

# Media Release

*Sunshine Coast Regional Council*

*Eight new ecoBiz partners go green and save big*

**06 Aug 09**

Eight Sunshine Coast businesses will be welcomed as ecoBiz partners by the Honourable Kate Jones, Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability at a breakfast on Friday, 14 August from 7:30 am at Bistro C, Noosa.

The ecoBiz program is a six step process which helps businesses look at their operations and reduce their water use, energy consumption and waste production.

Sunshine Coast Council Environmental portfolio holder and division 3 councillor Keryn Jones welcomes Minister Jones and said the ecoBiz breakfast will celebrate the achievements of these local businesses.

“We may be in a global economic crisis but local Coast businesses are going green and reaping the benefits,” Cr Jones said.

“The promotion of the ecoBiz project on the Sunshine Coast over the past two years has been a joint initiative between the state government and council, and we are now seeing exciting results in the business community.

“Each new ecoBiz partner has spent approximately the last two years implementing an action plan and working their way through the ecoBiz program—and has achieved some great savings.”

Madill Motor Group at Noosaville reduced their water use by 75 per cent and which equalled \$1989 of savings.

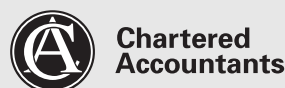
Sheraton Noosa Resort and Spa reduced waste disposed by 41 per cent, water usage by 17 per cent (the equivalent to 3.6 olympic swimming pools per year) and energy usage equivalent to the energy used by 26 Queensland homes in a year.

Richard Phillips, Chief Engineer at the Sheraton Noosa Resort and Spa said that these reductions have saved the Sheraton Noosa over \$83,000 in additional resource costs.

“Sustainability has become a major part of the hotel’s business strategy,” Mr Phillips said.

“The resort embraces its responsibility for environmental stewardship and is committed to integrating leading environmental practices and sustainability principles into its core business strategy.”

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Other new ecoBiz partners have also made fantastic reductions:

**Accounting North: reduced annual energy usage by 25 per cent, which is equivalent to 15.5 tonnes of greenhouse gas annually**

Noosa Boardroom: reduced their energy usage by 17 per cent, which is the equivalent of 27 tonnes of greenhouse gas annually, and saved \$1228 per year in the process

Bistro C: reduced energy consumption by installing LED, CFL and low wattage fluorescent lighting and a new Forced Draft Cooler unit in their cold room.

Steve Lawrence, owner of the Noosa Boardroom said "It's great that I can live in the Noosa Biosphere and contribute to the business community in an eco-friendly manner."

The Sheraton Noosa, Kabi Golf Club and the Halse Lodge will speak about their experience and accomplishments at the free breakfast. Spaces are limited and bookings are required— to book call 5449 5149.

Visit council's business website for information on how your business could become the next ecoBiz partner.



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