Denmark High School

• Environmental Bus Shelter • Tyre Recycling • Tree Planting • Community Links

Background

Denmark High School, in WA's picturesque South West region, caters for students from Years 8-12 and supports its beautiful rural location with a range of environmental programs.

Innovation and creativity have provided solutions to environmental issues at Denmark High School. Partnerships with the community have been formed and opportunities have opened up to benefit students, the community and importantly, the environment.

Tree Planting

Tree planting is a regular activity at Denmark High School. The students are proud of the National Tree Planting Award received in 2005 for planting 14,000 trees over six years on the school grounds together with Greenskills, the Denmark Shire and community volunteers.



STUDENTS WORKING ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUS SHELTER.

Not so in Denmark where students worked with a local resident on the bus shelter construction as recycled tyres were packed with dirt and compacted. The structure was then covered with wire and rendered.

The Year 11 Metals students made the roof from a new recycled, weather-proofed product 'corrugated cardboard' which was developed and donated by the uncle of a Year 9 student. Tiles were made by the students to decorate this extraordinary bus shelter.

Using tyres in such a structure is especially significant as there are limited tyre disposal options and no tyre recycling facilities in WA. The Used Tyre Strategy for Western Australia is undertaking measures to change this, and in the future we can look forward to better alternatives to the current tyre disposal options.

Other Awards

- 2005 Westpac State Landcare Education Award for all projects over the past six years including: tree planting, recycling, the native garden and gazebo, bus shelter.
- 2005 Winner, WA Schools Environmental Education for Sustainability Award – Jenny Findlay – Inspiring Environmental Educator at High School.

"Try it out. Having a clean school and clean environment is the best ...it makes you proud!" Denmark High School student

Enironmental Bus Shelter

A bus shelter ingeniously built from old tyres won the Year 9 students a finals spot in the 2005 WA School Environmental Education for Sustainability Awards.

Normally relegated to the 'too hard basket' for recycling, car tyres were chosen as the product to work with and the best student bus shelter design was selected for construction. Tyres are non-biodegradable, take up enormous space in landfill and are often an environmental headache.

"Learning about being Waste Wise is easier than I thought so it has encouraged me." Denmark High School student