



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM CHARTER CALLING FOR NEW PARTICIPANTS

Some great initiatives have been going on over the summer with the Charter pilot members, for example:-

- A fantastic worm farm workshop at Papamoa Beach Top 10 Holiday Resort
- Capturing roof rainwater for re-use around Ambassador Motor Inn
- Waste Audits at Kiwi 360 & Ambassador Motor Inn
- Promoting charter members to local community groups by Derek & Sally Hesford
- Feedback from guests about being educated on a raft of sustainability matters has been overwhelming and very much appreciated by guests at Hesford House and White Island Tours.

We are calling for local operators to become a part of Phase II of this unique project. **If you know of other operators that may be interested in a site visit** and become a part of this growing sustainability awareness please contact Mereana Mills on Mereana@sbcnz.co.nz or Ph: 07 579 6197.

YOUR ACTION PLANS – NEEDED NOW!

The next Phase of the project for our pilot participants is to complete their Action Plans and sign off on the Statement of Intent. Thus far we have had some great initiatives pulled into Action Plans by:

*Ambassador Motor Inn
Comvita Visitor Centre
Hesford House
White Island Tours*

These businesses are now able to display the distinctive Sustainable Tourism Charter logo and promote that they are an

*“Active member of the Bay of Plenty
Sustainable Tourism Charter”
and
“Committed to a Sustainable Future”*



SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

Tuesday 27 March @ 1.30pm – Hell’s Gate

Come enjoy a fun-filled and exciting afternoon of learning with members of the Rotorua Sustainable Tourism Charter. The afternoon includes:



- **guided site visit of Hell’s Gate Thermal Reserve and Wai Ora Spa**, demonstrating steps taken and future plans towards increased sustainability & **afternoon tea**.
- a presentation by Waveline Pacific and Rotorua Drycleaners & Apparelmaster on an **exciting new multi purpose environmentally friendly cleaning product** that Hell’s Gate and Buried Village have been trialling.
- **mud bathing** for those wanting to stay on

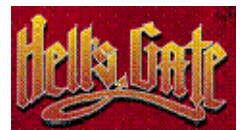
Date: Tuesday, 27 March 2007

Time: 1.30pm to 4.45pm

Cost: \$10 plus GST per person (Charter members)
\$15 plus GST per person (all other organisations)

RSVP: By **22 March 2007** to Gina George, Destination Rotorua Tourism Marketing by phone (07) 349 7289 or email gina@rotoruaNZ.com

This Sustainability in Action function is being kindly hosted by Hell’s Gate and Wai Ora Spa.



CLIMATE CHANGE – A FANTASTIC MOVIE NOW IN THE VIDEO STORE



The documentary, **“An Inconvenient Truth”** showed to sold out audiences around the world – it has caused a media furor in Australia and could have been the tipping point for the NZ government’s recent announcement to become Carbon Neutral.

If you wanted to understand more about the impact of global warming on the planet – this is a fabulous opportunity to see a documentary that explains the science and predicts future scenarios.



COMING EVENTS

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS NETWORK EVENTS PROGRAMME

Sustainable Tourism Charter members are invited to SBN-BOP event at the members' rate. Check out their website for up to date information.

<http://www.sustainable.org.nz/bayofplenty>

24-May-2007 | Workshop: Waste

This workshop will help you develop a clear plan to measure your waste and simple ways to implement and recycling and reuse policies.

05-Jul-2007 | Workshop: Healthy Workplaces

This workshop, held in conjunction with the Department of Labour, will guide you through some practical actions you can take to ensure you maintain a safe workplace and healthy staff.

SUSTAINABLE BACKYARDS

The sustainable backyard programme has been developed by the Tauranga Environment Centre over the past 4 years, its main support coming from Environment Bay of Plenty and Ministry for the Environment. The programme is unique to this region and covers a range of events over a range of topics during the month of March.

For those that missed the fantastic worm farm workshop in December, more are being run during the Sustainable Backyards programme in Papamoa as follows:

Thurs 29 March 7 – 9pm or Saturday 31 March 1 – 3pm
Papamoa Community Hall

To register for either event contact Heidi Pettersen,
Ph: 577 7000. Gold coin donation.

A discount is offered for those who purchase worms and/or bins at the workshop. For other events during the rest of March visit www.tgaenvcentre.org.nz

UNANZ CONFERENCE 2007 “The UN and the community”

20-21 April 2007

Bureta Park Motor Inn, Vale St, Tauranga



Contact: Gray Southon for more information (07 578 7119)
e: unanz07@unanz.org.nz

website: <http://www.unanz.org.nz/National/Conference2006/tabid/100/Default.aspx>

More info at: www.unanz.org.nz

SUMMER VISITOR NUMBERS TO BOP

According to the numbers from Statistics New Zealand it has been a busy season for those involved in the growing tourism sector. Guest nights in the Bay area jumped 12.9% for comparative Decembers in 2005 and 2006. National visitors to NZ increased 4% over the same comparison. More information available on www.bayofplenty.com

NO MORE PLASTIC WASTE!

Environment Minister, David Benson-Pope says virtually all plastic packaging used in New Zealand should be recyclable and the Government will be working with local government and industry to stop it being dumped into landfills.

Streetsmart, is New Zealand's largest kerbside recycling processor and now collects all plastic containers marked with the codes one to seven. Auckland and Manukau city councils have made it possible for the collection of all coded plastics.

"New Zealand's continued clean, green identity is dependant on us all embracing the concepts of sustainability, of which recycling and product stewardship are vital components" said the Minister.

SUSTAINABILITY WEBSITES

Some interesting articles and links from the BBC website about the recent Stern Review in the UK (on climate change impact). Includes options for change, and government responses.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/6098362.stm>

TIPS FOR MORE SUSTAINABLE LIVING

The Christchurch based Ecobob website is a web based system 'designed to make eco living easy' and their website provides an easy way of accessing a wealth of information on eco living in the form of eco articles, eco house profiles, forums, blogs, business listings and more. Ecobob is designed for people to share knowledge on eco friendly living methods, such as the use of sustainable energy sources, sustainable waste systems and sustainable water usage. Visit <http://www.ecobob.com>

The Sustainable Households website is a NZ made site with independent information about the issues and many practical actions you can take at home to reduce your impact.
www.sustainablehouseholds.org.nz

The Tauranga Environment Centre is running course on behalf of the Sustainable Households in **Tauranga** on Tuesday nights May 1st - June 12th inclusive and July 31st – September 11th. Cost: \$40. Register at the Tauranga Environment Centre, 07 578 6664 tgaec@extra.co.nz