



JECO
The Jewish Ecological Coalition

JECO eNews for April 2013

Sunday, April 28 is Lag B'Omer. In Israel traditional Lag B'Omer activities include nature walks and picnics in the park. We won't mention bonfires, which many Israeli environmental groups are trying to discourage. JECO has organised a Lag B'Omer activity in Elsternwick Park (see details below). Do try to get outdoors on Sunday the 28th.

"The world is full of wonders, special radiance, and marvelous secrets, but all it takes is a small hand held over the eye to hide it all."

(attributed to Baal Shem Tov)

You can now make an online tax deductible donation to JECO at <http://www.givenow.com.au/jeco>.
JECO is on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/JECO.AUS>.

Calendar

Sunday, 14 April, 10:00 - 12:00 pm, Cigarette Butt Survey

The Port Phillip EcoCentre is conducting a survey on cigarette butt litter in our local streets. The survey will be used to identify and implement local strategies to reduce this litter. JECO will conduct a survey along Glen Huntly Road, Elsternwick. Volunteers are needed. The more volunteers the quicker we can complete the survey and have more time for coffee and cake. Please email info@jeco.org.au if you can help.

Thursday, 18 April, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, Eat Less Meat Fundraising Dinner

Enjoy a three course delicious meat-free dinner and help three environmental organisations - GreenFaith, JECO and ARCC at Nogga Cafe Restaurant (kosher), 294 Carlisle Street Balaclava. Read more at <http://www.arcc.org.au/arcc-fundraising-dinners#Melb>.

Sunday, 28 April, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, JECO invites you to Lag B'Omer at Elsternwick Park

Join Gio Fitzpatrick and Neil Blake of the Port Phillip EcoCentre and learn why Gio has been building nest boxes for various birds and animals. Help build and install nest boxes for microbats. This is a great activity for families. Stay on and explore Elsternwick Park or join Neil for a waterways walk. Meet at St Kilda Street and Spray Street, Elwood. Read more at <http://www.jeco.org.au/lag-bomer-at-elsternwick-park/>.

News**Equity, cost-effectiveness and environmental sustainability**

Can you have it all? The researchers looked at three case studies to determine if the 'triple bottom line' of equity, cost effectiveness and environmental sustainability could be met. Read more at <https://theconversation.com/equity-economy-or-environment-you-cant-have-it-all-13056>.

Food waste, cooking oil and algae turned into power

There are a number of ways that rural communities in WA are turning food waste, cow dung and used cooking oil into biodiesel or biogas. Read more at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-03-27/the-alternative-fuel-industry-is-taking-off/4598280>.

Recycling traditional Arab building techniques

Traditional Arab building techniques have kept people cool for centuries. A new research center in the Israeli-Arab town of Sakhnin has incorporated many of these traditional techniques into the design of the building. The building recently recently won first prize in a competition on energy conservation. Read more at <http://israel21c.org/environment/cool-old-new-arabic-building-wins-award/>.

What's happening in your shtetl

Council	Date	Event	Link
Glen Eira	April 14 2:30 - 4:00 pm	Composting - Making Black Gold Glen Eira Town Hall	Sally Stewart Phone: 9524 3333
Port Phillip	April 7 10:30 am - 1:00 pm	Bay Care Day Come and see local community action to protect our Bay. Activities for kids. St Kilda Pier	http://ecocentre.com/node/977
Stonnington	April 9 6:30 - 7:30 pm	Create Gardens for Healing Phoenix Park Library, 30 Rob Roy Road, East Malvern	To register, visit www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/library or call your local Stonnington Library

Bayside	Ongoing	Home Composting Products at Wholesale Prices	http://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/home_composting_products.htm
Boroondara	Ongoing	Have your say on the Urban Biodiversity Strategy for Boroondara (2013 - 2023)	http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/your_council/your-say/urban-biodiversity

Green Tip

Time to think about winter (finally!). Get your heater serviced professionally every two years. Make sure the heater and filters are clean.

You should do your own appraisal of products and services reported. JECO cannot take any responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided.

The JECO Committee welcomes input to and comments about JECO eNews.

JECO works to deepen the Jewish community's commitment to caring for the earth. We believe there is a religious as well as a moral obligation to protect the environment. To this end we work with Jewish, secular and multi-faith groups in supporting activities that promote sustainability.

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