



Sustainability in Our Suburbs

Simple Home Audit... How efficient is your home?

Tick yes or no to the following questions. Add up the number of 'no' answers and enter your results.

Weather-proofing your home

- Does your home have insulation in the ceiling and walls?
- Are your windows double-glazed?
- Does your home have weather stripping on windows and draught stopped on external doors?
- Are your windows well protected with close fitting, closely woven curtains or blinds?

Total 'No' for weather-proofing

| Yes | No | Not sure |
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Winter heating

- Do you close doors to separate heated from unheated areas of your home?
- Do you have your thermostat set to a maximum of 21°C?
- Do you turn off your heating overnight and when you are out during the day?
- If you have a gas heater with pilot lights do you turn the pilot light off during the warmer months?
- Do you close windows and doors when you have heaters on?
- If you have a portable electric heater, do you use it for less than 2 hours a day?
- Do you open blinds on sunny winter days to let the sunlight in?

Total 'No' for winter heating

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Lighting

- Do you always switch lights off when you leave a room?
- Do you use energy efficient light bulbs wherever possible?
- If you have security or outdoor lights, do you use timers, daylight sensors or motion sensors to control them?

Total 'No' for lighting

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Sustainability in Our Suburbs

Cooking

| Yes | No | Not sure |
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- Do you put the lids on saucepans when boiling water?
- Do you often use a microwave oven instead of a conventional oven?
- Do you have gas hotplates?
- Do you only fill the kettle with the water you need to use?

Total 'No' for cooking

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Hot water

- Do you have a solar hot water heater OR do you have a gas hot water heater with a 4 or 5 star energy rating?
- If you have external hot water pipers are they well insulated?
- Are your hot water taps in good repair – no leaks or drips?
- Do you have water saving shower head/s (AAA rates?)
- Are your showers less than 4 minutes long?
- If you have a dishwasher:
- Do you run it only when full?
- Do you use the economy cycle?

Total 'No' for hot water

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Summer cooling

- Are your windows well shaded from the summer sun?
- Do you close your blinds and/or curtains over the windows on hot days?
- Do you use portable fans or ceiling fans instead of air-conditioning?
- If you have an air-conditioner, does it have a 5-star rating?

Total 'No' for summer cooling

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Sustainability in Our Suburbs

Washing and drying your clothes

| Yes | No | Not sure |
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- Do you wash your clothes in cold water?
- Do you run the washing machine with a full load?
- Does your washing machine have a 4 or 5 star energy rating?
- Do you hang your washing on a clothes line rather than using a clothes dryer?
- If you have a clothes dryer do you run it only with a full load?
- Does your clothes dryer have a 4 or 5 star rating?

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Total 'No' for summer cooling

Refrigerator

- Do you defrost and clean out the inside of your fridge and freezer at least every 6 months?
- Does your fridge/freezer have a 4 or 5 star rating?
- If you have additional fridges and freezers, do you switch them off if they are empty or only used occasionally?
- Are the door seals on your fridge/freezer tightly fitting – can they hold a \$5 note in place when the door is closed?

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Total 'No' for refrigerator

Appliances

- Do you always switch off appliances at the wall when they are not being used?
- If you have electric blankets, do you switch them on no more than half an hour before you go to bed and switch them off before you are in bed?
- Do you switch appliances with remote controls (eg. TV, VCR, stereos) off at the unit rather than just using the remote control?
- If you have a swimming pool:
- Do you have a solar pool heater?
- Do you cover it with a pool blanket when not in use?

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Total 'No' for appliances

TOTAL 'NO' FOR ALL ANSWERS

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Sustainability in Our Suburbs

Scorecard

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|-------|---|
| 1-8 | You're a great energy saver, keep up the great work! |
| 9-17 | You have room for improvement and are on your way to saving energy and money |
| 18-25 | You're a big energy user, probably have expensive energy bills, and are probably using more energy than you need. There are lots of things you can do to save energy and reduce your bills. |

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| My score: | |
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