

Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd is committed to facilitating the long term sustainable enjoyment of the environment for all those visiting our unique alpine environment.

Thredbo has a dedicated team working on ways to reduce the impact of tourism on the environment; through proper waste, energy, water and biodiversity management. Below is a summary of Thredbo's existing accomplishments and current initiatives.

Thredbo is continually working to minimise our environmental impact. If you have a suggestion on how our performance can be improved please contact the Environmental Services Department at [info@thredbo.com.au](mailto:info@thredbo.com.au).



### WASTE MANAGEMENT - Recycling

Kosciuszko Thredbo has worked closely with the community to achieve a **commingled recycling rate of 30% in 2015** despite the difficulties imposed by a remote location.

- **Paper recycling** – introduced in 2013;
- **Battery and Clear Film recycling** – introduced in 2015;
- **Organics Recycling** – introduced in 2015.
- **Used cooking oil** collected onsite is recycled into biodiesel
- All waste timber and scrap metal is reused or recycled.
- Thredbo collects used **fluorescent bulbs** and obsolete or broken **mobile phones** for recycling
- **Biosolids** from the Thredbo wastewater treatment plant are used by local farmers for soil conditioning.
- **Bin Your Butts!** Thredbo have given out over **12,000** personal ash trays.



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## ENERGY MANAGEMENT



Kosciuszko Thredbo utilises various strategies to keep a cap on energy use, current initiatives are listed below.



- Thredbo's snowmaking system has been progressively upgraded and automated; resulting in a **40% reduction** in energy use per cubic metre of snow produced.
- The lift system is another large user of energy. To tackle this **power factor correction** equipment has been installed, drastically increasing energy efficiency.
- A number of level two **energy audits** have been undertaken in resort buildings, resulting in significant energy savings.
- **Heat pumps** are used to heat and cool water in the Thredbo Leisure Centre and Thredbo's snow making operations.



- **10%** of all electricity used by Kosciuszko Thredbo is renewably produced **GreenPower**. Anton's and Sponar's **t-bars** are **100%** powered by GreenPower.

- All **carbon emissions** from Kosciuszko Thredbo vehicles are offset through **Greenfleet**. Grey fleet emissions have been reduced by introducing Skype interviews in 2014.
- The opportunity was first offered to **guests** to **offset** their trip to the snow in 2014 (a world first), and staff in 2015.
- Kosciuszko Thredbo is constantly looking for new innovations to improve our environmental performance. **Cogeneration** and **solar** systems are currently being investigated to further reduce energy use.



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## WATER MANAGEMENT

Kosciuszko Thredbo detains a large amount of water each year for snowmaking; however the majority of this water returns to the Thredbo River each spring when the snow melts.

- A significant reduction in water use has been achieved through the installation of low flow showers, waterless urinals, dual flush toilets and water efficient washing machines.
- The installation of waterless urinals alone saves **500,000 litres** of water per year.



- In conjunction with local stakeholders Thredbo has introduced a **Waterwise program**, promoting water conservation in the resort. Keeping Thredbo's water consumption **below 1992 levels**, despite large increases in guest numbers.
- Summer **watering** requirements are **reduced** by applying mulch to village gardens, this mulch is produced by chipping native green waste.
- Kosciuszko Thredbo manages **wastewater treatment** for the village. After treatment, water is returned to the Thredbo River.
- Water quality is regularly tested and results are publically available on the [Thredbo website](#).
- Kosciuszko Thredbo also works with the University of Canberra **Institute for Applied Ecology** to monitor the biological health of the Thredbo River.



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## BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

- Kosciuszko Thredbo acts in partnership with NPWS to protect the **native** and manage the introduced **flora** and **fauna** within the resort.



- Over **5,000 native** trees, shrubs, and grasses were planted within Thredbo resort in 2015, with over **35,000** planted in the last decade.
- **Fauna runs** and crossings are integrated into any new ski slopes and mountain biking trails developed by Thredbo; ensuring native species are not impacted by recreational activities.



- **Elliot traps** are loaned by Thredbo to businesses throughout the resort for the trapping and relocating of native small mammals from village buildings.
- A number of Thredbo staff have been trained in **snake relocation** to protect both snakes and guests.



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## GENERAL

- Kosciuszko Thredbo believes “**if you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it**”. To help measure our Environmental performance KT has worked to become benchmarked under **EarthCheck’s** Destination standard.
- Thredbo has a comprehensive **Environmental Management System** (EMS) to coordinate and evaluate each of our key areas of business activity.
- A staff suggestion system has been implemented in order to **inspire** the next stage of Thredbo’s environmental **initiatives**. This has already resulted in changes to Thredbo’s weed spraying programme benefiting native flora and fauna.



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## EDUCATION

- Senior Thredbo managers have received environmental training through the **DECC Sustainability Advantage Program** to encourage top down leadership of environmental initiatives.
- **All** seasonal and permanent **staff** members employed by Kosciuszko Thredbo undertake yearly **environmental awareness training** to promote an environmentally friendly culture.



- Thredbo Staff members are encouraged through an **incentive program** to make suggestions of how we can improve our environmental credentials.
- **Signage** has been installed throughout the resort to encourage public participation in Thredbo’s environmental efforts.
- All purchasing staff have been trained in **green procurement** and are required to order environmentally friendly products where economically viable.

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## CURRENT INVESTIGATIONS

Kosciuszko Thredbo is currently investigating opportunities in the following areas;

- **PV solar** to help offset power requirement of the Thredbo Leisure Centre.
- **Cogeneration** opportunities throughout the resort.
- **Bio-Energy** opportunities throughout the resort.
- **SCADA** automation for greater efficiency at the wastewater treatment plant.
- **Energy from waste** options.
- **Gas efficiency** improvements in HVAC systems
- **Electric Vehicle** charging stations
- **Electric Busses**