

## SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PROGRAM

## CASE STUDIES



resourcewise

City of Canada Bay has been supporting local businesses through its Sustainable Business program since 2003. Here's what some of the participants have to say about their experience with the program.

### Maria's Story



**Maria Tsoromokos of *Slightest Touch Hair Design*** saves over \$200 a year on her electricity bills after installing a 7-day timer on her water heater.

Maria opted to have an energy audit of her North Strathfield business back in November 2010 after she heard about the *Energy Efficiency for Small Business* program through Council. When she learned through the audit that a large proportion of her business's energy usage was spent on heating water, she followed the auditor's recommendation and had a 7-day timer installed straightaway. On her decision to go ahead with the work Maria says:

*'My bills aren't that high, but I still want to do what I can to reduce them.'*

Since installing the timer, Maria has noticed that her energy usage has reduced by over 15%. Maria is delighted with this result, and says that since the audit she always turns off appliances when not using them:

*'Why wait for Earth Hour? If you're not using it, turn it off and start saving money.'*

Maria was excited to hear about the upcoming launch of Council's new Sustainable Business program – *resourcewise*, which will tackle waste, water, energy and social sustainability, saying:

*'It's great to see Council getting proactive about these issues.'*

### Glen's Story

**Glen Taylor of *Briars at Greenlees*** is happy that the club's operations are more water-wise and is looking forward to even more water savings once rainwater tanks are installed.



In 2010 Glen signed the club up to the *Every Drop Counts* program which was jointly run by Council and *Sydney Water*. Glen, with the support of the Board of Directors, actioned many of the recommendations identified in a water audit run by Council. This included arranging for a leak to be fixed, reducing the flush volumes in toilets and installing flow restrictors and aerators on tapware. Following this work the club's water usage reduced by more than 10%, which adds up to around \$1000 in water savings over a year.

The club are now committed to implementing water-wise solutions in any future renovations and look forward seeing more reductions in their water bills when they install rainwater tanks that will be used to water the club's bowling greens.

Glen feels that the club has really benefited from its involvement in the program, and is keen to try out new components of *resourcewise*, Council's new Sustainable Business program:

*'The water audit program went really well, and now want to look at doing more, particularly in the area of social sustainability.'*

## Joseph's Story



**Joseph Trovato** of **Trovatino's Café** replaced his halogen lighting with LED fittings and still saves around \$600 a year on his electricity bills even though his business has grown to supply cakes, pastries and gelato to an additional shop.

Joseph was looking to make energy savings in his Wareemba Café when he arranged for an audit through the *Energy Efficiency for Small Business* program in early 2011. He acted swiftly on the main audit recommendation and arranged to replace the existing halogen lighting with 18 energy-saving LED fittings in April 2011.

After receiving the 50% *Energy Efficiency for Small Business* rebate, the work cost just over \$1500. Joseph's bills since then have reduced by an average of almost 3%. Based upon the savings so far these changes should pay for themselves in around 2 and a half years.

Joseph has noticed other benefits about upgrading his lighting:

*'Unlike the halogens, the LEDs don't get hot and heat up the Café and you don't have to replace the globes as often.'*

Joseph thoughts on the *Energy Efficiency for Small Business* program are:

*'We all want to help the environment, but as a business we need to reduce costs. This program does both.'*

## Kitty's Story

Over four months, **Kitty Lo** of **Bruzzano and Associates** saved almost 15% on the business's average energy bill through the *Energy Efficiency for Small Business* program.



The financial services firm in Drummoyne installed conversion kits on all 162 of their T8 fluorescent lights. This conversion allows the old T8 fittings to take highly efficient T5 tubes.

*'I was approached by an auditor to look at energy saving opportunities, and I liked the idea of saving money for the business'*, says Kitty of making the decision to audit her electricity usage.

After the 50% *Energy Efficiency for Small Business* rebate the cost of this work was almost \$4000.

In the first four months since making the changes, the business's energy use has dropped by almost 15%. The cost of installing the new lights will pay for itself in 3 years.

To find out more about *resourcewise*, Council's new Sustainable Business program, or to join the program, please contact the Sustainable Business Officer on 9911 6555 or email [resourcewise@canadabay.nsw.gov.au](mailto:resourcewise@canadabay.nsw.gov.au)



energywise



waterwise



wastewise



communitywise