



Sustainability @ UB

Switch Off

What is it?

Switch Off is a program designed to empower UB staff to take the future of the organisation into their own hands. As a large organisation, we are utilising a great amount of energy to keep our buildings lit and warm and our computers, printers, photocopiers and electrical appliance going. UB is committed to a sustainable future and reducing our energy use is an important step in creating that future.

Green Office Champions will be recruited to undergo training and develop action plans to reduce the amount of energy produced in their office, school or section.

Why?

Global warming and climate change are now key environmental issues. How the world responds to these serious challenges will affect future generations and the future of our environment.

Energy demand in Australia is growing rapidly. Even though Australia has a range of abundant renewable resources such as hydro, wind, solar and geothermal, only a relatively small proportion of Australia's energy is from these renewable sources. As a result of our current reliance on fossil fuels for energy, Australia's per capita greenhouse pollution is amongst the highest in the world. The gas and electricity sectors account for 48% of Australia's greenhouse pollution.

The Victorian Government has recognised the need for organisations to reduce their energy usage and has set a target of 15% energy reduction for all government buildings including all TAFE institutions. A number of changes have already been made to our energy systems and it is now time for our staff and students to make changes of their own.

Become a Green Office Champion

Now's your chance to make some positive changes in your work environment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions- become a Green Office Champion. Both you and your Head of Program or Section will need to sign up to the program. In doing this you will be making a commitment on behalf of your team to change your collective behaviour in order to reduce your energy consumption.



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Where do I start?

1. Training

Once registered as a Green Office Champion you will undergo a 2 hour training session which will provide you with tools to instigate behavioural change

2. Develop 'Switch Off' Action Plan

Following the training, all champions will meet to begin to develop a simple and achievable 'Switch Off' Action Plan which you will action in you own office, school or section. Champions will share ideas and strategies to influence staff to Switch Off their lights, heating, computers and photocopiers/printers.

3. Quarterly lunchtime workshops with other Green Office Champions

To continue to share ideas, successes, challenges and 'lessons learnt', the champions will meet on a quarterly basis over lunch.

Contact

Ready to register as a Green Office Champion?
Need more information before you want to commit your team?

Please contact Sustainability Officer, Anna Lohse at the National Centre for Sustainability;

Phone: 03 5327 8414

Email: alohse@ballarat.edu.au

Visit: Basement Level, Administration Building A, SMB Campus