



Do you want to open your home for Sustainable House Day (SHD)?

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in Sustainable House Day.

We highly value your contribution and efforts and for being a critical part of a day designed to inspire thousands of Australians by showing them real-life, practical ways they can make their homes and gardens more sustainable.

I am pleased to provide you with these guidelines designed to assist you in contacting clients, colleagues and friends in regards to opening their homes to the public this year. We have compiled some frequently asked questions to help answer some of their concerns.

Once again thank you for participating in this initiative and we look forward to working with you to make Sustainable House Day 2019 a success.

Donna Luckman
CEO
Renew

renew.
Leading in sustainability

Frequently Asked Questions

When is Sustainable House Day?

Sustainable House Day 2019 will be on **Sunday 15 September, 2019**.

What time do I have to open my home?

Homes are open between **10am to 4pm**, however homes are able to open later or finish earlier if that works better for them or if they have other engagements on the day. They can nominate a different time on the registrations and we ask that they also note these times on the signage at the front of the home. These signs can be downloaded from the SHD website.

Do I have enough sustainable features to be relevant for SHD?

Probably☺ If you have been asked by someone to open your home I would imagine you do. Each house is different and visitors will learn something from each home they visit. The requirement from us is that you have a minimum of 4 features; here is a short list of what they could be;

- PV system (solar panel) grid or off grid systems
 - Rainwater tanks
 - Solar hot water
 - Heat pumps
 - Wind farm
 - Water recycling
 - Passive solar designed home
 - Cross flow ventilation
 - Recycled materials
 - Low allergen materials
 - Thermal tower
 - Highly insulated walls, ceiling, roof and/or floor
 - Energy efficient appliances and/or lighting
 - Water wise gardens
 - Edible gardens
 - Composting
 - Permaculture
 - Bee keeping or chickens
- Plus so much more you may have something truly unique.

Will my address be published on the website the whole time?

No, your address will go public two weeks before the event; we will then take the addresses off line after the event too. On the lead up to SHD we will advertise your state and suburb but nothing else will give the address. If you do not want your house address advertised at all because you want to conduct **tours only** we can leave them off all together.

How do I know how many people will visit my home?

We don't know, we do get people to indicate which houses are their favourite so that we get an idea of who is going to be popular on the day, and if it looks like you are going to be very popular we will let you know. Popularity on the day is often determined by location and proximity to other homes, but it is something that a crystal ball would be useful for.

Can I open my house for tours only to limit the amount of people coming on the day?

Yes we have people who open via an online ticketing provider which you can manage yourself. This way you will be able to decide how many people you are comfortable in taking on each tour and how long you think the tour will take to complete. Often they run every hour on the hour. Please contact us and we can work through different ideas.

Can I charge for tours/entry?

This event is unique in that it is a free event, we do allow for people to collect for charities, but we do recommend that you check with your insurance provider before doing this as it may affect your cover. Due to this being a gold coin donation most insurance companies are ok with this. *If you would like to help us carry on organising this and other events please feel free to collect donations for either **Sustainable House Day** or for **Renew**.*

Are there any conditions of entry and can I add to them for my home?

Yes there are and they will be displayed at your entry point and each person who comes must sign in and agree to these;

- Please officially sign in as a visitor to the home providing your full name, telephone number and email address
- Please act in a respectful manner towards the homeowner, all volunteers and other SHD attendees
- Please do NOT touch any property including furniture, objects, electrical items on the property, or personal items of others
- Please ensure all children are monitored at all times onsite
- Please remain in the allocated tour area of the home. You are NOT permitted to enter any areas that have been signed as private.
- Please do NOT consume alcohol or food during the tour.
- Smoking is NOT permitted
- Please turn off/silence your mobile and refrain from answering or speaking on your phone during tours
- Please make every conceivable effort to ensure your own personal safety whilst onsite.
- Please ask permission before taking any photographs
- You agree to any inspections of bags at the request of homeowners or volunteers.
- In the garden please do not touch the plants.

If you would like to add any other reasonable conditions you can add them to the sheet prior to printing and make sure that you highlight them so people who have visited other homes are aware of them. Often we have people request that no shoes are to be worn in the home etc.

Do the visitors look everywhere in my house or can I keep some areas private?

This is up to you, if you would like to keep rooms off limit we supply '**Do Not Enter**' signs which you could put up. If you think there is no benefit for someone seeing a specific room please feel free to close the door and add the sign. Some of our home owners do that so they can put any valuables, handbags and personal items away from the public, *also handy if you have a teenager whose room may need a lot of cleaning for the day.*

What is next?

If you decide that you would like to open for SHD this year please go to the registration page on the website and complete the registration forms. You will be required to register as a home owner first and then you will be able to register your home. If you are already a subscriber to Sustainable House Day you may need to convert your subscription from visitor to home owner.

Please feel free to contact me via email Jodi@renew.org.au if you have any issues and I will help you out.