

15th April 2009

HEPBURN HEALTH SERVICE LEADING THE WAY IN SUSTAINABILITY

Hepburn Health Service has become the first healthcare and state government agency to achieve Gold Waste Wise certification.

Member for Ballarat East Geoff Howard said the organisation had demonstrated its ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability since joining the program in 2004.

“By reaching Gold Waste Wise status, the Health Service demonstrates best practice in relation to waste management,” Geoff Howard said. “The program, involving each of the Health Service’s four campuses, is diverting approximately 50 per cent of general waste volume from landfill and green waste recycling to commence later this year will reduce landfill even further.

“Hepburn Health Service is ahead of the game, providing an example for other healthcare and state government agencies to follow, The management team and staff are to be congratulated for their part in achieving this certification –only when these measures are supported right across an organisation can these sorts of targets be achieved.”

Hepburn Health Service CEO David Lenehan said he was pleased the organisation was striving for continuous improvement.

“Hepburn Health Service is committed to not only providing quality health care to the local and surrounding communities, but ensuring that we minimise our impacts on the environment,” Mr Lenehan said.

Hepburn Health Service will also be the first rural agency to participate in the ResourceSmart Healthcare pilot program, administered by Sustainability Victoria, in 2009.

“A focus on waste was the first step for us. We will also be looking at how we can save water, energy and improve the environmental performance of our entire operations in the future.”

Geoff Howard presented the health service with it Gold Waste Wise certificate at a ceremony at the hospital on Wednesday 15th April.