



Earth Building Association of New Zealand

eb news

EBANZ - Promoting the art and science of earth building - P.O. Box 1452 Whangarei

EB News 55

March 2010

EB News is an email newsletter featuring events & workshops promoting earth building & low impact living.

Please feel free to pass this newsletter around!

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FROM THE EDITOR:

I hope you are enjoying the first days of autumn, but don't worry, there are still lots of mud-slinging days left before winter! I personally got my hands very dirty at Graeme North Architects latest "Natural Building Workshop" - a brilliant day and an enthusiastic group of happy, mud-splattered constructors!

Auckland Environmental Awards:

[Rainbow Valley Farm](#) (a regular feature in EB News) has won the "[Beyond Recycling](#)" (Business Category), awarded by the ARC on 25 Feb 2010.

They are recognised as permaculture pioneers in Rodney. Trish Allen, the late Joe Polaischer and various farm workers devote themselves to encouraging and educating others about ways to lessen their environmental footprint

Photos:

There are many earthbuilding and construction photos, waiting to be viewed at www.earthbuilding.org.nz

EB News

EBANZ

We always welcome new members! Just \$55 per year!

Plus \$5 discount (\$50 total) if paid by internet banking:

Internet Banking: Kiwibank account # 38-9007-0611251-00

Please include reference - your full name/mailling address

(so we can verify payment to our Membership Secretary)

SNAIL MAIL: join by filling out & sending us the Membership Form & cheque - click [here](#) for the pdf form

EMAIL: enter the required details from the online form into an email - click [here](#) for email

You Get - subscription to 4 high quality magazines every year (includes glossy colour photos)

- access to earth building professionals via dedicated email chat-group
 - discounts on the annual conference/tour fees
 - access to EBANZ extensive library of [DVD/Videos](#)
 - help support the research and development of earth building in NZ (we've been doing heaps of research & testing of light earth bricks!)
-

Enviroschools Week (take action!)

Between Saturday 20 and Sunday 28 March 2010

Two years on, the Enviroschools network is coordinating a week-long celebration of sustainable and innovative activity for our world. It's about action in and for our communities. Enviroschools nationwide are invited to take some practical, positive action between Saturday 20 March and Sunday 28 March. There's something wonderful about synchronicity!

When planning your action, keep in mind Earth Hour and the Let's Go Native Gardening Competition, as well as the Action Learning Cycle (see page 18 and 19 of your Enviroschools Handbook).

If you're interested in being part of this Action Celebration Week, get in touch Jenny (jneilson@dcc.govt.nz) or Jinty (jmactavi@dcc.govt.nz) to register your action. The focus and scope of the action is totally up to you, although we're encouraging full-school, practical action, and community involvement where possible. We're also organising a central, public space to display photos, pictures and feedback from the week of action, so that the inspiration can be shared and amplified!

This is the thought that struck Enviroschools National Director Heidi Mardon after seeing Rotorua's Keswick Camp completely made over by students attending the 2008 Enviroschools Youth Jam. The 180 young people attending planted an orchard and a kai garden, constructed a worm farm and compost, established a wetland, carried out an energy audit, made eco-cleaners, cooked a meal, and documented their action, all in just three hours.

How might it be, Heidi wondered, if the entire Enviroschools network took positive action at the same time? That's 216,407 students in 680 schools and kura, right across the country! How powerful might that be? <http://www.enviroschools.org.nz/>



Earth Hour - Switch off!

March 27th, 8.30pm - 9.30pm

Switch off your lights for an hour!

Support positive action to combat climate change.

The event is organised by the WWF, and sees people in over 4000 cities around the world switching off their lights in support of positive action to combat climate change. Could your school promote or participate in Earth Hour as part of your Action Celebration? Visit www.earthhour.org for more information.



Sustainable Home and Garden Show

27 and 28 March 2010 Paraparaumu, Kapiti Coast.

Mark your calendar now - New Zealand's premier sustainability event is on again soon. The Kapiti Coast Sustainable Home and Garden Show is taking place on 27 and 28 March at Kapiti Primary School. This event continues to grow in stature and popularity - with over 10,000 plus visitors and 80 vendors expected to attend this year.

Make your own household cleaners, learn how to make a rain barrel – just two of a series of DIY demonstrations happening over the weekend at our "No. 8 Wire Workshops". Check out the offerings of 70 plus eco-friendly vendors with products for your sustainable home and garden.

With a weekly grocery bill of \$10 – gardening guru Lynda Hallinan has successfully built a self-sufficient urban food oasis. Host of "Get Growing" and editor of the New Zealand Gardener magazine, Lynda will be on site Saturday to share her expertise, knowledge and skills.

There will be loads of other "cool" activities for youngsters and adults alike, including an "I Love Water" wearable art competition for kids on Sunday, junior eco-activities with our specialist environmental educator, garden and community group displays, council exhibits, plus all day music and food.

Mark your Calendar now:

Kapiti Coast Sustainable Home & Garden Show
27 and 28 March 2010
Kapiti Primary School, Rimu Road, Paraparaumu
Adults Gold Coin Entry / Kids Free
www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

Queries: Di Traynor, Event Manager, 021 1515 490 or dtraynor@xnet.co.nz



My Garden - informative website

Ever wanted to know when to plant those bulbs, or what natural spray to get rid of that shield beetle?

Wonder no more...

"I run the www.ecobob.co.nz website I want you to check out my new web site www.mygarden.co.nz. We are encouraging people to start home vegetable/herb gardening and supporting them with articles and resources such as a "trader" to trade home grown produce and gardening equipment with their neighbours. Click the link and find out so much more, it is updated regularly.

Regards - Carlin Archer



Rainbow Valley Farm, Matakana

International Permaculture Design Course

LOOK!:: 26 March-9 April 2010: Lead Tutor: Trish Allen

This Permaculture Design Course will be held at Rainbow Valley Farm.

Enroll today! What a great opportunity to get a qualification from arguably the leading permaculture centre in NZ.

People come from all over the world to learn at this iconic farm.

26 March-9 April 2010: Lead Tutor, Trish Allen others include Darren Doherty, Graeme North

This is an intensive 14 day course, where you have the chance to get fully immersed in the permaculture way of thinking and acting.

Price structure:

\$1,500 to \$2,060 depending on accommodation option chosen. More info, enrollment form >[Click](#)

Terra-aqua-culture Training – 4 day workshop

9-13 April 2010, Taranaki

Haikai Tane, Professor of Sustainable Development

Introducing the culture, craft and science of farming water flowing through the landscape.

Dao terraquaculture, the world's most productive farming system, has thrived for over 5000 years in the Asia-Pacific realm - achieving levels of sustained productivity beyond the reach of agriculture.

This 4 day practical workshop will expand your skills and capabilities in productive farming and forestry systems to enable sustainable rural livelihoods in Aotearoa New Zealand.

For information, email sherylam@kinect.co.nz or phone 03 435-0366.



"Go Green Expo" Organic & Sustainability Expo

Sunday, July 11, 2010 - Monday, July 12, 2010

Organic & Sustainability Expo

The Expo will now be held in Spring 2010 in Auckland, Wellington & Christchurch
Register your interest [here](#)

Welcome to the Annual Organic & Sustainability Expo called the Go Green Expo.

The mecca of 'Organic and Sustainable living'!

Come and discover a whole new range of exciting products and services that will delight your senses and tantalise your taste buds, look for home improvements and buy gifts!

Click here >> <http://www.gogreenexpo.co.nz/>

Spotlight:

Seeking Energy Resilience ?

Who isn't? David Crabb (a surgeon) and Graeme North (Architect) are forming a group of people who are keen on making their homes and lifestyles more energy resilient if faced with no supply or energy price hikes from suppliers.

They are initiating positive action in response to global energy decline (the knock-on effect of having achieved peak oil extraction and the inevitable future price rises in oil-based energy as supplies run out)

Please bring any really useful books to share the title that you think have been important in realising your own resilience or were useful for realising a project. We will discuss group purchase of PV, group structure going forwards, relation to other groups with similar objectives, organise the speaker subject list, future site visits etc.

Come to the next meeting, Sunday 21 March 2pm - 5pm [\$2 donation please for hall hire] Kourawhero Hall, Woodcocks Road email [David](#) for more info.

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