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Minister's Foreword

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2015 Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria (KABV) Sustainable Cities Awards.

For 47 years, KABV programs have recognised and rewarded Victorians who are taking action to build a more sustainable state, protect our environment and strengthen our communities. Now in their 11th year, the KABV Sustainable Cities Awards will once again highlight some of Victoria’s best practice activities being undertaken to improve the sustainability of our urban communities.

Local community action and strong partnerships are crucial in addressing the challenges of climate change. I would like to take this opportunity to commend each of you for your hard work and commitment towards make Victoria an even better place to live.

Many of this year’s award entries celebrate partnerships between local governments, schools, communities and individuals – it is great to see such a collaborative approach and strong sense of community and dedication.

Through a variety of creative and practical initiatives, every single award entrant this year has made a strong contribution to improving their community and environment. Congratulations to all of this year’s entrants, finalists and award recipients, I look forward to seeing the long-term benefits of their hard work.

The Hon Lisa Neville MP
Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water
Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria
Sustainable Cities Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria seeks to challenge and inspire Victorians to create more sustainable, liveable and litter free environments. It does this by harnessing community spirit and channelling civic pride into its long running volunteer and awards programs.

KABV was established by Dame Phyllis Frost in Victoria in 1968. It originated as a community anti-litter program and evolved into a national program in 1972. Adopt a Highway was the first program launched in 1972. In 1982 Tidy Towns commenced with the first awards presented in 1983. It took until 1992 for the metropolitan awards program, Civic Pride, to commence. In 2004 this program was rebadged as the Sustainable Cities Awards. The first Stationeers groups were established in 1994.

The early years of KABV were funded by industry groups, trade unions and with support from the state government. After 40 years, in 2009, Sustainability Victoria and KABV Incorporated agreed to transfer the KABV business to SV for management for a five year term to enable the programs to continue. This timeframe ensured the work of volunteers and community groups could continue to be supported and gave KABV Inc. time to restructure and prepare to re-establish itself. This agreement was extended by 12 months and this year, 2015, finds us in the sixth and final year that the business of KABV will be managed by Sustainability Victoria. During this time the awards and volunteer programs have been enthusiastically engaging with and celebrating the work of the Victorian community. Members of the KABV Inc. board are grateful for the commitment of the team and investment of Sustainability Victoria in delivering the KABV programs since 2009.

From 1 July, however, KABV is stepping out again to take hold of the reins in celebrating community action, community leadership on sustainability, and to be a strong voice on litter prevention.

At this time the programs will transfer back to KABV Inc. Sustainability Victoria has been working closely with the board of KABV Inc. board over the last 12 months to prepare for the transfer and to assist KABV Inc. to re-establish itself as a program delivery organisation. KABV Inc. is currently preparing to deliver the 2015 Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities awards later this year.

KABV Inc. is excited about continuing the rich KABV history with more community success stories, and linking in with strong networks across communities, industry and government.

The 2015 Sustainable Cities awards entries showcase a broad reach of projects that highlight the resourcefulness, innovation and commitment of Victorians in cities across the state who are contributing to more sustainable and litter-free environments. The quality of entries and the inspiring activities undertaken by the award recipients showcased in this book demonstrate this passion and commitment of councils, schools, community groups and individuals.

This year’s entrants are to be applauded for their contribution to protecting our environment and making our state cleaner and more sustainable for current and future generations.
## Sustainable City of the Year 2015

*Winner*  
City of Frankston  
City of Casey  
City of Greater Dandenong  
City of Wyndham

### Dame Phyllis Frost Award

*Winner*  
John Forrester – Wyndham

### Active Schools

*Winner*  
St Louis de Montfort’s Primary School  
*Highly Commended*  
Eltham Pre School  
Hallam Senior College  
Emerson School Students  
Woodleigh School, Langwarrin  
Werribee Primary School

### Clean Beach/Waterway

*Winner*  
Frankston City Council  
City of Casey

### Community Action and Leadership

*Winner*  
Hume Enviro Champions  
*Highly Commended*  
City of Greater Dandenong  
Frankston City Council  
Friends of Kevin Hoffman Walk Inc  
St Louis de Montfort’s Primary School  
Wyndham City Council

## Community Government Partnerships

*Winner*  
Melton City Council  
Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail & City of Greater Geelong  
*Highly Commended*  
City of Casey  
City of Greater Dandenong  
Frankston City Council  
Wyndham City Council

### Cultural Heritage

*Winner*  
City of Whittlesea  
*Highly Commended*  
City of Casey  
Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens & City of Greater Dandenong  
Frankston City Council  
Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail & Ocean Grove RSL  
Margaret and Roger Wood

### Environmental Sustainability

*Winner*  
Melton City Council  
Frankston City Council  
*Highly Commended*  
City of Casey  
City of Greater Dandenong  
City of Greater Geelong  
Wyndham City Council  
Wyndham City Council
Litter Prevention  page 24

City of Greater Dandenong *(Winner)*
Frankston City Council *(Highly Commended)*
City of Casey
Wyndham City Council
Werribee Primary School

Protection of the Environment  page 26

City of Casey *(Winner)*
City of Casey
City of Casey
City of Casey
City of Casey
Frankston City Council

Resource Recovery and Waste Management  page 28

City of Whittlesea *(Winner)*
City of Greater Dandenong *(Highly Commended)*
City of Greater Dandenong
City of Casey
City of Casey
Frankston City Council

Young Leaders  page 30

Frankston City Council *(Winner)*
Melton Koorie Student Group

Previous Award Winners  page 32
WINNER

SUSTAINABLE CITY OF THE YEAR 2015

City of Frankston

In 2014/15 Frankston City Council - which covers 131 square kilometres and is home to 128,000 people - launched its new 10 year Environment Strategy. The strategy includes a Carbon Neutral Action Plan which outlines a range of corporate and community-based initiatives to help the municipality reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strive for its target of carbon neutrality by 2025.

The council is keen to harness solar energy to help the region improve its sustainability, and launched its Frankston City Community Solar Program to help residents make informed decisions about transitioning to solar power. Over 1,000 residents participated in a series of solar workshops, and were provided with information on solar energy and recommended suppliers. Council also installed 50kW of solar panels to its own buildings.

Various projects submitted by Frankston City Council into this year’s Sustainable Cities Awards are critical components of its plans to achieve carbon neutrality. These include the new Peninsula Aquatic and Recreation Centre (PARC) which was designed using Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principles.
such as a co-generation plant to create energy with waste heat from the plant used to heat pool water, and a 400,000 litre rainwater tank for toilets and irrigation. The council’s Halve our Waste’ initiative engaged 1000 households and local schools to halve their waste to landfill and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Participants in the program were provided with materials for composting and worm farming as well as workshops to reduce food waste.

The City of Frankston boasts many areas of conservation, including the Brian Henderson Reserve which was established in the grounds of the Woodleigh School to provide a ‘feral free’ environment for mammals that were once indigenous to the peninsula area. Often utilised as an outdoor teaching area the reserve has been reforested with indigenous plantings and features wetland, grassland, scrub and bush environs. Frankston City Council works with the school and has developed a ‘Compost Champions’ program where students share their knowledge with the wider community.

Nestled around Port Phillip Bay, Frankston’s beautiful beach has been named Victoria’s most popular beach and was awarded 2012 Clean Beach in the final year of the KABV Clean Beach Awards. This year the Frankston Waterfront Festival won the Clean Beach category. The festival is a great opportunity to spread awareness about living sustainably and to the importance of keeping this beautiful beach and its surrounds litter free.
CITY OF CASEY

The largest municipality in Victoria with a strong understanding of the connection between a healthy environment and economic and social wellbeing, the City of Casey is committed to ecologically sustainable development.

The city has an array of nature reserves and a coastline that is abundant with wildlife. The council works with community groups and residents through its Green Web and Urban Fringe Weed Management programs to protect and enhance this valuable asset.

The Growing a Green Web Program aims to link corridors of indigenous vegetation to form a ‘green’ network across the City of Casey – an area of 395 km². As part of the program, Casey schools and community groups have planted over 250,000 plants around the municipality.

The City of Casey has demonstrated leadership in its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and respond to climate change. One of its key projects focused on upgrading to more efficient street lighting technology, and is expected reduce street lighting energy use by 77 per cent each year.

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

The City of Greater Dandenong has demonstrated a commitment to improving its environmental sustainability, while engaging with its culturally diverse population.

The council has undertaken a range of projects to reduce negative environmental impacts, and recognise the area’s cultural heritage. The newly built Greater Dandenong Civic Centre has been developed as an energy efficient, 5 Star Green Star building that is connected to Australia’s first urban distributed energy precinct and houses the council’s offices and a new community library. Litter and waste being sent to landfill has also been reduced in the municipality, with the council’s waste team working closely with shopkeepers and the community to achieve this.

The area’s cultural heritage is being celebrated through the Heritage Hill Historical Centre and Gardens, which provides a strong link to Dandenong’s rural past, presents the community with a sustainable education and learning centre and a home for art and culture.
CITY OF WYNDHAM

The City of Wyndham is one of Australia’s fastest growing municipalities, covering an area of 542km2 and 27.4km of coastline along Port Phillip Bay. The council is committed to working closely with the community to protect and enhance the region’s natural environment and improve sustainability.

As part of its community engagement, the council held a Green Living series of events. Led by council’s environment and sustainability team, the events showcased Wyndham’s natural assets and provided skills and knowledge in a workshop environment to assist sustainable living. Attended by 1,000 people, the Green Living series provided links for participants to join relevant community groups and to attend further workshops.

Community pride is a critical component in Wyndham’s success in reducing litter. Council adopted a Litter Reduction and Prevention Strategy that included working with the community to significantly reduce illegal dumping and littering in key spots and to tackle the growing level of litter along major roadsides within the municipality, resulting in a 50% reduction in litter.
Dame Phyllis Frost Award recipients

**Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria**

**Sustainable Cities**

- 2015  John Forrester (Wyndham)
- 2014  Bruce West (KABV)
- 2013  Linda Bradburn (Melton City Council)
- 2012  Debbie Coffey (Frankston City Council)
- 2011  Topsy Nevett (Ballarat)
- 2010  Daryl Ackers (Melton)
- 2009  Paul Prentice (Friends of Merri Creek)
- 2008  Lyn Holdsworth (Friends of Toolern Creek, Melton)
- 2007  Eileen Mosden (Amaroo Neighbourhood Centre, Melton)
- 2006  Not Awarded
- 2005  Andrew Buuljens (St Monica’s College, Darebin)
- 2014  Audrey Hurst (Dimboola)
- 2013  James Douglass (Mooroopna Kiwanis)
- 2012  Margaret Pullen (Wangaratta Community Pride)
- 2011  Norm McKinlay (Mornington)
- 2010  Don Johns OAM (Horsham)
- 2009  Brian Stahl OAM JP (Hastings)
- 2008  Wendy Dowling (Dartmoor)
- 2007  Iris Mannik (Beechworth)
- 2006  Chris Thorne (Benalla)
- 2005  Heather Gregg (Poowong)
- 2004  Not Awarded
- 2003  Bill Brearly (Principal of Seymour Tech School)

**Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria**

**Civic Pride**

- 2004  Alessandro Demaio (Year 12 Wesley Syndal Campus)

**Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria**

**Clean Beaches**

- 2012  Neil Blake (Port Phillip EcoCentre)
- 2011  Kathleen Hassell (Frankston Foreshore)
- 2010  Don McTaggart (Warrnambool)
- 2004  Not Awarded

**Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria**

**Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities**

- 2014  Audrey Hurst (Dimboola)
- 2013  James Douglass (Mooroopna Kiwanis)
- 2012  Margaret Pullen (Wangaratta Community Pride)
- 2011  Norm McKinlay (Mornington)
- 2010  Don Johns OAM (Horsham)
- 2009  Brian Stahl OAM JP (Hastings)
- 2008  Wendy Dowling (Dartmoor)
- 2007  Iris Mannik (Beechworth)
- 2006  Chris Thorne (Benalla)
- 2005  Heather Gregg (Poowong)
- 2004  Not Awarded
- 2003  Bill Brearly (Principal of Seymour Tech School)
John Forrester – Wyndham

Carranballac College teacher John Forrester is an active leader in the Wyndham community. John volunteers countless hours to local environmental causes through his roles on various committees and displays a commitment to educating and supporting others to contribute to environmental outcomes.

John is president of the Werribee River Association (WRiVA), where he has been a member since 1993. WRiVA is affiliated and licensed by the International Waterkeeper Alliance to carry out the role of the Werribee Riverkeeper. In 2014 John was invited as Werribee Riverkeeper to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to attend the Waterkeeper Alliance Conference where he developed contacts with equivalent keepers in bays, creeks, wetlands, rivers, lakes and glacier fields from across the world.

John is also the president of Wyndham LitterWatch – an environmental education and community project initiated by Wyndham’s major environmental organisations (Western Region Environment Centre, Werribee River Association and Western Melbourne Catchments Network) in partnership with the Crossroads Uniting Church, Melbourne Water and Wyndham City Council. LitterWatch was founded to raise community awareness of the detrimental impacts that litter has on the environment, especially local waterways, and to improve Wyndham’s general amenity.

John is one of Wyndham’s most active environmental teachers and organises Kids Teaching Kids each year at Carranballac College where he teaches. Last year John was invited to Seoul as part of a UNESCO initiative between the Victorian Department of Education and Training and the Education Ministry Republic of Korea to share the story of the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, a migratory bird which spends part of its life along the western shorelines of Port Phillip Bay and the other half of its life in the northern hemisphere.

John is an elected member of the Environment and Sustainability Portfolio Committee for Wyndham City. The committee provides guidance and advice to council on environment and sustainability policy and strategy development.

John’s commitment and willingness to volunteer countless hours, educating the Wyndham community about environment issues and constantly advocating for a better outcome not only for the Werribee River but the entire environment is inspirational. John is certainly a deserving recipient of the 2015 Dame Phyllis Frost award.
St Louis de Montfort’s Primary School

St Louis Whole School Approach

Sustainability is incorporated across the whole curriculum at St Louis de Montfort’s Primary School, including a range of creative sustainability initiatives and practices that provide opportunities for the school to engage the wider community in reducing their environmental impact.

First established in 2013, the school’s sustainability education precinct is continually evolving and includes vegetable gardens, a permaculture area, orchard, bush tucker garden, chicken and duck coop, observation wetland ponds, grey water recycling, aquaponics, rabbit hutch, bird aviary, sheoak woodland area, swales, recycled tyre and sleeper walls, recycled tyre amphitheatre, wood fired pizza oven and a large kitchen built from recycled shipping containers. Wow! The Garden to Kitchen (G2K) program provides hands on learning for the school’s 420 students in a functioning sustainable environment.

Students actively participate in leading the school’s sustainability behaviour change program through groups such as the Marine Ambassador Leaders and the Sustainability Leaders. The leadership groups are involved in actively engaging with other students and communities and promoting their achievements.
ELTHAM PRE SCHOOL

*Sustainable Green Fence Art Project*

The delightful sustainable green fence art at Eltham pre-school dominates the busy streetscape and reflects the pre-school’s focus on sustainable living, aesthetics and ethics.

CITY OF CASEY

*Hallam Senior College LED Lights*

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

*Emerson School Sustainability Programs*

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

*Woodleigh School – an Environmental Leader in the Community*

WERRIBEE PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Waste Not Want Not*
Frankston City’s Waterfront Festival attracted over 30,000 attendees in January this year. Held over two days on Frankston’s pristine foreshore, the festival appeals to locals and visitors, offering sporting activities, educational demonstrations and displays that promote environmental sustainability and appreciation of this unique environment. Key messages for the festival included the importance of sustainable use of the foreshore, bay and creek and the positive impacts of a healthy and active lifestyle for the community.

The council partnered with local community groups and businesses to actively promote the safe use and care of local waterways at the festival. Free water activities included sailing, stand up paddle boarding, canoeing, outrigging, snorkelling and the opportunity to “swim with a mermaid.” Activities also included planting workshops, displays with information about local environmental initiatives provided by the Coast Guards, Frankston Life Saving Club and Friends Environmental Network. Varieties of indigenous marine creatures were showcased in tanks providing a unique opportunity for visitors to experience and learn about these native species.
FINALISTS

CLEAN BEACHES/WATERWAYS

CITY OF CASEY

Water Sensitive Urban Design
Maintenance
WINNER

COMMUNITY ACTION AND LEADERSHIP

Hume City Council

Hume Enviro Champions Program

Three years ago, Hume City Council recognised the challenge it faced in engaging a large, diverse and rapidly growing municipality in its effort to inspire lasting, community-driven sustainable change. After moderate success with traditional environmental education programs, the council initiated a community development program that empowered residents to engage their communities to live sustainably. Participants attend ten weekly sessions where they learnt about sustainability issues, leadership, project delivery and advocacy skills and graduated as ‘Enviro Champions’. The trainees also attended field trips and informal events with past Enviro Champions.

Following the training, the Enviro Champions work in groups to develop and deliver projects with ongoing support from the council. Participants forge new friendships and gain a sense of purpose from contributing to their community. The ‘Champions’ also benefit from the program’s relationship-building focus and develop the confidence to create change and take action. The council now has 63 Enviro Champions from 20 cultural backgrounds delivering environmental projects.
CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG
Asylum Seeker Pilot Project – Roth Hetherington Botanic Gardens
A partnership between the City of Greater Dandenong and AMES (Adult Migrant English School), the project at the Roth Hetherington Botanic Gardens provides an opportunity for Dandenong’s asylum seeker community to volunteer to work with the council’s parks team.

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL
Wells Street Farmers Market
The busy Wells Street Farmers’ Market was established in late 2013 by Frankston City Council as an initiative to revitalise one of Frankston’s premier commercial streets that links the train station to the bay.

ST LOUIS DE MONTFORT’S PRIMARY SCHOOL
Take Action Make a Difference

WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL
Green Living Series

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Kevin Hoffman Walk
Melton City Council

Melton LEADS Empowering our Community

Centred on Melton Council’s Greenhouse Action Plan the LEADS (Lead, Educate, Advocate, Demonstrate, Sustainability) project was implemented to reduce Melton’s greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy use. Retrofit initiatives included the replacing of 3,800 streetlights with LED and T5s and upgrading nine community facilities to reduce energy. The federal government provided $1.97 million to assist funding of the LEADS Project. The project aims to reduce greenhouse emissions by 2,900 tonnes with cost savings of $316,450 pa.

Council officers working with local disadvantaged households and surveys of Melton community organisations identified that residents were unable to pay energy bills. To empower the local community to reduce their energy consumption, three education programs were created: the Professional Leader course for professionals who work with the community, the Energy Leaders course for local volunteer groups, and an Ambassador course for culturally diverse and financially disadvantaged residents.

Council held a Sustainability Expo this year that provided advice and information to assist residents in reducing their energy use.
CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Bellarine Rail Trail Improvement

The extremely active Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail & City of Greater Geelong group has succeeded in planting over 81,000 plants through its weekly working bees, with over 16,000 volunteer hours also contributing to enhancing and maintaining the previously disused Bellarine Rail Trail corridor.

CITY OF CASEY

Autumn Place Regeneration Project

CITY OF CASEY

Casey Environmental and Heritage Grants

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

Greater Dandenong Family Sustainability Festival

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

Empowering the Community for a Bright New Future

WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL

Active Travel Schools Program
The City of Whittlesea’s Cultural Heritage Program was initially established in 2000 as a two-week festival of history and heritage. It has now grown to become an annual series of events and activities that celebrates the rich cultural heritage of the City of Whittlesea and the people who live and work there. The events and activities take place from April to November each year with the 2014 program highlighting 25 events and attracting 4,000 visitors.

The Cultural Heritage Program events bring people together through displays, tours, workshops and demonstrations to share cultural heritage as a distinguishing feature of the City of Whittlesea. It provides opportunities for people to tell their own story in their words, and encourages the community to learn and engage with cultural heritage in new ways.

The various events held as part of the program highlight how the environment and communities have been shaped by the past. One of the events is the Well Bread Festival which showcases bread baking from around the globe, an innovative and fun way to explore different cultures and their cuisine.
FINALISTS
CULTURAL HERITAGE

CITY OF CASEY
Old Cheese Factory 150 year Anniversary Celebration
Casey’ Heritage and Community Festival attracted 1000 visitors who celebrated The Old Cheese Factory’s 150 year anniversary.

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG
Heritage Hill Program and Building Revitalisation

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL
Susono and Frankston Sister Cities

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Curlewis Avenue of Honour

MELTON CITY COUNCIL
A History of Twitching revived at the Vernon Davey Hut Toolern Vale
Melton City Council

**Melton Western BACE 6 star Sustainable Business Centre**

Melton City Council’s Western Business Centre for Excellence (BACE) is a 6-Star Green Star Building. The architects created an extremely flexible layout that includes facilities for emerging businesses and space for education, training and economic development. The purpose of the BACE is to provide the facilities and assistance for small businesses to start-up and grow in their local area. Currently 80 per cent of Melton residents travel out of the area to work, mainly by car, making local employment a vital sustainability issue.

This H-shaped building is designed to maximise access to natural ventilation and daylight while keeping glare to a minimum. A thermally high performing building fabric comprising double glazing and thermally broken window frames allows excellent climate control and reduces the reliance on additional heating and cooling systems. Design features aim to minimise energy use, for example through features that allow water to be heated or cooled by the rooftop solar installation, which is piped through the concrete floors.

The centre will eventually be surrounded by community facilities and an expected 60,000 population in the Toolern precinct.
FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

A New PARC for Frankston City

Frankston City Council’s Peninsula Aquatic Recreation Centre’s (PARC) multiple Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) initiatives reduce its environmental impacts, improve energy and water efficiency and lowers greenhouse gas emissions.

CITY OF CASEY

Casey Stormwater Harvesting

CITY OF CASEY

LED Bulk Street Lighting

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

Greater Dandenong Civic Centre

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Eastern Park Stormwater Harvesting Dam

WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL

Commuter Heroes Sustainable Travel Challenge

WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL

Lighting the West
The City of Greater Dandenong has deployed innovative and well considered strategies in its comprehensive litter reduction campaign. The approach includes anti-litter messaging and branding across the entire municipality. The council’s focus is on face to face interaction and education to encourage the prevention of litter and waste among its residents and visitors. Lily Litter is the newest member of the litter prevention and waste education team helping spread the word at community events and visiting local schools to help educate residents about litter prevention.

The council is collaborating with traders and installing stickers on bins along shopping strips to prevent litter being left around bins. Anti-littering signs placed at five locations display a number to report littering. This approach provides community members a channel to tackle litter bugs. Since installing the signage, litter reports to council have increased, demonstrating that people are keen to help dealing with litter.

The program has been successful, with a noticeable decrease in the amount of litter dumped around public bins since the inception of this program.
FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

Residents against Graffiti in Ashleigh Avenue

The Residents against Graffiti in Ashleigh Avenue project has successfully prevented graffiti through a strategy that built community ownership. The project engaged volunteers from local schools, community groups and residents to help with the removal of graffiti, erected signage to stop graffiti, the application of anti-graffiti coatings, and garden bed maintenance.
WINNER

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

City of Casey

*Frog Hollow Reserve Enhancement*

The Friends of Frog Hollow have worked cohesively with the local community and Casey Council to extract the best possible result for this large scale project.

From an area that was once a bare sporting field and water treatment pond, there is now a picturesque frog habitat, wetland and native reserve.

Working from a master plan, more than 80,000 indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses have been planted, over 1,200 cubic metres of mulched garden beds created, several kilometres of shared pathways, boardwalks and bridge links built, and community noticeboards have been erected.

Walkers, joggers and cyclists are now able to travel continuously from Endeavour Hills to Port Phillip Bay. But more significantly, they are able to circumnavigate the entire wetlands of Frog Hollow and experience the revegetated and enhanced habitat and the abundance of bird life that now inhabits the reserve. The project's enhancement of wetlands and revegetation of the surrounding reserve enables the community to enjoy this habitat with its rich biodiversity.
FINALISTS

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

CITY OF CASEY

Urban Fringe Weed Management in Casey

CITY OF CASEY

Growing a Green Web

CITY OF CASEY

Grey-headed Flying Fox Community Education at Myuna Farm

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

Planting a Local Habitat Forest
E-waste is growing disproportionately to other waste types and is problematic from a recycling and re-use perspective.

The City of Whittlesea purchased twenty Raspberry Pi units (single board computers) for Lalor Primary School. Old VGA monitors, keyboards, mice and other parts were also purchased from an e-waste store. Over 10 weeks, students from grades 3 to 5 learnt how to assemble the Raspberry Pi computers using e-waste, operate the Linux/GNU operating system and preinstalled applications, and to use Scratch and BASIC programming languages. The final weeks of the course involved the programming of robots to solve mazes and follow lines.

The Raspberry Pi project was continued at Mill Park Library in the form of a computer club offering children experience building simple electronic circuits related to robotics using old computer hardware donated by La Trobe University. The children continue to catch up weekly to share their computing experiences. Academics and leading ICT employers recognise that some of their best coders are self-learners that develop their skills outside formal school and college programs.
CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

The Great Bin Swap

Waste and recycling bins in the City of Greater Dandenong have been changed to the Australian Standard, with conforming coloured bin lids. To coincide with this, an integrated and intensive campaign was delivered to engage the community and foster an improved approach to household recycling.

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

Sporting Clubs Recycling Infrastructure Upgrade

CITY OF CASEY

Composting in Casey

CITY OF CASEY

Casey Loves Cloth Nappies

FRANKSTON CITY COUNCIL

Halve our Waste Program
Fresh Entertainment is a group of twelve volunteers aged 16 to 22 who organise live music events and facilitate the Youth Recording Studio in Frankston. The recording studio offers young people the ability to have their music recorded at no cost in a professional environment.

Frankston City Council oversees the program using a ‘youth participation’ philosophy. Ownership of the program and the decision-making process is completely given to the crew. The volunteers are empowered to take control of hosting their own events and produce their own recordings.

Experienced members mentor the newcomers with all aspects of audio engineering, lighting and event management. New members ‘shadow’ the experienced ones to learn what is involved in roles such as Stage Manager and Event Coordinator.

This invaluable skill development hones music industry employment skills and raises self-esteem while providing a sense of purpose and hope for the future.
Koorie students from three primary and two secondary schools in Melton planned, designed and planted an indigenous garden bed to form a central part of the Melton Botanic Garden. Sixty students spent three days planting the garden using locally indigenous plants that are of use, or significance to local Koorie people.
Previous Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Award Winners

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Sustainable Cities winners

2015  Frankston City Council
2014  City of Brimbank
2013  City of Moreland
2012  City of Boroondara
2011  City of Yarra
2010  Melton Shire Council
2009  Hobsons Bay City Council
2008  Frankston City Council
2007  Melton Shire Council
2006  Hume City Council
2005  Casey City Council

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Tidy Town Sustainable Communities winners

2013  Wangaratta  2002  Seymour  1991  Cobram
2012  Wyapu Creek  2001  Horsham  1990  Portland
2011  Mornington  2000  Horsham  1989  Maffra
2010  Rutherglen  1999  Cobden  1988  Macarthur
2009  Beechworth  1998  Red Cliffs  1987  Horsham
2008  Horsham  1997  Mirboo North  1986  Horsham
2007  Moe  1996  Rutherglen  1985  Mildura
2006  Benalla  1995  Lakes Entrance  1984  Cohuna
2004  Heywood  1993  Cobram
Congratulations to all the finalists and the winner of the “Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Sustainable Cities” Awards 2015.