



Media alert

14 July 2011

Do you have a green home?

Are you proud of your low power bill? Perhaps you have a wonderful vegetable or native plant garden?

If so NQ Dry Tropics would love to hear from you.

The call is out to sustainable home owners to participate in Sustainable House Day on Sunday September 11.

Home owners have the chance to share their ideas and experiences and show others what can be done to make their home more sustainable.

Hundreds of people attended last year's Sustainable House Day in Townsville. Sustainable House Day is a national event in its tenth year.

NQ Dry Tropics is looking for homeowners who have achieved good tropical design, energy efficiency and local native plant diversity.

Specific homes being sought include:

- a relatively new home that has been designed specifically to work well in our tropical climate
- a family with teenagers and household electricity use less than 15kWh per day
- a Queenslander (of any age) that has been renovated with sustainability in mind
- a home built between 1990 and 2011 where significant changes have been made to minimise reliance on air-conditioning and reduce electricity use
- a household who practices organic or permaculture gardening and embraces sustainable living

Features of the homes might include capturing cooling breezes, minimising heat gain (e.g shaded windows and western walls, insulation, painting the roof white, improving ventilation of the roof), reducing energy use by appliances or lighting, improving the efficiency of air-conditioners or pool pumps, purchasing a heat pump or solar hot water, installing solar panels for electricity generation, creating a garden that cools the air around the home, promotes local native plants or produces food, and whose occupants adopt environmentally responsible behaviours.

Townsville City Council is proudly supporting NQ Dry Tropics to bring Sustainable House Day to Townsville. Home owners are well supported by staff and volunteers on the day and owners are remunerated for their time.

If you think your home fits the bill and you are willing to open your doors and share your experiences to promote sustainable living please contact Kathy Cogo at NQ Dry Tropics on 0438 163 232. Homes are open from 10am – 4pm.

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Media contact Kathy Cogo 4722 5730 or 0438 163 232. Email kathy.cogo@nqdrytropics.com.au

NQ Dry Tropics' region includes the local government areas of Townsville, Charters Towers, Burdekin, Isaac, Barcaldine, Etheridge, Hinchinbrook, Palm Island and the Whitsundays.

Working together to improve land and water