



• ELLENDALE BRISBANE •
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Sustainable *Living Guide*



Sustainable *living at Ellendale*

Sustainable living offers a range of long-term financial and environmental benefits, helping to create a better future for all.

The push to live a more sustainable life is continuing to build momentum, with over 80% of homebuyers factoring sustainability into their buying decision.

This guide covers three areas of sustainable living: home design, energy use, and composting and recycling.



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Future proof your home design

Home design plays a critical part in sustainable living. To get the best out of your new home, it's important to look ahead and consider the most effective ways to use your space.

Sustainable home design

The size and orientation of your new home at Ellendale, as well as the materials used, will impact sustainability factors such as energy use and natural heating/cooling efficiency.

Your home's orientation plays a big part in sustainable design. North-facing rooms receive the most daylight, making them great for living rooms and home offices. On the other hand, south-facing rooms stay cooler and darker for longer, ideal for bedrooms.

The right building materials reduces the need for additional heating and cooling costs. Concrete slabs stabilise temperatures, while insulation in walls and ceilings keeps your home warm in winter and cool in summer. Double-glazed glass windows also help to keep you comfortable year-round.

Renewable energy options

As electricity prices continue to rise, renewable energy in the form of rooftop solar not only reduces dependence on coal-generated electricity but may also allow you to profit by putting clean energy back into the grid.

In addition to being able to earn money with a suitable rooftop solar system, you may be eligible for government rebates. Please note that solar systems must comply with Ellendale design guidelines. Refer to our design guidelines document for more information.

If you are not eligible to install a rooftop solar system, you still have the option to purchase GreenPower renewable energy from most local providers for a small additional cost.

*A considered home design and
use of renewable energy will set
you up for sustainability success.*

Sustainable energy solutions

The age and energy rating of your household appliances, lighting, and heating and cooling systems contributes to your total annual electricity use.

Appliances

The appliances in your home can account for as much as 25 per cent of your total energy use. This is impacted by the energy and water ratings of each type of appliance.

Often, upgrading to newer and more energy efficient appliances can save you money in the long run. For example, a two-door fridge with a one-star rating will generally cost you around twice as much to run each year as a two-door fridge with a three-star rating. It all adds up!

Lighting

Lighting accounts for up to 10 per cent of annual electricity use in most households.

Opting for the latest energy efficient bulbs and LED lighting can help reduce these costs. Low wattage light bulbs (or energy saver bulbs) can be retrofitted to older setups, while LED lights are the most energy efficient and long-lasting option.

Heating and cooling

Heating and cooling systems are the biggest energy consumers in homes.

Choosing the right size air conditioning for your home will help you avoid unnecessary running costs, as will maintaining the temperature to 24C in summer. You can also install ceiling fans to help cool down your home, which use less electricity than air conditioning systems.

Keeping windows and doors closed and fitting window coverings can also help to keep the heat out in summer and maintain a cosy ambience in winter.

Home automation systems also give you the option to monitor your energy use, control your appliances and lighting remotely and schedule usage times to help save energy.



Energy efficient appliances for your home

Use the free online Energy Ratings Calculator to help you find a range of energy efficient appliances to suit your needs.

Visit calculator.energyrating.gov.au



Composting and recycling

Composting and recycling are both free and easy to do. Doing both will help you achieve a positive environmental impact for very little effort.

Composting for beginners

Composting is a simple process involving the decomposition of select garden and food waste materials, producing what is known as 'black gold' – the secret to a thriving garden.

The two primary types of plant and food matter that can be composted are nitrogen products (greens) and carbon products (browns). Green matter includes coffee grounds, fruit and vegetable scraps, fresh grass clippings, and crushed eggshells. Brown matter includes paper towel, dried leaves, sawdust, and dried grass clippings.

It's important to avoid certain products when composting, like dairy products, meat scraps, plastic, treated wood, and vegetable fats and oils. These products will smell, attract flies, and throw your composting efforts out.

To start composting, purchase a suitably sized compost bin and experiment with various forms of waste until you have a steady stream of nutrient-rich fertiliser for use in your garden.

Recycling the right way

Much like composting, effective recycling reduces landfill and positively impacts the environment. It lowers pollution levels, saves money and helps to preserve precious natural resources, among many other benefits.

Products containing paper, firm plastic, aluminium and glass are usually able to be placed in your recycling wheelie bin.



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Download the
*Brisbane bin and
recycling app*

Visit the Brisbane City Council website for a full list of recyclable items and how you can make quick green decisions to help reduce landfill.



There are so many
*reasons to call
Ellendale home.*

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