

Countdown Bush Inn

Target Sustainability Programme

About the Company

Countdown Bush Inn is a Progressive Enterprises Ltd supermarket located within the Bush Inn shopping complex in Upper Riccarton, Christchurch. The store sells general supermarket goods.

Introduction to the Project

Countdown Bush Inn joined the Christchurch City Council Target Sustainability Programme in 2009. The Target Sustainability Programme supports businesses to reduce waste and to be energy and water efficient.

Countdown Bush Inn's objective at the time of joining the programme was to reduce waste sent to landfill and to become more energy and water efficient.

Countdown Bush Inn implemented a range of projects to reduce waste sent to landfill and to improve energy efficiency.

Key Achievements

- **Reduced waste sent to landfill by an estimated 23% (27.5 tonnes) per year.**
- **Reduced lighting electricity use by an estimated 8.4% (30,400 kWh) per year, saving an estimated \$3,000 per year.**
- **Reduced refrigeration electricity use by an estimated 5% (35,900 kWh) per year, saving an estimated \$3,600 per year.**



Countdown Bush Inn © Copyright

Waste Reduction Initiatives

Countdown Bush Inn reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill by an estimated 23% (27.5 tonnes) per year (based on the weight of waste sent to landfill before and after initiatives were implemented)¹.

Countdown Bush Inn implemented the following initiatives to reduce, reuse and recycle waste:

- Ensured that the waste service provider recorded the weight of waste sent to landfill and recycling so the store could measure the improvement made through implemented initiatives.
- Implemented an organic waste collection system for butchery and deli waste. This reduced the amount of organic waste being sent to landfill by 4 tonnes in the first 7 months. The reduction is estimated to be 6.9 tonnes per year. A commercial collection service provider is taking this waste to the composting facility operating in Christchurch.
- Implemented a paper recycling collection system for non-confidential office paper and checkout receipts. The store has installed paper recycling collection units throughout the office area and at the customer service desk in the main retail area. This reduced the amount of paper waste being sent to landfill by 1.1 tonnes in the first 7 months. The reduction is estimated to be 1.9 tonnes per year.
- Implemented a co-mingled recycling collection system in the staff cafeteria for plastic containers, glass bottles, metal cans and newspaper. This is collected through the Christchurch City Council kerbside recycling collection service.
- Implemented a plastic recycling collection system to recycle polystyrene, coreflute boxes and plastic strapping.
- Minimised wastage by improving its "reduce to clear" policy and practices. This was achieved by improving stock control and "reduce to clear" pricing systems.
- Improved and expanded its Food Bank collection system for food items that are not saleable (i.e. damaged packaging) but are still good for consumption.
- Reduced the amount of plastic wrapping used by the store by discontinuing the practice of wrapping pallets stacked with goods with plastic wrap.
- Reused cardboard boxes for packing online shopping orders.

¹ The calculations are based on figures supplied by the waste collection service provider and compare the period 2009/2010, which is the period when the organisation joined the programme, and the 2012/2013 period, which is the period when the majority of the recycling initiatives were implemented. The 2012/2013 annual estimates are based on 7 months of real data and 5 months of extrapolated data.

Energy Efficiency Initiatives

Countdown Bush Inn reduced its electricity use by an estimated 66,270 kWh per year, saving an estimated \$6,600 per year.

Countdown Bush Inn implemented the following initiatives to increase energy efficiency:

- Replaced all metal halide bulbs with 32W tubular fluorescent bulbs. The decrease in installed lighting capacity is estimated to be 16,400 kWh per year. This corresponds to an estimated saving of \$1,640 per year. The electricity savings were determined by comparing lighting configuration before and after the lighting refurbishment and calculating the difference in installed lighting capacity.
- Implemented a policy of switching off all lights in the main retail area for three hours a day over and above the store's after hours half lighting policy. This initiative corresponds to an estimated electricity saving of 13,970 kWh per year, saving an estimated \$1,400 per year (based on installed lighting capacity in the main retail area).



New energy efficient lighting © Copyright

- Installed lids on its coffin freezers. This has reduced electricity use by an estimated 35,900 kWh per year, saving an estimated \$3,600 per year.

The estimated electricity saving is based on electricity use calculations that take into account parameters such as temperature differential between the refrigerator and the surrounding ambient temperature, size of refrigeration area and heat infiltration coefficient to determine heat transfer loads.



Polystyrene recycling collection cage © Copyright



Co-mingled recycling in the office area © Copyright



Organic recycling bin in the butchery © Copyright



Paper recycling collection container © Copyright

Summary

Since joining the Target Sustainability Programme, Countdown Bush Inn has implemented a range of projects that have resulted in a significant reduction in waste sent to landfill and an improvement in energy efficiency.

“The Target Sustainability Programme helped this store to identify, and make the team more aware of, waste generation and energy consumption. This assisted the store in its focus on ways to reduce waste and improve their energy efficiency.” Leon Jarden, Countdown CODB Manager.

Countdown Bush Inn plans to continue to look for ways to reduce and recycle waste and to implement further energy efficiency projects.

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