

# Playing our part to save the planet

*At Hollard Gardens we're working hard to reduce our environmental footprint*



## Inspiring others

- We have a deep connection with the environment and place great importance on the practice of kaitiakitanga, or eco-guardianship.
- We're reviving and keeping alive traditional gardening practices which are in danger of being forgotten. We strive to use the best and most sustainable horticultural practices.
- Our knowledge is shared with garden visitors and through free public workshops.
- We offer free use of the facilities for environmental and educational organisations.
- We have a schools programme where we teach children about gardening, including soil and composting, native and exotic plants and animals, and ecology. Taranaki Regional Council also supports Enviroschools.



## Enhancing biodiversity

- We propagate, distribute and plant endangered flora from Aotearoa.
- We actively participate in pest control as part of the 'Towards Predator-Free Taranaki' initiative, aiming to restore the region's native forest and wildlife by removing introduced predators.



## Saving water

- We collect water onsite; rainwater from the roofs and from a bore when necessary. It's moved using an electric pump which is partially solar powered.
- There are half-flush options on all toilets and timers on all public taps.
- Mulch is created onsite from prunings and fallen trees. This is used on the gardens to improve water retention.
- If irrigation is necessary, we water by hand or use soaker hoses.



## Reducing waste

- We actively recycle. Staff separate waste and recycling bins are provided for the public.
- Compost is created and used on site which disposes of our organic waste and feeds the soil. We also have a worm farm for the same purpose.
- We use compostable coffee cups which are collected and rinsed to use as pots for the children's plant potting lessons.

## Reducing our carbon footprint



### Saving power

- All light bulbs are energy efficient.
- All lights and appliances are turned off when not in use.
- We have solar panels on the roof of Bernie's shed and the incoming and outgoing electricity can be tracked on the Splash solar monitoring website.



### Saving paper

- Our toilet paper is made from recycled paper and our hand towels are washable. Office paper is from sustainably managed forests. Documents are doubled-sided and printed only when necessary. Waste paper is shredded to use as bedding for the chickens, then composted.
- Brochures are printed on recycled paper. Visitors have the option to re-use maps.



## Improving health

- The garden encourages exercise, mindfulness and a connection with nature.
- We use only environmentally friendly cleaning products.
- We have a biological approach to gardening which results in a minimal use of chemicals.