuesday 6 November 6.00 – 9.00pm	Community Projects – project planning
10	Tuesday 13 November 6.00 – 9.00pm	Speed date an expert
Event	Thursday 6 December 7.00 – 9.00pm	Graduation Celebration