

# JECO

## The Jewish Ecological Coalition

### JECO eNews for October 2012

בסכת תשבו שבעת ימים כל האזרח בישראל ישוב בסכת:

You shall live in booths seven days; all citizens of Israel shall live in booths.

Leviticus 23:42

This coming week brings the festival of Sukkot, a holiday with strong links to the environment. Sukkot is both a celebration of the harvest and a time to connect with nature by dwelling in a sukkah (booth). When you eat, sleep or read in a sukkah you feel the wind and rain, hear the sound of the birds and see the stars through the roof. You live simply, leaving behind the trappings of everyday life. Chag Sameach (Happy Holiday) and enjoy reconnecting with the natural world.

#### Calendar

**Thursday 4 October, BZE Unplugged: Open Night Series**

Have a casual chat with Beyond Zero Emissions volunteers about what they do at BZE. Join BZE for a free night of conversation, information and ideas from 7pm at Level 2, Kindness House, 288 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

**Wednesday 17th October, Ride2Work Day**

Give commuting by bicycle a go. Join over 150,000 Australians on this day to celebrate bicycle riding. Find a community breakfast near you. <http://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/general/ride2work/>

**For your diary: Sunday 11th November, JECO AGM; Sunday 25th November, Mitzvah Day**

#### News

**Is Your Lawnmower a Major Polluter?**

The US EPA believes that older garden equipment engines have been producing up to 5% of the USA's air pollution. Both the USA and Canada have programs that offer people rebates to trade-in their old power mowers. Read more at <http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2012/09/28/3599373.htm>.

**Can Compost Reduce Australia's Carbon Footprint?**

Scientists believe that the tonnes of food Australians waste every year can be used to make compost for farms and at the same time reduce greenhouse gases. Read more at <http://www.abc.net.au/rural/telegraph/content/2012/s3598226.htm>.

**From Cow Manure to Electricity**

The new biogas plant in Be'er Tuviya will convert waste from about 15% of Israel's chicken and dairy farms into biogas which will be used to generate electricity for thousands of homes. Read more at <http://nocamels.com/2012/09/israeli-largest-biogas-plant-to-produce-electricity-from-cow-manure/>.

#### What's happening in your shtetl

Council	Date	Event	Link
Glen Eira	October 15 7:00-8:30 pm	<b>Grow Your Own Food</b> Caulfield Cup Room Gen Eira Town Hall	Ring 9524 3333 Sally Stewart
Port Phillip	October 17 7:00-9:30 am	<b>Free Brekkie for Ride2Work Day</b> St Kilda Townhall South Melbourne Market	For more info call on 9209 6274

Stonnington	October 28 10:00 am - 4:30 pm	<b>Home Harvest - One day workshop</b> Phoenix Park Community Centre, Rob Roy Road, Malvern East	To book phone 8290 1333.
Boroondara	October 18 9:00 am - 3:00 pm	<b>Environmental Youth Conference</b> Balwyn Leisure Centre, 230 Balwyn Road, Balwyn North	For more info: <a href="http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/our-city/events/enviro-youth-conference">http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/our-city/events/enviro-youth-conference</a>

### Green Tip

Before summer change or clean your air conditioner's filter. If you have an exterior unit make sure there are no leaves or grass clippings blocking it.

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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