



## Sustainable House Day 2024: Media Briefing

**Sustainable House Day offers an opportunity to explore Australia's most inspiring homes, and learn from the people who designed them, built them, and live in them. And this year, we're back in person.**

Sustainable House Day will take place on Sunday 21st April 2024. On this day, over 130 homes will open their doors around the country, facilitating a number of house tours and sharing information and advice with visitors.

This day will be followed by a month of ticketed online sessions featuring Australia's leading sustainable architects, designers and experts. These sessions will cover a number of key topics relating to sustainable building and design.

With these events, Sustainable House Day will provide countless opportunities for education and inspiration for those looking to reduce their home's environmental impact, accessible to everyone across Australia.

### Key Facts

- Sustainable House Day is an event by Renew, a national membership non-profit working to transform homes for climate and energy resilience;
- On 21st April 2024 over 150 homes will be featured, and a majority of these will be open in-person;
- Tours to open homes are ticketed, with limited capacity and set tour times;
- This day will be followed by a program of eight online Extension Sessions;
- The program by Renew will be complemented by a program of events held by our community partners.

**There are three elements to the Sustainable House Day program:**



#### Sustainable House Day open home tours

- On 21st April, over 130 homes will be opening their doors and hosting tours to visitors;
- Tickets for home tours are \$7.50 for an adult; children under 12 and carer's card holders are free;
- There will be a limited capacity for each home, and limited session times. This is to ensure the safety and comfort of both homeowners and visitors;
- These tours will offer a first-hand experience of sustainable homes, and the opportunity to learn from the people who built them, designed them, or live in them;
- Additional house profiles are featured on the Sustainable House Day website, with house tour videos and detailed descriptions of sustainability credentials.



#### Online Extension Sessions

- A month of Online Extension Sessions will offer a deep dive into a range of sustainability topics. Australia's best architects, designers, tradespeople and experts will offer guidance, and homeowners will offer first hand experience;
- Tickets for the eight individual sessions are \$12;
- Tickets are \$5 for people experiencing financial hardship;
- There is a 'pay it forward' option to support someone to attend who is experiencing financial hardship;
- An Extension Session Pass offers the best value; \$70 provides access to all sessions at a discounted price;
- Renew members, and subscribers of Renew or Sanctuary Magazine can access a further \$20 discount on the Extension Session Pass.



#### Community Partner Events

- The events by Renew will be complemented by a program of events held by our community partners around the country;
- The program will kick off on 21st April and run for a month;
- There are 17 events in total across six of our states and territories - with at least one event taking place in each;
- Events include live demonstrations of all-electric homes, guided ecovillage tours, meet and greets with energy efficient homeowners, factory walk-throughs, information evenings, webinars, and even a sustainability fair;
- Bookings are essential for most, but not all events.

## A Selection of Participating Houses

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**ACT:** This year we have eight homes participating in the nation's capital, including a beautiful, rammed earth home in Waramanga. It is a comfortable, 8.8-Star passive solar house designed to maximise the northerly aspect to the backyard. It is beautifully constructed around a spine of rammed earth. Homeowner Travis Power says, "Recycling was a key part of our plan – the outside features recycled bricks, and the inside timber stairs and balustrade made from re-machined black butt roofing joists with gum veins and nail holes."

**Waramanga Rammed Earth House** homeowner contact: Travis Power

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**NSW:** A total of 29 homes are participating from New South Wales this year, ranging from inner-city renos to off-grid builds. Located in Tamworth is a sustainable, adaptable family home featuring a unique courtyard design, which maximizes privacy and coolness in the suburban landscape. The interior layout emphasizes spaciousness within modest areas, with thoughtful integration of wet areas and internal gardens. The homeowners say the "Muted colour palette mirrors the surrounding eucalyptus forests, while rain and greywater retention support vibrant native gardens and permaculture beds."

**Dachshund House** architect contact: Eddie Page

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**QLD:** There will be eight homes participating in Queensland this year from rural Toowoomba, the Gold Coast, and right up to the Sunshine Coast, where The Pop-Up House retrofit prioritised sustainability. Opting to reuse the existing structure to minimize waste, the new extension integrates eco-conscious design elements. A pop-up roof enhances ventilation and illumination, reducing energy consumption. The homeowners said, "The outcome of our build small, build well approaches made room in the home and in the budget for all the things that would truly enrich our life."

**Pop-Up House (online only)** architect contact: Kirsty Green

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**TAS:** This Sustainable House Day we'll feature 14 homes in Tasmania, including a beautiful bushfire resilient home, not far from Port Arthur. The narrow, steep block, the vegetation and the wastewater treatment system forced the location of the house to the middle of the hill, which made access difficult, but the resulting view across the bay stunning. Home designer, Uta Green of Green Designs Architects said "The bushfire resilience is one aspect, but so too are bracing and tie downs, to withstand higher winds, and bigger gutters to cope with higher downpours."

**The Lookout House on Pirates Bay** architect contact: Uta Green





## A Selection of Participating Houses

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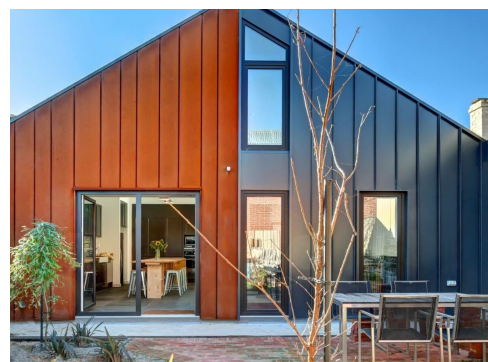
**VIC:** This year our program proudly showcases over 50 Victorian homes. The indoor temperature of this simply designed home, with raked ceiling and built using hempcrete, sits at around 20 degrees. The house uses salvaged messmate timbers for balustrades, floorboards, doors, kitchen cupboards, shelving, architraves and skirting boards, with warm oiled timber complementing the clay plaster walls and burnished concrete floors. Homeowner Sarah Corbett said, “The house has a small footprint, but features an oversized kitchen and walk-in pantry. This reflects our focus on growing, processing and cooking food.”



**Lyonville Hemp House** homeowner contact: Sarah Corbet

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**SA:** 19 homes across South Australia feature in this year’s program, including the renovation of a cottage from 1904 that has prioritised climate responsiveness and comfort, utilising orientation and cutting-edge technologies to achieve an 8.2-Star rating. Home automation regulates external blinds, ceiling fans, and windows for optimal shading and air movement. It also monitors temperature and humidity, automatically venting the home at night via an air transfer system in summer. Homeowner Paul Hendy describes this project as proof that “You don’t need to demolish the past to live in the future.”



**Traditional Cottage with a Contemporary Addition** homeowner contact: Paul Hendy

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**WA:** This year there are 19 homes opening across the western state, with many of these hosting in-person tours. Farrier Lane House is an all-electric owner-designed home that reduced operational and embodied carbon in design and construction while creating a healthy and comfortable environment for a young family. Located on a small, subdivided lot in Fremantle, it makes the most of its outlook whilst also maximising the northern orientation of the site. Homeowner and designer contact Matt Delroy-Carr said, “This house provides much-needed proof that a net-zero future is within our reach, and that it’s readily available to homeowners at every age and stage of their lives.”



**Farrier Lane House** homeowner and designer contact: Matt Delroy-Carr

## Ticketing Information

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### Sustainable House Day Home Tours

All home tours taking place on 21st April are \$7.50 per adult per session. Children under 12 and carer's card holders are free.

There will be a limited capacity for each home, and limited session times. This is to ensure the safety and comfort of both homeowners and visitors. Bookings are essential.

### Extension Session Tickets

An Extension Session Pass provides access to all of the online extension sessions in the Sustainable House Day calendar and is the most cost effective option. Renew members and *Sanctuary* and *Renew* Magazine subscribers receive an additional \$20 off.

Extension Sessions can be booked separately for specific topics of interest. Tickets are \$12 per session.

### Community Partner Ticketing

Our community partners have organised ticketing for their own events. Find all the details at [sustainablehouseday.com/program-community-events](https://sustainablehouseday.com/program-community-events)

## Sponsors

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**Sustainable House Day would not be possible without the support of our sponsors and council partners:**

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