



**Bendigo  
Sustainability  
Group**

## **Application form for the 2016 Bendigo Sustainability Awards**

The Bendigo Sustainability Awards are a community event designed to celebrate the businesses, organisations, groups and individuals in our community that are innovative and making changes towards a more sustainable way of life.

The awards aim to highlight the projects taking place and their collective importance to the health of our environment and therefore the economic stability of our region. The awards concentrate on what people are doing, not what they aren't. Environmental management does not need to be perfect. The aim is to recognise and celebrate the sustainable initiatives that are taking place and to inspire others to make small easily achievable changes.

If you would like to nominate yourself, a family member, your workplace, organisation or school for an award, fill in the following form. Attach any supporting materials including policies, photos (please provide image/s in a high resolution format), plans, diagrams, supportive statements, newspaper clippings etc.

**Applicant/Organisation Name:**

**Contact Person:**

**Address:**

**Phone – Home:**

**Phone – Mobile:**

**Email:**

**Date:**



## **Award & Category Selection Criteria**

*Tick the award category you are applying for:*

**Business and Innovation >10 FTE**

The Business (>10 FTE) award winner will demonstrate their business' place in the new sustainability led economy. They will show reductions in environmental impact (energy, materials, waste, and/or water) and/or sustainability enhancements to products/services and/or their plan for a sustainable future.

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**Business and Innovation <10 FTE**

The Business (<10FTE) award winner will demonstrate their business' place in the new sustainability led economy. They will show reductions in environmental impact (energy, materials, waste, and/or water) and/or sustainability enhancements to products/services and/or their plan for a sustainable future.

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**Home and Garden**

The Home and Garden award winner will demonstrate reductions in environmental impact (water, waste and/or energy use) and/or sustainable design/construction. Nominees may also show a commitment to sharing and teaching others to carry out sustainable residential projects.

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**Community Award**

The Community Award is open to individuals, community groups and organisations who have nurtured projects, programs and/or partnerships that have contributed to sustainability in Bendigo. Projects could include, but are not limited to habitat creation, protection or enhancement on public or private land and community programs that encourage others to take part in sustainable projects.

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**Education Early Childhood/Primary**

The Early Childhood/Primary Education Award (including childcare, kinder programs, primary schools) winner will demonstrate a passion for inspiring the next generation. They will demonstrate reductions in environmental impact (water, waste and/or energy use) and/or an increase in local biodiversity and/or an integrated environmental education program.

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**Education Secondary/ Tertiary**

The Secondary/Tertiary Education Award (including Tafe, university and secondary schools) winner will demonstrate a passion for inspiring the next generation. They will demonstrate reductions in environmental impact (water, waste and/or energy use) and/or an increase in local biodiversity and/or an integrated environmental education program.

**FTE:** Full Time Equivalent



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## **Application Questions**

*Please refer to the attached Selection Criteria.*

**Tell us about your project and what has been accomplished.** (Under 300 words)

**What was the motivation/inspiration behind the project?** (Under 100 words)

**What are you particularly proud of? What, if anything, did you find difficult?** (Under 100 words)



## Application Questions

*Please refer to the attached Selection Criteria.*

**What further actions do you intend to take in 2016 and beyond?** (Under 100 words)

**After rereading the Selection Criteria for your category is there any further information you would like to add to support your nomination?** (Under 100 words)

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## Application Requirements

- Attach 5 high resolution photos (at least three that include people) to support your application, to be used at the award ceremony and in the media.
- By applying for an award, you consent to have your application, including photos displayed at the award ceremony, printed in award ceremony materials and used in post awards media.
- All applications and supporting materials must be received by 5pm, Friday 26 February 2016.

### Return application forms via mail, email or in person:

**MAIL:** PO Box 1362, Bendigo 3552

**EMAIL:** bsgcoordinator@gmail.com

**IN PERSON:** Completed application forms can be hand delivered to City of Greater Bendigo Officers in Bendigo & Heathcote. Please ensure they are clearly marked as follows:

**Bendigo Sustainability Awards**

Attention: Anthony Sheean  
Sustainable Environment Unit



## Judging Process

All nominations submitted by the closing date will be judged by a panel of three judges. If further information is required for judging purposes, a panel representative/s may contact, visit and or take additional photos via arrangement. If it is felt your nomination is better suited to a different category to the one you have entered the judges reserve the right to move your entry to the appropriate category for judging.

The Judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

### Selection Criteria:

- The project has occurred within the City of Greater Bendigo
- All nominations must be received on the Bendigo Sustainability Awards nomination form
- Judges will give precedence to projects that have occurred within the last two years

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### Sustainable Business and Innovation Award

The Sustainable Business and Innovation Award (>10 FTE and <10 FTE) recognise Bendigo businesses who demonstrate innovative and sustainable practices. Any single product, service or activity that demonstrates innovation and sustainability may be nominated.

- Must be able to demonstrate reductions in environmental impact, for example reduction in water, waste and/or energy use and/or impacts on biodiversity.
- Carried out a voluntary initiative that has had a positive outcome for the environment e.g. conservation of native vegetation, community education, financial contributions allowing others to carry out sustainable projects.
- Sustainability enhancements/innovations to products/services &/or their plan for a sustainable future. For example, installation of renewable energy systems, edible gardens within the workplace, reducing energy and water consumption, use of Fair Trade certified products and development of a new product or service with sustainability features.

### Home and Garden Award

The Home and Garden Award recognises Bendigo residents who have carried out projects around their home and garden that increase the sustainability of the home and/or garden.

- Demonstrate reductions in environmental impact and/or sustainability thinking in design/construction. Examples may include but are not limited to reduction in water, waste and/or energy use, developed an innovative and creative food garden or created native habitat through protection, regeneration or improvement on a domestic block.
- A residential property within the City of Greater Bendigo.
- Initiatives undertaken as a purely private non-commercial nature.
- May include sharing knowledge to inspire others to carry out sustainability projects.
- Other example may include common and/or unusual edible species including vegetables, herbs, flowers, bush foods, fruit and nut trees; traditional and/or innovative methods such as no dig, raised beds, hanging baskets, containers and vertical systems; permaculture systems such as creating compost, worm farms and poultry; reduction in town water use; habitat creation, enhancing local ecosystems to improve biodiversity.



## Judging Process

### Community Award

The Community Award recognises the work of local Bendigo individuals, community groups or organisations that have nurtured projects, programs and/or partnerships that have contributed to sustainability in Bendigo.

- Demonstrate activities that contribute to economic, social and environmentally sustainable communities within the City of Greater Bendigo.
- Leadership in the delivery of a project that enhances the long-term sustainability of Bendigo's built or natural environment. Creating partnerships between local residents, community groups and/or organisations.
- A reduction in the overall impact on the environment as a result of the individual and/or group's activities.
- Other practices demonstrating innovation, creativity and resourcefulness that contributes to improved sustainability. Example may include working bees on public land; communicating a sustainable message; regeneration work such as planting, rubbish removal, fencing and/or connecting with community and involving local community in the project.

### Education Awards

The Education Awards recognises Bendigo Early Childhood/Primary (including childcare and kinder programs) and Secondary/Tertiary (including Tafe, university and adult education institutions) who have implemented any single initiative or activity that has achieved sustainability outcomes.

- A project that demonstrates sustainability. For example reduction of resource use by reducing water, waste and/or energy use; increase/enhance biodiversity; raise awareness of a local environmental issue.
- Student participation in planning, implementing and evaluating the sustainability initiative and inspiring students to have a passion for sustainability.
- Involvement of the wider community in the sustainability initiative. For example, parents, community groups, organisations and businesses.
- Measurement of the success of the sustainability initiative. For example, kilos of vegetables grown, number of students involved, percentage of waste diverted from landfill.



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## The Award Ceremony

**WHEN:** Friday 18 March 2016

**WHERE:** Bendigo South East College Auditorium Theatre

**TIME:** 6.30 – 8.30pm

**COST:** \$10 per adult. Nominees, BSG Members and children free.  
Finger food, soft drinks and tea/coffee provided. Entertainment provided.

**TICKETS:** [www.trybooking.com/JSKF](http://www.trybooking.com/JSKF)

### GUEST SPEAKER

#### Phillip Johnson

Phillip Johnson, a renowned landscaper and garden designer is recognised not only as an Australian pioneer in his field but as an emerging talent of Lifestyle TV. With a successful career spanning 19 years in the horticultural industry and a degree in Applied Science in Horticulture, Phillip has established himself as an expert in his field. It was this passion and experience that saw Phillip become the first Australian to win the 'Best in Show' at the renowned Chelsea International Flower Show in 2013. Since then he has been sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm with people all over Australia, hosting events and through television appearances.



### MC

#### Jonathan Ridnell

Jonathan Ridnell is the Regional Manager for the ABC in Bendigo and a radio show presenter for ABC Central Victoria. Breakfast with Jonathan is the one place to find out everything that's happening in Central Victoria! With his relaxed, friendly style, Jonathan intertwines the news and current affairs between interviews with identities, characters and personalities, and a broad range of contemporary music. The Bendigo Sustainability Group is pleased to have Jonathan help celebrate local people and their contribution to sustainability.

Find out more about Jonathan Ridnell: [abc.net.au/profiles/content/s1869061.htm](http://abc.net.au/profiles/content/s1869061.htm)

Tune into 91.9 ABC Central Victoria local radio from 6am – 7.45pm.



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**For more information** contact Sharon Grant – BSG Special Events Coordinator, via [bsgcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:bsgcoordinator@gmail.com)