

A modern kitchen interior featuring a central island with a light-colored wooden front and a dark countertop. The island has a stainless steel sink and a curved faucet. On the countertop, there is a toaster, a kettle, and a vase with dried flowers. The background shows white cabinetry and a wooden upper cabinet. Two black bar stools are positioned in front of the island. A small potted plant is visible on the left side of the frame.

Sustainable House Day

Community Partnership
Opportunities
2021

renew.

Organised by Renew, Sustainable House Day provides the opportunity to explore some of Australia's most unique and inspiring homes.

With a community of over 40,000 people, this major annual event is a trusted source of expert advice, insight, and peer-to-peer education about building, retrofitting or renovating sustainably.

Households generate at least one fifth of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions. The products, technologies and knowledge to make our homes and personal transport greener already exist, so reducing the carbon emissions from Australian households is a key opportunity to reaching our goal of achieving a net-zero emissions world.

Reducing the carbon intensity of our houses also has the extra benefits of saving residents' money and creating homes that are healthier and more comfortable to live in.

Many Australians are overwhelmed by the amount of information on what actions they can take in their home or rental properties, and need guidance sifting through sources and opinions. Sustainable House Day provides important advice and resources that help Australians put their desire to live more sustainably into action.

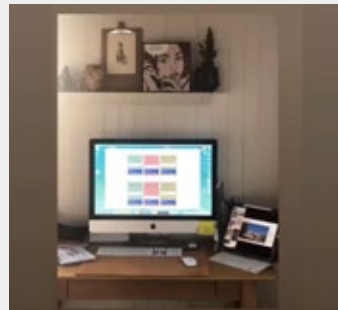
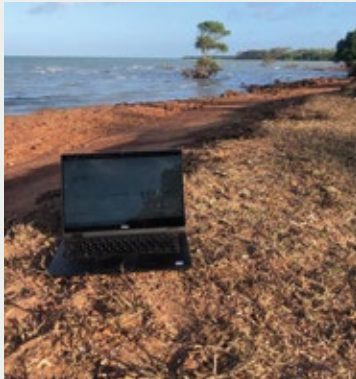
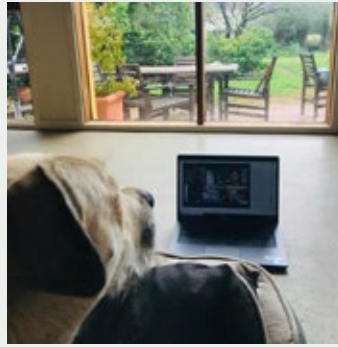


Sustainable House Day 2020

- 4,705 attendees
- 45,429 people engaged on Social Media
- 35,638 subscribed to email updates
- 180 participating homes across Australia
- 15% of attendees tuned in for 7hours+
- 15,000+ house tour video views
- 500+ peer-to-peer conversations facilitated
- 8 event sponsors
- 20 event partners

Most attendees (79%) attended between 2 and 10 sessions across the day, with 15% of attendees tuning in for the whole day. On average, attendees tuned into sessions for the full 40 minutes.

Across the day over 1,500 questions were asked by participants in the panel discussions, and over 500 were asked of homeowners directly via their online SHD profiles — indicating a strong level of engagement with the day and the content.



Attendees

Past participants say that what they learned at the event helped them take concrete action to reduce energy use and incorporate sustainability into their lives.

61% Female, 37% Male and 2% of attendees self-defined or preferred to not answer

72% of attendees were existing homeowners; 40% were looking to build a new home, 10% were design or building professionals, 13% renters, 9% looking to buy a new home and 5% were existing strata homeowners.

53% of visitors had not attended a Sustainable House Day before.

49% of SHD attendees indicated being more likely to include sustainable design, features and appliances in a new build after attending SHD

99% of attendees indicated they are more likely to implement energy efficiency measures or other sustainable changes to their home since attending SHD

86% of attendees found the peer-to-peer element of homeowners sharing their practical experiences a valuable part of the event that they could not find elsewhere

85% of attendees shared their learning at SHD with friends and family face to face

Sustainable House Day is organised by Renew

Renew is a national, not-for-profit organisation that inspires, enables and advocates for people to live sustainably in their homes and communities.

Renew engages with more than 250,000 people each year around Australia and beyond. We work with more than 10,000 members and a network of 14 active members' branches throughout the country. Our community of climate change action includes readers of our two market-leading sustainability magazines Renew and Sanctuary, attendees of our Speed Date a Sustainability Expert event series and Sustainable House Day, users of our online resources and calculators, people contacting our advice service, and our research and advocacy partners.

Renew advocates in government and industry arenas for policies that promote renewable energy and cut emissions, make our homes healthier, more affordable and climate resilient, and protect consumer rights in our rapidly changing energy markets through our Climate Resilient Homes campaign. Renew also provides consultancy services based on our technical expertise in energy, water and communications. Our Green Rebuilt Toolkit program launching in 2021 will provide resources and advice to homeowners who are rebuilding after being impacted by bushfire.

Sustainable House Day 2021

Sustainable House Day 2021 will expand on the success of our virtual 2020 event, with a month of in-depth webinars with experts and homeowners and interactive house tours available on our website, culminating in a day of panels with homeowners streamed live on 17 October.

Get Involved

Sustainable House Day is proud of its identity as a grassroots event supported by a diverse group of homeowners and community partners across Australia. Community participation in our 2021 event will be crucial to our success.

Sustainable House Day 2021 will be held virtually to accommodate the unpredictability of in person events amid the pandemic and to ensure home tours and discussions with experts and homeowners are accessible to people across the country. However, our community partners may decide to organise in person events, as outlined below under 'Become a Sustainable House Day Community Partner'.

There are two options for your community group's involvement in Sustainable House Day 2021, as a Supporter, or as a Community Partner.



2021 Event Format

The weeks leading up to Sustainable House Day will explore four key themes relating to sustainable house design. Each week will feature two webinars, expert advice from architects, designers and sustainability experts, as well as the sharing of advice from homeowners.

- Building and Design (Week of 20 September)
- Retrofitting (Week of 27 September)
- Building Materials (Week of 4 October)
- Climate Resilient Homes (Week of 11 October)

Sustainable House Day, 17 October, will comprise one day-long virtual event featuring 8 interactive homeowner discussions on a variety of broad topics:

- Finding a sustainable architect or builder
- Owner-building
- Community living
- Designing inclusive and accessible housing
- Lowering your energy bills
- Sustainability on a budget
- Bushfire resilience and the Green Rebuild Toolkit

In addition to these virtual events, 17 October will feature in-person events led by community groups across Australia, including home tours, demonstrations and live panel discussions. A list of these events will be available on the Sustainable House Day website.

Community group opportunities

There are two options for your community group's involvement in Sustainable House Day 2021:

Option 1: Become a Sustainable House Day Supporter

We welcome the support of community groups to promote our event to your community and share your expertise and experience. The following are ways you can get involved.

- Join our SHD Rapid Response email list to get early updates about the event, calls for volunteers and alerts about when to spread the word to your community — visit sustainablehouseday.com/community-partnerships to sign up for this list.
- Let local sustainable homeowners know about SHD and encourage them to virtually open their homes;
- Promote and share updates about the event on social media and to your email lists using the resources available on our website: sustainablehouseday.com/resources;
- Get in touch if you're interested in volunteering with the event. We are especially looking for those with video editing experience, or those with sustainability subject matter expertise (contact shd@renew.org.au).



Option 2: Become a Sustainable House Day 2021 Community Partner

To supplement our online program, we are encouraging proposals for local or virtual events organised by our Community Partners.

We know some groups have a long history of holding these events, and we are looking forward to hearing about your plans this year. Even if you have never held a Sustainable House Day event before, we encourage proposals for safe and impactful events in your community or online.

To become a Sustainable House Day Community Partner, you will need to sign our partnership agreement laying out the terms and conditions of our engagement. This will be provided after you contact us at shd@renew.org.au for approval of your event proposal.

Suggested in person event formats:

Local house tours

Organise tours of homes open for Sustainable House Day in your community. This may consist of a bus trip with a set number of attendees to tour several homes, or one open home with a homeowner who is willing to stay open throughout the day. If you are interested in pursuing this type of event, we can put you in touch with homeowners in your area who want to participate.

Panel discussions

Organise a panel discussion at a venue on a sustainable housing topic with local homeowners and/or sustainability experts.

Demonstrations

Host a demonstration of a sustainable technology led by experts or community members in your

area. This might include a tour of a local renewables project, a demonstration of a sustainable material like hempcrete or CLT, or an academic project.

Webinars and virtual events

Host an online event featuring homeowners or sustainability experts from your community. We recommend checking against the virtual Sustainable House Day program (found on our website, to ensure the topic of your event doesn't overlap.

Support from Renew for in person events:

- You will have the use of the Sustainable House Day name
- You will have access to Sustainable House Day branding, including logos and generic promotional materials
- Your event will be listed on the Sustainable House Day website and promoted via our social media channels and email lists
- We will connect you with local homeowners in your community if needed

All in person events must be held on October 17 and must follow all COVID-19 public health advisories for your area. An agreement detailing the terms of any in person event for Sustainable House Day 2021 must be signed by both Renew and your organisation before organising efforts begin. You or your community group will be solely responsible for organising any in person events and will assume all risk of cancellation in the event of health guidelines changing or for any other reason.

To propose an event for Sustainable House Day 2021, contact shd@renew.org.au with the subject line "Community Partner event".

Get in touch

Please contact us with any enquiries you may have: shd@renew.org.au

To join our Rapid Response email list, please visit sustainablehouseday.com/community-partnerships.

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Warehouse/Greenhouse, Breathe Architecture