



**BUILDING
A BETTER
RELATIONSHIP WITH
OUR WORLD**

A Green Guide for people in parishes
A publication of Grafton Diocesan Commission for the Environment

**"The age of nations is past:
the task before us if we
would not all perish is to
build the earth."**

Teilhard de Chardin

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THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION OF THE WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.



BUILDING A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR WORLD

The introduction to the Terms of Reference for the Diocesan Commission for the Environment states:

The Commission will work to promote a Christian theology of the environment, and to develop a sense of urgency in regard to environmental issues at both local and global levels. It will seek to provide objective guidance and direction on how the Church might creatively address the problems and challenges that face our Earth Community.

Members of the Commission set themselves the task of providing such "objective guidance and direction" in a format that would be easy to use and readily updated. It is our hope that this guide *Building a Better Relationship with our World* will provide some theological, philosophical, and above all, practical guidance on preserving our world.

Building a Better Relationship with our World is designed for use by parishes and individuals in their homes, their workplaces and the parish itself. An audit section has been added to the end of some chapters so that you can, if you choose, build up a factual picture of the environmental relationships of your church.

Building a Better Relationship with our World is a work in progress. It is intended to be an on-going, living document; one that can be added to as more information becomes available and as new issues to be addressed come to light.

***Never doubt that a small group of
thoughtful committed citizens can
change the world,
indeed it is the only thing that ever has.
Margaret Mead***

BUILDING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS IN YOUR GARDEN

The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with seed on it. And God saw that it was good. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. (Genesis1)

Many of us live in suburbia or on farms where the natural environment that once existed can only be guessed at. Our church grounds and home gardens must serve many purposes.

We cannot return this all to nature. We may never have the harmonious relationships with wildlife that St Francis experienced. But there is much we can do to restore natural relationships in our gardens and enjoy more fully the world God created.

It is great to see so many people who are conscious of the benefits of bringing wildlife back to suburban gardens.

If you haven't mastered the art yet, these tips may be useful.

So let's start from the soil up

The soil environment

Do add natural organic materials. Soils need this both for moisture retention and easier root movement. It also adds to soil fertility.

Avoid where possible using chemical fertilizers. They can be damaging to creatures in the soil. Much often washes out and gets into our drainage systems polluting the water.

Do water deeply and less frequently

Do keep the soil surface covered. This not only protects the soil surface with all its fine rootlets and microscopic creatures but also provides a home for beneficial insects, spiders, skinks, etc. It also reduces erosion.

If you have worms in your garden then you are doing something right and everyone is happy.

The plant environment

Do make your garden more like a clearing in a forest with a small open grassy section surrounded by layers of plants

Do have layers of groundcovers, small shrubs, tall shrubs, small trees and one or two taller trees with some vines intermingled. The more layers you have the more wildlife you will provide a home for.

Do have a good ground cover including tussock grasses, ground-covers, prostrate shrubs, mulch, old logs, pebbles.

Do plant some tall trees relative to the size of your garden and location of your house. Trees help our atmosphere stay fresh and your garden cooler.

Do contact your bush friendly local nurseries for advice on suitable native plants for your environment. Make sure you include some banksias, eucalypts, callistemons, acacias, grevilleas, syzygiums.

Do consider the microclimate of your garden and how this affects choice of plants. For a west-facing well-drained slope grevilleas, banksias and eucalypts are excellent. For a moist shady gully choose rainforest species.

Remember that as your garden grows the micro-climate will change. Patches that were sunny will become shady as the canopy extends. Shaded and mulched soil will not need as much water.

Don't plant weed species such as lantana, asparagus vine, Camphor Laurel, Golden Rain Tree, Tipuana, Ochna, many Cassia species, and many others which you can find on the weed sites listed.

Do add plants to your established garden to develop ground level, understory and canopy layers. You can space plants 1-2 m apart and always keep mulch and plants away from stems and trunks of established plants

Do plant bushy shrubs with spiky or thorny leaves. These provide cover and safe nesting places for small birds and animals.

While many gardens may bear little resemblance to the natural environment they can be turned into wonderful niches for both plants and animals.

We call this wildlife friendly gardening "fauna-scaping" - creating landscapes that encourage fauna

Meeting Wildlife needs

Water

Do provide as much water as you can. Have birdbaths and bowls of different depths set at different levels around the garden. Ponds also supply drinking water.

Scrub water bowls regularly and organise someone to top up water whenever you're away.

Check regularly for mosquito larvae. They can be flushed out.

Food

Do plan to provide all year the five foods - leaves, nectar, seeds, fruit and insects - that satisfy almost every native bird and animal.

Do not put out honey and water for birds as this can lead to diseases and may harm populations of bees.

Do remember that you are setting up a system where things will get eaten. Frogs will eat insects, caterpillars will chew leaves, birds will catch insects, skinks will catch snails but also snakes will eat frogs, crows will eat other birds' young. Remember that if this happens, you will actually have succeeded.

Remember that you need plants that will feed the insects and spiders which will be the food of birds, skinks, etc.

Shelter

Do study your garden to see what shelter it provides - somewhere to sleep away from predators, the sun, wind and rain. The best shelters include prickly shrubs, dense climbers, hollow trees and logs, piles of rock, and plants which are bushy to ground level.

As trees grow taller and bushier you will notice how many birds start to come and appreciate them as shade, nest site, day-time roosts, viewing platforms.

Do add nest boxes made of untreated timber. Attach them to trees to provide homes for birds and animals. Kookaburras, lorikeets, rosellas, possums, gliders, bats and many other animals have difficulty finding suitable homes.

Do think of the lizards, providing deep leaf litter, dense prickly bushes, low spreading plants and grassy tussocks. Flat rocks in sunny spots are sunbaking heaven! Make your lizards a bolt hole by laying out a piece of terracotta pipe.

Do think of the frogs. Provide some water and plenty of cover. Dianella and Lomandra are good for some. Others like areas of pebbles or rocks to shelter under. Avoid use of chemicals as their skin is very sensitive. Don't mow the grass too closely as some shelter in lawns.

Useful Websites

Some useful and exciting websites that will give you very valuable information:

<http://www.biocity.edu.au/content/view/66/49/> BioCITY Centre for Urban Habitats

<http://www.floraforfauna.com.au> This site allows you to find plants and animals suited to your specific area

<http://www.weeds.org.au>

<http://www.northcoastweeds.org.au/environmentalweeds.htm>

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/noxweed> These give specific information on weeds in our part of the state

Noxious weeds may be a particular concern for parents with young children. Should you want help the Poison Information Centre phone number is 13 11 26. the Children's Hospital at Westmead has a very useful website with advice for parents - http://www.chw.edu.au/parents/factsheets/poisonous_plants.htm

AN AUDIT

Church land

Many churches are responsible for land varying in size from a tiny patch to a large acreage. Use this section to assess the community/visual/environmental/ecological/ value of your church's plot and the potential to develop it:

Present	Consider	Not a priority	
			Native plant species and plants that attract wildlife (e.g. nest or roosting sites, native trees, shrubs, lichens, fungi, wildflowers)
			Weeds and plants that endanger the natural environment (e.g. remove weeds like Patterson's Curse and garden plants like rubber plants, privet and lantana)
			Other features to benefit wildlife (e.g., piles of leaves or rotting logs for insects, small mammals and reptiles, close cover for small birds)
			Visually attractive planting/features
			Area for prayer/contemplation/outdoor worship
			Take part in improving other church properties
			Does land contain 'matters of ecological significance'?
			Does land contain ecosystems that are polluted or contaminated?

BUILDING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH WATER

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void...while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters... And God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome... And God said "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear". And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. (From Genesis 1:1-10)

Water is both a common aspect of daily life and an element of rare and inestimable value, leading some to believe that its true worth exceeds that of even gold or diamonds. By reclaiming our inner connection to the sacredness of water, we become inspired to appreciate, honour and protect the waters of the world. Nathaniel Altman in *Sacred Water*.

Water is essential to life. As it is such an essential element it is considered sacred by most cultures and religions.

At our Christian Baptism we thank god that: *"With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things",* and that we are *"called to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism."* APBA

Yet water seems to be the commodity we take most for granted, it is NOT inexhaustible.

It is a sustainer of life, means of transport and energy, it cleanses and provides food. It is used in sacred rites and for gaining wisdom. It is a source of inspiration and enchantment.

Each day we may drink 10 litres of water, water the garden at a rate of 1000 l/hr, use 35 litres in the dishwasher, 80 litres in the washing machine or 5 l/min in the shower. A lot of water can be saved around the house, Parish and workplace. Try some of these tips:

In the bathroom:

Do take shorter showers

Do turn the tap off while cleaning your teeth and save 5 – 10 litres

Do fill the sink with water to have a shave and

*The bathroom accounts for 49% of household water use each day
A shower uses 10–30 litres per minute. A bath uses 120 litres. One toilet flush uses 11 litres*

save 5 – 10 litres

Do fix leaking taps and toilet cisterns. A tap leaking at the rate of one drop per second can waste around 10,000 L of water every year.

Do install a dual flush toilet

Do run water into a bucket in the shower until it is warm, then use the water on the garden

In the laundry:

Do have a full load for the washing machine

Remember: Grey water from the washing machine rinse cycle can be reused in the garden

Do buy a tank and use rainwater in your washing machine

Each person uses about 200 litres of water day. This is about one wheelie bin of water per person. A medium size washing machine uses 150 litres per load

Remember your state government, local council or water provider may offer a rebate for connecting a rainwater tank to a washing machine

In the kitchen:

Do wash vegetables in a basin or a partly filled sink - not under running water

Don't rinse hand-washed dishes under a running tap. If you have a two-basin sink, fill one with soapy water and the other with rinsing water. Otherwise you can use a basin.

Do put in the plug as soon as you start running water to fill the sink. Keep the water pressure low while you wait for it to get hot.

Outside:

Do give your garden and lawn a good soak (unless it is raining)

Once a week in Summer

Once a fortnight in Spring and Autumn

Once a month in Winter

Do water plants in the morning or evening; this reduces the water lost to evaporation

Garden water use per hour:
20mm garden hose 3460 litres ;
15 mm hose 1090 litres ;
garden sprinkler 1000 litres .

Do mulch your garden to reduce evaporation. Water is lost to wind and sun evaporation during the day. Mulch can save up to 75% of the water normally lost to evaporation.

Do water the roots not the leaves

*The supreme good is like water, which nourishes
all things without trying to
Lao Tzu*

Do use a timer when watering. This way you won't forget to turn it off

Do fix leaking taps, irrigation and hose fittings.

Do weed your garden; - they are only taking the water off your plants

Do sweep the driveways and paths
instead of hosing

Do use a bucket of water instead of a
running hose to wash the car

Do observe any local water restrictions

Do plant native plants. Remember: they
need less water

*70% of the Earth is covered by
water. Only 2.5% of the world's
water is fresh; 97.5% is oceans.
Of this fresh water only 0.3% is
available from rivers, lakes and
reservoirs. The rest is trapped in
ice and glaciers and therefore not
accessible.*

SOME USEFUL WEBSITES

<http://www.csiro.au/csiro/channel/ich2z,,.html>

http://www.usaid.gov.au/publications/pdf/usaid_water.pdf

<http://www.seqwater.com.au/content/standard.asp?name=ManagingWaterQuality>

<http://www.developmentgateway.com.au/jahia/Jahia/cache/offonce/pid/2980;jsessionid=60FE2EB0E7CE1C208D5F224FD9DE9EB3>

<http://www.csu.edu.au/division/marketing/thur/water.htm>

<http://www.dlwc.nsw.gov.au/water/index.shtml>

AN AUDIT - Water

Present	Consider	Not a priority	
			Draft a routine water 'check-list' for each property. Install a water meter if none present, and monitor water consumption regularly (monthly?)
			Check water outlets and fix any drips and leaks
			Install water-saving devices e.g. dual flush toilets and low spray flow or auto turn-off taps, drip irrigation systems
			Install water-saving devices e.g. dual flush toilets and low spray flow or auto turn-off taps, drip irrigation systems
			Collect rainfall from down pipes for use in buildings and gardens

BUILDING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH WASTE MANAGEMENT

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." Genesis 1:26

Genesis tells us that God has given us the creation to care and rule over. We all have an obligation to carefully consider our stewardship of the earth's precious resources.

As a community and as individuals we produce huge quantities of waste.

This waste ends up in landfill, polluting large areas of our beautiful land.

Recycling is a good way of reducing the amount of material going into landfill sites, it can save huge quantities of energy and raw materials.

But recycling itself requires considerable inputs of energy in transport and processing.

Before we think recycling we need to think reduction. We need to look at our waste. Is most of it packaging, cartons, bottles, cans, bags etc? Do we need to use them in the first place?

Before we buy anything we need to think, "Do I really need it?"

Before we throw anything away we need to think, "Can this be used again?"

So what can we do?

Follow THE FOUR PRINCIPLES OF REDUCING WASTE

REDUCE the amount of waste we produce by only buying what we really need, choosing things that will last, buying products with no, or minimal packaging

REPAIR items that don't work rather than throwing them away and buying new ones

REUSE as many products and packaging as possible

RECYCLE unwanted items and packaging that cannot be repaired or reused

We can:

Make a shopping list and use it! Only buy what we really need

Use reusable shopping bags instead of single use plastic ones. When we do accept plastic ones reuse them at home for storage or garbage or return them to the shop for recycling

Avoid disposable and single use items, buy and use 'real' ones instead

Try to buy supplies that can be stored eg cleaning goods, pasta, rice, sugar, flour etc. in bulk. This avoids excess packaging

Buy products with the least amount of packaging

Buy rechargeable batteries and a battery charger. Read the instructions to maximise the life of the batteries

Buy recycled paper and paper goods

Buy local products if possible. This reduces the amount of fuel needed to transport them to our area

We can:

Make sure there are adequate recycling bins available in the kitchen, the office and other work or play areas. This includes containers for paper and cardboard; bottles, cartons and cans; and green waste

Compost food scraps. Leftovers, fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea leaves, grass clippings, organic garden waste can all be composted and used in the garden. Meat, fats and dairy products should not be composted

Whenever possible use both sides of a piece of paper. If only one side has been used, use it for notes, children's drawing paper etc.

Ask friends or community organizations if they can use your unused products such as paints, chemical, household items, toys rather than throwing them away

Donate unwanted items and packaging to schools, playgroups, children's groups etc to be used for handicrafts and craft rather than throw them away

Tell other people what we are doing, they might copy us or they may have ideas we can use.

Recycling in the Clarence Valley *

Plastics marked 1-PET, 2, HDPE, 3, PVC, 5

Collected in yellow/orange wheelie bins. Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Steel and Aluminium cans

Collected in yellow/orange wheelie bins. Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 66426428

Paper and cardboard

Collected in yellow/blue wheelie bins. Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Ferrous and non ferrous metals

Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Motor oil

Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

North Coast Waste Oil Collection: 02 66449405

Cooking oil

Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Glass bottles

Collected in yellow/orange wheelie bins. Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Vehicle batteries

Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Paper and cardboard commercial collections

Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Green waste

Collected in green wheelie bins. Grafton waste transfer and recycling facility: 02 66426428

Mobile phones

Telstra shop 82 Prince St, Grafton

Leading Edge computers, Grafton

Clothing and other small household items

Opportunity/charity shops

Furniture
Salvation Army

Plastic shopping bags
Coles Grafton
Woolworths Grafton

Toner and ink cartridges - computer, faxes and photocopiers
Australia Post Grafton, Maclean and Yamba; Harvey Norman Grafton and
Maclean, Tandy Grafton, Leading Edge Computers Grafton

Concrete
McLennan Earthmoving Pty Ltd: 02 66434100

Soil
McLennan Earthmoving Pty Ltd: 02 66434100

Cars
Big River Autospare: 02 66424738
Campbell Wrecking: 02 66449353

- At present we have details only for the Clarence Valley but other information will be added as Parish groups investigate their own environment.

BUILDING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Climate change is the greatest threat to civilization—far greater than Terrorism (Chief Scientific Adviser to the British Government)

As individuals, we can make many positive changes to our lifestyle by choosing to consume less in a thoughtful manner. In doing so we will be able to carry out our fifth mark of Mission as Anglicans.

In Australia every household is consuming food and using energy for lighting, air conditioning and transport. Because of our vast distances and lifestyle on a per head basis we create massive amounts of waste, including CO2.

A simple calculator has been devised to assess our footprint on the environment at www.bestfootforward.com/footprintlife.htm

We need to think seriously how our lifestyle is affecting the planet and the state of the environment which we bequeath to future generations. The majority of scientists and thoughtful people are unanimous in the view that we are devastating our environment by over consumption, waste products and a rapidly changing climate.

Global Environment Outlook 2002 UNEP

Changing energy usage.

Australia's abundant resources and power stations burning coal have given us some of the cheapest electricity energy in the world. Every bill from your retailer gives a little graph of daily usage of electricity and the tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions produced by your daily usage.

Electricity produced in the grid from coal fired power stations is so cheap because the true cost of polluting the atmospheric environment with CO2 and other gases, is not factored into the price. All of us can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by choosing renewable energy or "GreenPower".

Choosing "GreenPower"

"GreenPower" is electricity generated from 'clean' renewable sources such as wind, solar, water and biomass which avoid the release of harmful greenhouse gases which are contributing to the changing climate of our world.

Changing to GreenPower (or a percentage thereof) will cost a little more - something like \$1.5 per week or \$19-20 a quarter.

GreenPower is more expensive because the generating units are smaller but the electricity purchased from them has not polluted the atmosphere.

How to change to "GreenPower".

Investigate which energy company suits you best - (see list below)

Apply to have the energy supplied to your home, Parish or work place as 'green energy'

By choosing 'green energy' the amount of energy you purchase is supplied into the general electricity grid therefore reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

By looking up the web site www.greenpower.gov.au you will find all you need to know about switching to green power.

*It is estimated that average households emit about **8-10 tonnes** of greenhouse gases*

*Using GreenPower can save up to **5 tonnes** of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere. This is the same as not driving the family car for 2 years*

What you can do at Church and at Home:

Install insulation in ceilings and wall cavities

Do design and orient buildings to improve ventilation and reduce sunlight heating windows and walls

Do fit timers on electrical appliances

Do set thermostats on air conditioners to slightly higher in summer and slightly cooler in winter

Do fit low energy light bulbs

Consider solar hot water systems

Do turn off electrical equipment such as TVs and computers at the wall

Do buy re-chargeable batteries and a battery charger

Do plant shade trees around buildings, they provide natural air-conditioning

Do install fans inside to circulate the air, this reduces the need for as much air-conditioning

In the kitchen

Do make sure your fridge is running efficiently - an old fridge running inefficiently can use 3x more power than a new one

Do choose a top star rated refrigerator when buying a new one - this can save 4.5 tonnes greenhouse gas and \$450 in a lifetime

Don't have a second fridge unless absolutely necessary - a bar fridge can cost \$200 a year

Do defrost chest freezers at least once a year and upright models two or three times a year

Remember microwaves, electric frypans or pressure cookers are more efficient than using the oven

Energy efficient appliances can save up to \$1400 and prevent 14 tonnes of greenhouse gas being emitted into the atmosphere over 10 years. The more star ratings, the more efficient the appliance

Do use the correct size pan or pot for your hotplate and cook with the lid on

Do use only the amount of water that you need in you jug or kettle to make your tea or coffee

Heating and Cooling

Don't overheat, or overcool, your home - wear appropriate clothing instead

Remember: Gas heaters are more efficient than electricity

Do use draught stoppers and curtains to keep out the cold and the heat

Close doors to rooms not being used

Do clean the filters on your air conditioning unit every 3 months

Lighting

Do turn off lights not being used

Don't leave outdoor security lights on all night or during the day - consider installing a timer or sensor

Remember: Compact fluorescent globes are the most energy efficient. Use them in rooms where light is required for longer periods

Fluorescent globes use 80% less energy than standard globes. Using one 15 watt fluorescent bulb instead of a 75 watt standard bulb you can save \$10 a year!

Do make the most use of natural light. Skylights are a great addition to kitchens and bathrooms

Hot water

Choose a solar hot water system which can reduce an average household hot water bill by 70%. Solar power also conserves our natural resources and the environment.

Remember: Natural gas high efficiency water heaters produce approx. two-thirds lower greenhouse emissions than electric heaters and save you hundreds of dollars in energy bills over the lifetime of the system

Do use cold water in the laundry

Do turn off the hot water system when going away for a long period of time

Do fit an AAA-rated low flow showerhead which may save \$100 on energy and water bills

Do use the link below to estimate your energy usage in the home and find more ways to save on energy bills and save the environment at the same time

<http://www.energy.com.au/energy/ea.nsf/Content/Ways+Energy+Usage+Calculators>

AN AUDIT - Energy- heating and light

Present	Consider	Not a priority	
			Monitor energy consumption regularly to check trends
			Switch to 'low carbon intensity' energy sources (eg switch to gas, use solar heating, green electricity, etc)
			Regularly service cooling and heating appliances
			Consider ways to improve cooling and ventilation effectiveness
			Choose appropriate sized rooms for activities
			Timetable meetings to minimise heating/cooling use
			Fit heating/cooling systems with timer and thermostatic controls

			Commission an energy/environmental consultation(particularly useful if considering new heating/cooling systems or refurbishment of older systems)
			Fit draft excluders around windows and doors
			Install appropriate levels of insulation
			Consider installing double glazing
			Install solar passive designs in any new buildings or rebuilding programmes
			Clean windows to maximise natural light
			Encourage building users to switch off unnecessary lights and not leave items on stand-by (e.g. photocopier)
			Replace cracked or broken windowpanes
			Install low-energy light bulbs where appropriate

BUILDING BETTER RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH MANAGING TRANSPORT

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them...God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over that moves upon the earth". ...God saw everything he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

From Genesis 1: 27-31

In the western world transport has come to dominate our lives and much of the landscape. Transport is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.

How can we have a transport system suited to the economic and social needs of our society while minimizing the impact it has on the natural environment?

Greenfleet is helping

Greenfleet is a not-for-profit organization (1800 032 999) which specializes in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by planting native trees and promoting fuel efficient technologies. Since 1997, as part of the Federal Government's Greenhouse Challenge programme, Greenfleet has planted more than 2,000,000 trees on behalf of subscribers.

By joining Greenfleet at the cost of \$40/ year, customers effectively "neutralize" their car emissions by planting 17 native trees to offset the CO₂ emitted. These trees will never be harvested and will provide, in the longer term, not only a carbon sink but also a number of important benefits for biodiversity.

Visit Greenfleet at their web site to find out more

<http://www.greenfleet.com.au/>

Some things for you to try:

Do consider using LPG instead of petrol

Do evaluate the cost/benefit of buying a hybrid (dual energy) car

Do buy the smallest car to suit your needs

Do use public transport when possible or join a car pool; in particular avoid short car trips when alternatives are available

Do service your car regularly

Do inflate tyres properly to keep efficiency at a premium

Do drive efficiently, smooth acceleration and deceleration save fuel

Do drive at moderate speeds. Cars use up to 25% more fuel when traveling at 110 km/hr compared with 90 km/hr

Do avoid sitting with the car idling, turn it off when waiting for extended periods

Do walk or cycle instead of driving and enjoy the health benefits as well

Avoid where possible factors that increase fuel consumption: 50kg extra weight uses 2% extra fuel; outside fixtures increase wind resistance and therefore fuel consumption

Do fill the petrol tank only to the first full click of the pump

Do be cautious in the use of the air-conditioner

Do offset the greenhouse emissions of your vehicle

For every 2000 litres of petrol used, an average car produces 4720 kg CO₂
www.tc.gc.ca/enaffairs/most/faqs.shtml

Greenfleet

Greenfleet is an organisation which specializes in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by

- planting native trees
- promoting fuel efficient technologies

By joining Greenfleet at the cost of \$40/year, customers effectively "neutralize" their car emissions by planting trees to offset the CO₂ emitted.

Visit Greenfleet at their web site to find out more

<http://www.greenfleet.com.au/>

A Ford Falcon or Holden Commodore will emit 4.0 - 4.2 tonnes of CO2 per year on average. Greenfleet will plant 15 trees each year to offset this emission.

TRUE SUSTAINABILITY

will depend to a large extent upon whether we see ourselves not as a species apart, but as people with a heightened consciousness of the inter-connectedness of human life, other life and non-life, and as fellow-members of an EARTH COMMUNITY, a community of life in which all that exists co-exists.

"... we humans, bonded to one another and the rest of nature, must respect the mystery of life and acknowledge the dignity of all creatures. In our co-existence with the rest of nature ... we ought to let our understanding be informed by the knowledge that we belong to the community of all created life, let our whole orientation be governed by deep respect for this community of life; and let our actions be moved by compassion for all life and accountability to the Spirit, to one another and to the rest of the biotic community." (From the Kuala Lumpur report, *Giver of Life—Sustain your Creation*, written as a letter and study document for delegates to the seventh Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Canberra in 1991, by the attendees at a pre-assembly consultation, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.)

May a deep sense of wholeness inspire us to re-weave green threads of sustainability back into the living fabric of OUR EARTH COMMUNITY