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business**  
recycling.energy.water.



**Newsletter** 2019 Winter

## Actsmart celebrates ten years of awards!



Now in their 10th year, the annual Actsmart Business Sustainability Awards help celebrate Canberra and the region's organisations that are leading the way for a sustainable future.

The awards continue to grow. The Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, Shane Rattenbury, presented a record 17 awards at this year's event, in front of more than 170 guests at the Hotel Realm. What's more, there were an impressive 94 nominations across the 10 categories!

This year we saw not one, but two nominees take out the Minister's Awards for Leadership. **Scott Leggo** from Scott Leggo Gallery sees the importance of a business no matter how small having a positive impact on the environment. **Mark Siracusa** from Brema Group took out an impressive three awards at the event! Mark is nothing short of inspirational for sustainability in the demolition industry.



For more information on the winners flip the page!

### Save the date!

This year's Expo will be held on Thursday 12 September 2019 at the Southern Cross Club in Woden. Full program details enclosed - don't miss out!

Stay updated with all things Actsmart on Facebook @SustainableCBR and our website at [actsmart.act.gov.au](http://actsmart.act.gov.au)

### Minister's message



**Welcome to the Winter edition of the Business Newsletter.**

As Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, I am continually inspired by businesses and the community who are

embracing sustainable practices to create a better environment.

I am always excited to attend the Business Sustainability Awards breakfast and recognise the outstanding commitment to sustainability by the business owners, staff and public event organisers in the room. The ways they have chosen to make sustainability an integral part of their work is inspirational. You can see more about this year's winners and their achievements on following pages.

Actsmart is celebrating 10 years. I was honoured to be part of such a major milestone and would like to thank every household, business, school and community group that has been involved. I can't wait to see what Actsmart achieves in the next 10 years with our community!

Make sure to like Actsmart on Facebook so you can join the journey to making a more sustainable capital city.

**Shane Rattenbury MLA**

Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability

## actsmart Business Sustainability Awards

### Waste Minimisation



#### Winner - Brema Group

Brema started their journey recycling only 33% of their waste. They now send 23% to paper recycling, 73% to mixed recycling and 1% to organics, resulting in a tiny 4% of waste being sent to landfill!



#### Highly Commended - Sparke Helmore Lawyers

Sparke Helmore Lawyers joined the program in 2012 and took on the challenge of recycling in a multi-tenanted building with enthusiasm. They reduced their waste to landfill from 73% to 5%!



#### Winner - Scott Leggo Gallery

The Actsmart team calculated that installing new LED lighting and a new air conditioner would reduce energy costs by about \$930 per year and save 1.8 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>!



#### Highly Commended - Embassy of Finland

They installed an Aquamonitor to catch water leaks early before wasting thousands of litres of water, replaced lights with LEDs resulting in over \$1000 annually in running costs, and reduced heating and cooling requirements.

### Biggest Recyclers



#### Business Recycler Winner - Coleman Court Shopping Centre Mirvac Retail

The team invested in front of house bins and a Recycling Warriors program to educate retailers in correct disposal of recycling. They now divert 88% of their waste from landfill including a monthly average of 55 tonnes of organics, 5 tonnes of cardboard and 1.6 tonnes of mixed recycling.



#### Small Event Winner - North Ainslie Primary School Sustainability Fair

This event only generated a total of 274 litres of waste! That meant 99.5% of all waste was diverted from landfill and organic waste was returned to the school's own kitchen garden compost system.



#### Large Event Winner - Kicks Entertainment Events Spilt Milk 2018

Spilt Milk recycled 16.1 tonnes from its one day event! Every drink vessel sold had a \$1.00 container recycling deposit, proving successful in reducing ground waste. All event staff were given reusable drink bottles to refill at designated water stations, which reduced the number of single use water bottles.

### Small Business Award



#### Winner - ACT Skip Hire

Changes to operations reduced the amount of waste going to landfill by 50%, equating to about 4,000 tonnes per year! All waste skips are brought back to the centre and hand sorted for resource recovery, recycling or reuse.



#### Highly Commended - Spielwelt German Parents Association & Pfadfinder Scout Group

Spielwelt have made more than 50 energy, water and waste efficiency changes to their operations. Implementing the Energy and Water program has reduced electricity consumption and saved them \$1100 per year and 4 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

2019

**Corporate Award**



**Winner - Brema Group**

On building sites over the last year Brema has reused or recycled more than 95% of waste generated by demolition projects. Demolition of Macarthur House reached the ambitious 95% recycling target by recycling 13,000 tonnes from the site.



**Highly Commended - Engineers Australia**

Strong corporate goals achieved a 13% reduction in paper use. Monitoring electricity and gas use reduced carbon emissions across the organisation by 885 tonnes! Implementing the Actsmart recycling program has reduced waste to landfill by 63%.

**Innovation Excellence**



**Winner - Canberra Health Services - The Canberra Hospital**

Installation of an organic digester onsite processes more than 41,500kg of organic waste while the 'bring your own cup' promotion has reduced many of the 42,000 disposable coffee cups used each year.



**Highly Commended - OzHarvest Canberra**

OzHarvest noticed their services excluded rural Australia, so they piloted an app which allows them to access vulnerable people who were previously out of reach.

**Motivation Excellence**



**Winner - Indesco**

Indesco provides staff with options for energy saving on computers, monitors and devices. They use their purchasing power to reduce excess packaging and buy in bulk to reduce transport. Sustainability messages are a strong focus of inductions and staff are motivated to take the sustainability lessons home.



**Highly Commended - Calvary Bruce Private Hospital**

It was not going to be easy to motivate staff, patients, doctors and visitors in a hospital environment to minimise waste and carbon emissions. Stakeholder meetings, signage, staff and contractor inductions encouraged understanding of the hospital's impact on the environment.

**Minister's Award for Leadership**



**Winner - Mark Siracusa - Brema Group**

Mark's leadership has seen Brema Group decrease their waste to landfill in the office from 67% to less than 4% and last year achieved less than 5% waste to landfill from demolition projects as a result of reuse and recycling.



**Winner - Scott Leggo - Scott Leggo Gallery**

When Scott first started out, he became a sponsor with 'Trees for the Future' where they planted a tree for every product sold and social media follower. They planted thousands of trees and now support other environmental causes, such as support for saving the Corroboree Frog.

actsmart **mobile roundup**



**Our annual Mobile Roundup is back and it's going to be bigger and better than ever. This year, everyone's involved!**

In celebration of National Recycling Week, we are putting it out to the Canberra public to help us attempt to break the World Record of the largest amount of mobile phones collected for recycling in one day!

Have you got old mobile phones sitting around collecting dust? Why not start a collection at your workplace, school, home or sports club - anywhere!

Collect as many mobile phones as possible and bring them to the Actsmart tent in the City on Thursday 14 November. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page and the Actsmart website for further information, or contact the Actsmart team.

**Are you holding a public event in the ACT?**

Events that participate will have access to FREE equipment and advice to assist them with strategies to:

- Reduce energy and water usage
- Reduce waste and increase recycling
- Reduce greenhouse emissions
- Educate and raise awareness of sustainability issues to event patrons

Events can range from small to large, such as school fetes, festivals, shows or sporting events.

Get involved now and contact [actsmartbusiness@act.gov.au](mailto:actsmartbusiness@act.gov.au)



For a full list of Actsmart Business accredited recyclers check out the map on our website at [actsmart.act.gov.au](http://actsmart.act.gov.au)

**Get involved today!**

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