

# **Environmental Sustainability Policy**

## **for St Yolanda's Church**

### **Vision**

St Yolanda's Church has a heart for God's creation which is obvious as we love God and build community.

### **Who we are**

St Yolanda's is a community-facing church in the PAC tradition. Our mission is to make Christ known in worship, word and action. We have committed to be an Eco Church.

### **Where we are**

St Yolanda's is in the suburb of Tuitown, with members attending from all over town. We have an online community.

### **Our Sustainability Goals are:**

- a) to integrate care for creation into every aspect of our church life
- b) for our church grounds to express beauty through local native plantings
- c) to know and reduce our carbon footprint
- d) to nurture people's relationship with the natural places around them and connect with Christian spirituality
- e) to move towards becoming a zero waste facility
- f) for children, families, adults and seniors to engage with caring for creation as they are able – at church, at home, and everywhere they go
- g) to take particular responsibility for Turanga Reserve and to grow partnerships in enhancing this environment.

### **Sustainability Policies**

We have developed specific policies and practices in the areas of:

1. Reducing our Rubbish at St Yolandas
2. Turanga Reserve partnerships and safety policies for working bees
3. Travel Policy which includes reducing carbon emissions as a factor to consider

### **Affirmed by Church Council**

Policy date: 13 December 2020

Signed:

Parish Steward

Review date: 1 February 2022

## Action Plan: Priorities for 2021

Action	Who	Cost	Outcomes
Grow the Green Team	Green Team & Church Council	-	All church aware of Green Team and invited to join
Develop a policy around fuel consumption	Green Team	-	Report to Church Council
Measure a baseline year of carbon emissions	Administrator	\$360 per year	Process with Toitu to create first year report.
Include enviro activities in children's ministry	Children's leaders	\$50 resources	Programme which is communicated with whanau & church
Native planting in church garden	Gardener and working bee	Ask members to donate plants	New plants receiving regular care
Enact new Reducing Rubbish policy	Cleaner and everyone	-	Less waste in red bin
Promote ourselves as an Eco Church	Administrator and Green Team	-	Info and photos on church website. Articles submitted to local newspaper.
Hold a worship service in Turanga Reserve	Worship team	-	Well attended wonderful event

## Action Plan: Future

Actions
Review worship through a creation 'lens'
Employ part-time Eco Church advocate
Connect with Tuitown School on enviro projects