



## Home Owners

**Do you want to reduce your ecological footprint? Would you like your home and garden to inspire others to think differently about their lifestyle?**

Working with *Living Schools* is an inspiring process of learning and collaboration. We take it one step at a time, ensuring you develop the skills and knowledge to create and maintain your project in the long-term.

Using the principles of Permaculture design, *Living Schools* offers a full range of services in planning and designing your sustainable home. Services offered include:

- Rainwater harvesting systems
- Safe and sustainable greywater reuse systems
- Home water and energy audits
- Food productions systems
- Integrated pest management (IPM)
- Soil fertility management
- Water sensitive design
- Native landscaping and bird-scaping

*Living Schools* works with you to design a sustainable living solution that's right for your family. We'll help you assess your needs, explain the regulatory requirements, and provide access to contacts and information. At the end of this collaborative process you'll have a comprehensive design for hassle free sustainable living and a management plan for your project that will guide you in its implementation.

Systems are designed to reduce environmental impact, as well as creating a beautiful space in which your resident family can fully appreciate the world of nature. They are based on Permaculture principles of efficient design and embody the concepts of responsible water management, soil fertility maximisation, integrated pest management, efficient resource use and reliable organic growing methods.

The following elements are offered individually but they work together as a complete package. One-on-one, site-specific training is also offered.

### **1. Site Assessment**

The site assessment comprises soil tests (texture and structure), biodiversity, waste, energy and water audits and a detailed sector analysis. Various development options are then discussed with you and your specific needs and objectives identified.

### **2. Planning and design**

A questionnaire detailing all the potential elements of your design (e.g. frog ponds, windbreaks, swales, herb spiral, veggie patch, orchard, bush tucker areas, bird attracting gardens, worm farm, chicken tractor and compost heap) is used to assist you to identify what you would like to achieve. This information informs the design of your system, which is produced using computer aided landscape design software.

### **3. Detailed management plan**

The management plan details recommended plant species (native and exotic), soil and water quality remarks, aspect and climate considerations, topography, possible sources of pollutants on the property and how to manage them, any existing native species list, weed list and management options (including soil indication), sunlight patterns and recommendations for works and materials required (including capacity of rainwater tanks and any required indoor fixtures). It also includes a detailed bibliography, contacts for required professionals and other resources as required.

### **4. Follow up support and continued learning**

In addition to three months free support via telephone and email, you may also choose to undertake one-on-one training to assist in deepening your understanding of sustainable living and facilitate the successful implementation of your project.

Topics for training could include:

- Building a frog pond for pest control
- Attracting birds to the property
- Introduction to bush regeneration
- Bush tucker in the garden
- Safe and sustainable greywater reuse
- Rainwater harvesting fundamentals
- Water sensitive design (passive irrigation, pollution control)
- Managing a household compost system
- Managing a household worm farm
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Organic soil fertility management
- Water and energy efficiency

At *Living Schools* our aim is the development of living, breathing examples of sustainable living. The purpose of one-on-one training is to stimulate your continued learning and ensure the successful implementation of your management plan.

### **How much will it cost?**

Costs are kept to a minimum and are calculated on a sliding scale so don't hesitate to contact us if you would like further information.