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### **Albany gets behind Earth Hour campaign**

The City of Albany will get behind Earth Hour next week with a sundowner and by encouraging residents to switch off their lights in support of the cause and join a social media campaign to spread the message.

Earth Hour was initiated to draw attention to global warming and what we can all do to contribute to a sustainable climate.

It was launched in Australia in 2007 and has grown into a global campaign now supported by more than 172 countries and more than 7000 cities and towns, including Albany.

The City of Albany's support for Earth Hour aligns with its Community Strategic Plan aim of being a Clean, Green and Sustainable Community.

Earth Hour is on Saturday, March 19 from 8.30pm to 9.30pm and Mayor Dennis Wellington is encouraging everyone to switch off their lights.

"Everyone can support this event by simply turning the lights out at that time," Mayor Wellington said.

"That's the message Earth Hour really drives home, that even the smallest action like switching the lights off can make a huge difference when everyone contributes.

"Albany is proud it can play its part in helping to create a sustainable world we can all enjoy now and into the future."

The City of Albany will host a sundowner at its Civic Rooms on North Road on Friday, March 18 from 4.30pm with guest speaker Ian McBurney, an Ecological Sustainability Practitioner who will discuss "Change: exciting, inevitable and what a ride!"

Cost to attend is \$5 per person and all proceeds will be donated to a green cause. Numbers are limited so please RSVP by calling 9841 9333.

Ian McBurney will also be presenting at the Green Skills Sustainability Expo on Saturday, March 19 at the Albany Town Hall and Town Square, where the City will have a number on information stalls on its solar power, TravelSmart and waste recycling initiatives.



The City is also encouraging the community to get involved in Earth Hour's social media campaign #PlacesWeLove photo competition.

Upload photos of places you love which could change if climate change continues using the competition hashtag to go into the running for a cash prize from Bendigo Bank.

For more information on the competition, visit <https://earthhour.org.au/placeswelove/> .

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*Media Liaison*

[medialiaison@albany.wa.gov.au](mailto:medialiaison@albany.wa.gov.au)

9841 9344 or 9844 2213

