

## Riccarton Park

## Target Sustainability Programme

### About the Company

Riccarton Park is a thoroughbred horseracing, events and function facility and is located at 165 Racecourse Road in Sockburn, Christchurch.

### Introduction to the Project

Riccarton Park 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.

Riccarton Park's objective at the time of joining the programme was to reduce waste sent to landfill and to become more water efficient.

Riccarton Park implemented a range of projects to reduce waste sent to landfill and to improve water efficiency.

### Key Achievements

- **Reduced waste sent to landfill by an estimated 44% (27 tonnes) per year.**
- **Collected over 464,000 litres of rainwater per year for use by two stable facilities.**



Riccarton Park © Copyright

### Waste Reduction Initiatives

Riccarton Park reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill by an estimated 44% (27 tonnes) per year (based on the estimated weight of waste sent to landfill and for recycling before and after initiatives were implemented<sup>1</sup>).

Riccarton Park implemented the following initiatives to recycle waste:

- Ensured that the new waste service provider recorded the weight of the waste sent to landfill so that the organisation could measure the improvements made through implemented initiatives.
- Implemented a co-mingled recycling collection system for public events as well as for ongoing operations. This has reduced the amount of co-mingled recyclable waste being sent to landfill by an estimated 8.4 tonnes per year.
- Implemented a glass recycling collection system for glass bottles. This has reduced the amount of glass waste being sent to landfill by an estimated 5.5 tonnes per year.
- Implemented a paper recycling collection system for non-confidential office paper. The organisation has installed paper recycling collection units throughout the office area. This has reduced the amount of paper waste being sent to landfill by 2 tonnes per year.
- Implemented an organic waste collection system for catering kitchen food waste. A collection service provider is taking this waste to be used as pig food. This initiative has reduced the amount of organic waste being sent to landfill by an estimated 11 tonnes per year.

<sup>1</sup> The calculations for waste sent to landfill and recycling are based on data supplied by the waste collection service provider for the period from November 2012 to October 2013. Waste sent to landfill data is based on actual weights. Recycling data is based on industry averages multiplied by the number of receptacle pick-ups. The calculation for organic waste is based on full organic waste wheelie bin weight averages and an estimated number of full organic waste wheelie bin pick-ups per year.

# Water Efficiency Initiatives

Riccarton Park collected an estimated 464,486 litres of rainwater per year for use by two stable facilities.

Riccarton Park implemented the following rainwater-harvesting systems:

- Installed two 9,000 litre water tanks at the Ridley stables with a catchment area of 384m<sup>2</sup> resulting in an estimated annual rainwater harvest of 174,182 litres.
- Installed four 3,000 litre water tanks at the Visitors' stables with a catchment area of 640m<sup>2</sup> resulting in an estimated annual rainwater harvest of 290,304 litres.

The estimated amount of annual rainwater harvesting is based on the calculations of water harvesting potential<sup>2</sup> for the Christchurch area for the harvesting systems used.

Harvested rainwater is regularly used for stable operations such as washing and drinking water for horses.

<sup>2</sup>Potential annual rainwater harvest was calculated with the following formula\*: Roof area (m<sup>2</sup>) x efficiency factor (0.7) x average annual rainfall for the Christchurch area\*\* (648 mm/year).

\*Formula source: <http://www.unep.or.jp/etc/Publications/Urban/UrbanEnv-2/6.asp>.

\*\* Source: NIWA (rainfall data covering the period 1971-2000).



One of the two 9,000 litre water tanks at Ridley stables © Copyright



One of the four 3,000 litre water tanks at Visitors' stables © Copyright



Public use co-mingled recycling and general rubbish bins © Copyright



Organic waste collection next to the catering kitchen © Copyright

## Summary

Since joining the Target Sustainability Programme, Riccarton Park has implemented a range of projects that have resulted in a significant reduction in waste sent to landfill and has implemented rainwater harvesting.

*"Target Sustainability has changed our thinking. Whilst we may not have achieved as much as we had hoped when entering the project, due mainly to post earthquake issues crunching a small workforce, the principles of the programme are at the forefront of our thinking and planning. I am sure that the benefits will continue to increase and flow as time marches on".* Tim Mills, Chief Executive, Canterbury Jockey Club

Riccarton Park plans to continue to look for ways to reduce and recycle waste and to implement energy and water efficiency projects.

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