

KIWI ECO - PLEDGES (2020)

23.01.20

These Pledges have been prepared by the Eco Village Group of the Redcliffs Residents Association (Christchurch) under the **CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY** declared for Redcliffs. The 2019 Pledges were used by others throughout NZ and these 2020 ones can also be freely used by anyone.

REASONS---The Pledges are based on concerns that the level and growth of global population and consumption is resulting in serious impacts on our planet's environments and resources, in particular:

- Increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases and aerosols in the **atmosphere**, increasing global warming and intensifying weather events
- Rising water levels, temperatures and acidity, reductions in mammals, fish and birdlife and accumulating litter and waste, in the **oceans and seas**
- Reducing availability and increasing pollution of **freshwater**
- Erosion, depletion and contamination of **soils**
- Depletion of **minerals** and habitat destruction
- Pest invasions, extinctions and reductions in plant, animal and insect **biodiversity**.

While Central, Regional and Local governments can create public works and incentivise and regulate certain matters to try and reduce emissions and environmental damage, and while businesses can change services and products, every citizen also needs to play their part by changing perception, activities and consumption.

PRINCIPLES--- The Pledges follow the principles below and generally promote sustainable living and the healing of our planet and our local environment, in particular:

- Increase the amount of native plants, and reduce weeds and other invasive introduced plants
- Encourage the increase of native birds, insects, reptiles and fish, and reduce introduced predators
- Increase the amount of walking, running, scooting, cycling and busing, and reduce the use of fossil-fuelled vehicles
- Increase production and consumption of local, fresh and organic/regenerative fruit and vegetables, and reduce the consumption of meat
- Increase the capture of rainwater and reduce the contamination of stormwater
- Increase the use of natural building materials, house weather tightness, insulation, thermal mass, solar access and passive heating, and reduce the level of fossil-fuelled home heating
- Encourage the transition to sustainable businesses and employment
- Encourage better understanding of and care for the natural environment
- Encourage sustainable use and protection of soils
- Carefully consider the actual need for any consumer goods, and reduce the amount of waste, pollution and litter in the environment
- Promote safety, resilience, durability and flexibility to withstand natural disasters
- Respect all local cultures and heritage.

PLEDGES ---We encourage you to join the **Citizens Climate Change Challenge** (see * below) **and/or Pledge** the adoption of any of the following specific actions which you are not already doing, for the next 10 years till 2030:

Biodiversity

1. Plant at least 10 permanent native trees this year on your property or in community native restoration areas, and also care for them by weeding and watering them for 2 years.
2. Pull out and properly dispose of all weeds on your property.
3. Trap possums, hedgehogs, rats, mice and wasps on your property.

Transport

4. Reduce your fossil fuelled vehicle and air travel by 10% this year.
5. Make a trip by bus and go for a walk or bike ride (from home) twice a fortnight this year.

Food

6. Have two meat-free days a fortnight this year.
7. Maintain your vegetable garden or support for your community garden.

Water

8. Store some of your rainwater for garden watering and wash your vehicles on lawns not hard surfaces.
9. Clear your spouting and drains and ensure stormwater will be going to road channels or Council reticulated piping only.

Building

10. Check the carbon emissions generated in creating building materials, before choosing.

Energy

11. Reduce your household energy from suppliers by 10% per year.
12. Convert your household lighting to LED bulbs.

Economy

13. Support your local shopping centre and farmers market at least fortnightly.
14. Work from home if you are able, at least one day a fortnight.

Education

15. Support your local schools and take your children to local native restoration projects and learn about nature together.

Soils

16. Mulch/cover bare soil to reduce erosion, suppress weeds and retain moisture.

Waste/Pollution

17. Stop using synthetic fertilisers and pesticides and put remaining product in the appropriate depot at the Transfer Station.
18. Buy only, what is necessary, durable, repairable, non-plastic/synthetic, locally made, toxin free, recycled and recyclable and leave goods packaging with suppliers.
19. Pick up any litter on your property, along your roadside and wherever you walk.

Resilience

20. Get familiar with your local Resilience Plans.

Culture

21. Support a (low carbon emissions) local cultural or sporting event every month.

The Redcliffs Residents Association promotes the above Principles and Pledges in their activities and in holding other organisations and public bodies to account for their policies and actions. Every month we focus on a different issue and organise/publicise relevant information/events such as public talks, workshops, documentaries, book reviews, working bees, open homes and gardens etc, which promote the above Principles and assist residents to meet their Pledges.

We appreciate there are numerous other measures people can take to reduce their environmental impacts and we will produce a further Pledge list each year.

*Using the "Household Calculator" on the www.enviro-mark.com website, will help you measure your actual household CO2 emissions (items 4 & 11, above) and the actual amounts of reductions you make. You will also be able to compare your emissions with the NZ average and you will find lots of tips on ways you can reduce your emissions further. The Citizens Climate Change Challenge is to reduce your emissions by 1% each month, so you will halve your emissions by year 2030.