

Community Leaders in Sustainability 2018/19 Course

The free Community Leaders in Sustainability (CLS) course, is part of the Sustainable Homes and Communities Program delivered by Banyule and Darebin councils and provides training and leadership skills in project management, grant writing, effective marketing and social media, building partnerships, as well as aspects of environmental sustainability.

During the program, participants put their knowledge and skills into practice, and work to deliver a local community environmental project which creates positive outcomes in their local communities to provide strong action on climate change and live sustainably.

This course will run on Wednesday evenings from 6 February 2019 with a graduation in May, 2019.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT?

A community environmental project involves members of the community taking action to improve, protect or nurture their natural environment, or to reduce their impact on the environment and take strong action on climate change. Some past community project examples include:

- Environmental education including renewables, biodiversity, waste and sustainable food
- Parents Climate Action Group
- working with local businesses to reduce single-use-plastics and waste
- lobbying Government on environmental issues
- providing climate change and sustainability information for people who otherwise do not access it



Projects should take place or have an impact in Darebin or Banyule, have a community-oriented approach to environmental sustainability and provide strong action on Climate Change. Project ideas that focus on personal activity such as a sustainable home renovation or home food gardens will not be supported.

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

The program is managed and facilitated by the Sustainable Homes and Communities coordinator, working for both Banyule and Darebin Councils.

There will be 12 evening workshops, some with guest speakers, presenting on topics such as community project management and planning, leadership and change practice, group work and communication, working with the media and obtaining funding. In addition there will be two weekend field trips and a Graduation event in May 2018.



Past participants will be invited to attend and showcase their own projects, and discuss their experiences, successes and the hurdles they face as Community Leaders in Sustainability.

At the end of the course and after submitting your project plan or completing your project, you will receive a Community Leaders in Sustainability Certificate.



WHAT DO WE EXPECT OF YOU?

If you are a successful applicant we expect that you undertake to attend all sessions and commit to lead or participate in a community project.

When you are given take home activities, we ask that you do them and come prepared to discuss them at the next session.

We expect that you will arrive at sessions on time and adhere to the Rules of Engagement, which we will agree on together in session one.

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.

... AND FINALLY

Applications will open in late December 2018 and close on 14 January 2019.

For more information, contact the Sustainable Homes and Communities Coordinator at info@sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au or 8470 8405.