

Media Release

Date: June 2004



GreenPlumbers help Brisbane households switch to solar hot water

GreenPlumbers® are making sure that more plumbers are qualified to help Brisbane households switch to solar hot water and meet new sustainable living housing regulations.

GreenPlumbers® will provide free Solar Hot Water training to plumbers to give them the skills to install solar hot water appliances and advise consumers on the right appliance for their home, the available technology and National rebate schemes. The \$30,000 training program is an initiative of Brisbane City Council.

South-East Queensland is Australia's fastest growing region. With that growth comes increased demand for services and greater pressure on energy sources. As part of its commitment to sustainable living, Brisbane City Council is encouraging builders, developers and homeowners to incorporate renewable energy sources, such as solar hot water, in all homes and buildings. The new home regulations require households to achieve energy efficiency targets that reduce demand for electricity and, therefore, reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In Queensland, hot water systems are the single biggest user of residential electricity. Alternatives to electric hot water systems not only reduce the State's dependence on electricity, they offer real savings for households. For example, using a solar system to heat water can cut household hot water costs by more than 60 per cent a year. And households can also save on installation through government rebates.

GreenPlumbers® support Brisbane City Council's approach to sustainable living, which includes encouraging residents to install more sustainable appliances in their homes.

"The push for greater use of solar hot water recognises the need to conserve natural resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. **GreenPlumbers®** make the switch to solar possible by providing the knowledge and tools for industry and the best information and advice for consumers," said Mr Gary Workman, National Manager, **GreenPlumbers®**.

After successfully completing the training, accredited **GreenPlumbers®** are given a free listing on the **GreenPlumbers®** website – so consumers can easily locate a greenplumber in their area.

For more information on training programs or using a local greenplumber, see **www.greenplumbers.com.au** or call **GreenPlumbers®** on (03) 9329 9622.

Further information

Media & Photo Enquiries

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Photo opportunity

Solar Hot Water Training Workshops

22 June Tavernetta Function Centre

Carseldine

4.00 pm

Ray Herbert Executive Director

Master Plumbers & Mechanical Services Association of Australia

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