



## New Green Office Areas

- University Bookshop
- Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre

18 university schools and centres joined the Green Office Program during 2006 in addition to 7 existing schools and centres. This means that there are now 25 Green Office Areas at UQ working to reduce water and energy consumption, minimise waste, think green when purchasing and increase awareness.

We look forward to expanding the program to more schools and centres at the St Lucia campus as well as other UQ campuses and sites in 2007.

*To register interest in the Green Office Program please contact P&F: Environmental Services*

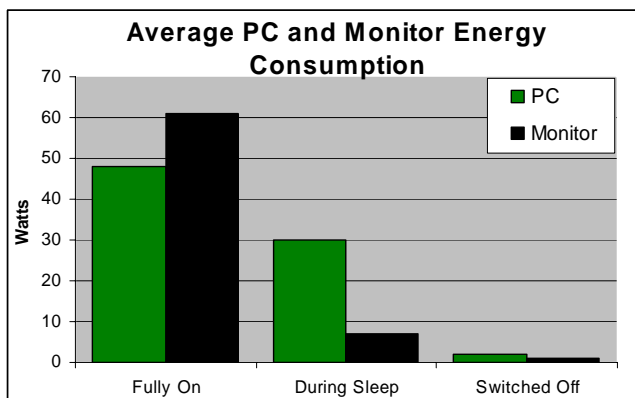
## Energy, Water and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

An interesting statistic is that each kWh of electricity consumes about 2-3 litres of water in production. Considering that South East Queensland is now in its longest drought in recorded history, it makes a lot of sense not only to reduce our water consumption, but to also reduce our energy consumption.

At the UQ St Lucia campus approximately 95 million kW hours of electricity are used per annum (enough electricity to power over 15, 000 homes for a year) – that equates to 200 to 300 mega-litres of water per year, and 89,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases.

## Did You Know?

Office equipment, led by computers, is the fastest-growing electrical load in the business world.



The graph above shows average PC and Monitor energy consumption whilst fully on, during sleep mode and switched off. Please switch off computers and office equipment when not in use to minimise energy and water consumption!

## P&F Trials Bokashi Bucket

Bokashi is a Japanese term that means fermented organic matter. The bokashi bucket is a bin in which food scraps go in, and at the end of the day, you spread a thin layer of bokashi mix (fermented grain mixture) and the scraps become pickled matter and a rich soil conditioner which can be spread around the garden. Because it works in a no-oxygen environment there are apparently no smells or odours, making it workable in an office/ environment.

The bokashi bucket treats most kitchen food waste including fruit and vegetables, prepared foods, meat and fish, dairy, bread, tea bags, and tissues.



Property and Facilities: Services Section have made the decision to trial the bokashi bucket in the services hut in order to assess it and make a decision as to whether to incorporate it into their waste reduction strategies. It may be that it could be introduced into green offices where a commitment already exists for green actions!

## Level 4 Water Restrictions

Water consumption has been reduced substantially since restrictions were introduced. With Level 4 water restrictions in effect from November 1, our new goal is to reduce consumption by a further 25% to July 2007. This means a 50% reduction since restrictions were introduced in May 2005.

Please familiarise yourself with the Level 4 water restrictions which are available online at [www.qwc.qld.gov.au/Water+restrictions](http://www.qwc.qld.gov.au/Water+restrictions) and ensure that your area complies.

## Coming events - mark these in your diary!

### Next Green Office Update Session

The next Green Office Update Session will be held early 2007.

For further information, contact Environmental Services:

- |                                  |            |   |
|----------------------------------|------------|---|
| ▪ Green Office Coordinator (p/t) | Ext: 69959 | Email: <a href="mailto:s.butler@pf.uq.edu.au">s.butler@pf.uq.edu.au</a>     |
| ▪ Environmental Coordinator      | Ext: 52076 | Email: <a href="mailto:k.ollett@pf.uq.edu.au">k.ollett@pf.uq.edu.au</a>     |
| ▪ Project Officer Environment    | Ext: 57580 | Email: <a href="mailto:l.thompson@pf.uq.edu.au">l.thompson@pf.uq.edu.au</a> |
- Website: [www.pf.uq.edu.au/Ems/GrnOffPrgrm.html](http://www.pf.uq.edu.au/Ems/GrnOffPrgrm.html)

