

# 2008



## COMMUNITY REPORT CARD

**BUNNINGS**



**“We pursue sustainability within our operations by striving to make them socially responsible, environmentally aware and economically viable.**

**We engage with the communities in which we operate and live and we actively contribute to causes and organisations that benefit these communities.**

**We’re building the best... our team makes it happen.”**

This Community Report Card summarises our contributions to the communities in which we operate and achievements in improving our operational sustainability for the year ended 30 June 2008. Full details are available in a report published by our parent company, Wesfarmers Ltd ([www.wesfarmers.com.au](http://www.wesfarmers.com.au)).

During the last year we have significantly stepped up our sustainability commitments with practical actions to address rainwater harvesting, waste management and energy efficiency. In 2008 Bunnings achieved an 8.1% reduction in net carbon dioxide emissions per hundred thousand dollars of revenue despite growing trade revenue by 12%.

In simple terms, while we still have a long way to go we are actively reducing our carbon footprint and have real actions and plans in place to ensure that our goal of being carbon neutral by 2015 is achieved.

We are working hard to operate in a safer and more sustainable way and to reduce our impact on the environment. We are also very much committed to making a meaningful difference through our everyday actions in the local communities in which we trade.

The contributions our Team Members make within their local communities are a source of pride.

For more information, or to provide feedback, please refer to the Bunnings website ([www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au)).

# PERFORMANCE SNAPSHOT

2008 Priorities	2008 Outcomes	2009 Priorities
<b>Achieve carbon neutrality by 2015 or earlier.</b>	<b>Partially achieved:</b> Achieved a 8.1% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions per hundred thousand dollars of revenue. Continuing actions towards energy and fuel efficiency, green power and carbon offsets.	Achieve carbon neutrality by 2015 or earlier.
<b>Accelerate water saving initiatives.</b>	<b>Achieved:</b> Installation of 50 rainwater harvesting systems across Australian stores and a return to hand watering in nurseries.	Continue strengthening water saving initiatives.
<b>Continue work with suppliers to further reduce resource waste within supply chains and develop products with stronger sustainability traits.</b>	<b>Achieved:</b> Conducted in-store take back trials for batteries and plastic plant pots. Completed a packaging review and commenced actions to reduce impact with our supply chain.  Improved recycling services rolled out to stores.	Increase work with suppliers to reduce supply chain resource waste and develop products with stronger sustainability traits.
<b>Continue to proactively provide customers with access to information about environmentally-friendly products and projects that can support sustainable living.</b>	<b>Achieved:</b> Increased sustainability resources available to our customers via our website, in-store information and catalogues, D.I.Y. Workshops and our new online ‘Sustainability Home’.	Continue providing customers with access to information about environmentally-friendly products and projects that can support sustainable living.
<b>Maintain our contributions to improve the social wellbeing of the communities in which we operate.</b>	<b>Achieved:</b> Contributed over \$12.5m directly and in-directly through donations, fund raising and in-kind support and provided paid and unpaid Team Member hours toward community projects.	Maintain our contributions to improve the social wellbeing of the communities in which we operate.

Over the past 12 months we have significantly stepped up our commitment to become carbon neutral by 2015.

Key achievements include;

### Water

- 50 Australian stores (as at June 08) now have rainwater harvesting systems installed with all remaining Warehouse stores in mainland Australia (excluding tropics) to be installed.
- After successful trials, most Australian stores moved to hand watering of nursery product in June 08, reducing daily average water use per store from 10,000 litres down to around 1,500 litres.



Hand watering at Nowra Courtesy of South Coast Register

### Energy

- Since Dec 07, 12 Australian stores have had the latest e-tronic energy efficient lighting installed. A further 27 are planned for the 2008/09 year (for more information go to [www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au)).
- 60 Warehouse stores were fitted with night fill low-mode switching devices, reducing electricity consumption to 60% of its normal operating capacity.
- As of June 08, 55 hybrid vehicles had been introduced to our company car fleet.
- From Jan 08 we started purchasing 5% of our total Australian electricity needs from renewable sources.
- Offset 16,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2007/08 by funding native revegetation projects through Landcare's CarbonSMART program.
- Murdoch University Research Institute for Sustainable Energy project findings presented in Apr 08, outlining potential initiatives for new building specifications and re-fits, all of which are being evaluated.



E-tronic energy efficient lighting

### Waste

- A renewed focus on waste reduction saw total landfill waste reduced by 22% on last year.
- Recycling rates have doubled from 12.5% to 25%.
- Recycling trials included a Plastic Plant Pot Recycling Trial in WA and a Power Tool and Battery Recycling Trial in VIC.
- Bunnings joined the Australasian Battery Recycling Initiative as the primary retail member to help drive this goal.

### Education/Awareness

- Continued focus on helping our customers and Team Members understand the sustainability message through in store activities and D.I.Y. Workshops.
- Regular water and energy saving, and recycling updates posted on our website ([www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au)).
- Introduction of a virtual Sustainability Home on our website to enable customers and Team Members to learn how to save energy and water at home.
- Partnered with the Victorian Government in support of their "Change the Globe 2008" campaign.



Virtual Sustainability Home ([www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au))

### Supply Chains/Business Operations

We continue to focus and have increased our emphasis on sustainability initiatives within our supply chains, including the following;

- Review completed in March 08 into opportunities for product packaging reductions with recommendations now being actioned.
- January 08 in New Zealand and April 08 in Australia single use plastic shopping bags were removed completely in all stores.
- Exclusive purchase of FSC certified and labelled products for our timber furniture Spring 2008 range.
- More than 95% of whole timber product now sourced from low risk plantation or other legally verified forest operations (with zero tolerance for illegally logged timber).

# SUSTAINABILITY

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Bunnings is proud of its involvement in the communities in which we operate. Team Members during this year dedicated both paid and volunteer hours to various projects within their communities. Through this they helped raise funds and contributed more than \$12m to various local, regional and national charities and community groups throughout Australia and New Zealand.



## Local Actions

The majority of community activity is done locally by each of our store teams. At the local level we supported thousands of community groups and activities through a raft of actions including community group run BBQs, Team Member participation in community group D.I.Y. projects, local fund-raising sponsorships, Community Fun Days and blood drives.

Stores also continued to offer free Adult D.I.Y. Workshops, Kids D.I.Y. Clinics, Ladies Days and Nights.



## Regional Actions

Across each Australian state we supported various activities in coordinated campaigns, including Crime Prevention Week and Wesley Mission in NSW, Alfred Hospital in VIC, Relay for Life and Royal Children's Hospital Foundation in QLD, Starlight Foundation and Telethon in WA, the McGuiness McDermott Foundation Children's Oncology Ward in SA and Greenhouse action projects in TAS.

## Nation-wide Actions

This year we proudly supported the following programs within Australia: McGrath Foundation, AFAC and the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal.

In New Zealand we supported the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation, Heart Children New Zealand and team members across the country helped clean up their local areas by picking up tonnes of trash during Keep New Zealand Beautiful's Big Green Clean.

Together Australian and New Zealand teams supported Save the Children with the Burma Sausage Sizzle Appeal raising \$180,000 (for more information on this appeal go to [www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au)).

# BUNNINGS... A HISTORY OF REAL ACTIONS

Our business is more than 122 years old, but most people have known us since we started opening Bunnings Warehouses in 1994. Our commitment to local communities and sustainability initiatives has been integral to how we do business. During the last decade we have:

- 2001** – Commenced detailed reporting on sustainability commitments and operational metrics.
- 2002** – Commenced work in Australia with Greenpeace to establish policies to drive out illegally logged rainforest timber complementing the New Zealand business' involvement with the Imported Tropical Timber Group (NZITTG).
- 2003** – Commenced detailed monitoring of electricity usage to reduce energy waste.
- 2003** – Adopted current timber procurement policy.
- 2003** – Introduced voluntary 10 cent levy on plastic bags at point of sale, raising more than \$180,000 for Keep Australia Beautiful (first major retailer in Australia to do so).
- 2004** – Commenced voluntary public reporting of greenhouse gas CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.
- 2004** – Direct and indirect contributions to community groups exceeded \$2m pa.
- 2005** – Energy efficiency measures in store stepped up with stand by energy reduction system and improved lighting controllers introduced in 71 warehouses.
- 2005** – Recycling systems for cardboard and plastic rolled out to all major sites.
- 2005** – Waterwise reviews resulted in 164 waterless urinals and 115 dual flush cistern units being installed.
- 2006** – Introduced independent factory accreditation assessments for working conditions in overseas factories.
- 2007** – Public commitment made to achieve carbon neutrality by 2015 or earlier.
- 2007** – Commenced \$6 million project to install rainwater harvesting equipment in all Australian mainland stores (excluding the tropics).
- 2007** – Commenced research partnership with Western Australia's Murdoch University aimed at energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities.
- 2007** – Achieved an exclusive purchase of FSC certified and labelled products for Spring timber furniture 2008 range which is now the benchmark for this range.
- 2008** – Single-use plastic bags removed from all stores.
- 2008** – Direct and indirect contributions to community groups exceeded \$12m pa.
- 2008** – Introduced 55 hybrid vehicles into our vehicle fleet.
- 2008** – Purchased 5% of our grid energy needs in Australia from renewable sources.
- 2008** – Offset 16,000 tonnes of 2007/2008 emissions through Landcare CarbonSMART native revegetation projects.
- 2008** – Most nurseries in Australia reverted to hand watering with reductions of 80% plus in water usage.

## OUR BUSINESS



Bunnings is Australia and New Zealand's leading retailer of home and garden improvement products and a major supplier of building materials. We employ about 27,000 people.

Revenue during the year reached 5.4 billion dollars. As at June 08 there were 165 Warehouse stores and 61 smaller format stores operating across Australia and New Zealand. We also operate eight frame and truss plants and fourteen trade centres in Australia.

## SUGGESTIONS

We welcome your comments and feedback, if you have a question or suggestion please contact us:

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For more information please refer to our website  
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