



# HOME OWNERS & TENANTS

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# LOCAL STORY

## ABDALLAH HOUSE

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**Abdallah House in Seymour combines food resilience, energy efficiency, water saving and soil regeneration on a small urban block.**

Richard Telford and his family have used permaculture ethics and design principles to transform an old energy guzzling bungalow into a showcase of sustainable design. It's about energy cycling, building community, self-reliance, creatively using and reusing materials – without spending a lot of money.

The house is orientated to face north for passive solar design and raised on stumps to 450mm above ground level because of the urban flood zone. While the house is connected to mains water, the family elect to use rainwater for household use. Two corrugated iron water tanks with a pressure pump are adequate for their household needs, with left over water available for irrigation.

In 2019 Abdallah House produced over half a tonne of food on 387m<sup>2</sup> (0.09 acres), with a total yield of 498kg of fruit and vegetables along with 805 eggs collected.

That year 344.5 mm of rain was recorded, 41% lower than the long-term average. In 2020, over 600kg of food was produced on the small block. During the 12 month period 807 mm of rain was recorded, significantly higher than the long-term average.

Many design elements of Abdallah house will protect the house and family from the impacts of climate change, like more extreme heat and reduction in rainfall.

For more, visit [Abdallah House - Redesigning a Home](#)





# GROW CLIMATE KNOWLEDGE



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## REDUCE ENERGY USE

[Your Climate 2050 | Projections tool](#)  
Australian Conservation Foundation

[Carbon Counter](#)  
ABC

[Save energy in your home](#)  
Sustainability Victoria

[Sustainable House Day | Event](#)

[Eldorado Off-Grid Living Festival | Event](#)

## GROW FOOD

[Mountains to Murray – Local Produce Guide](#)

[PIP | Magazine, Podcast, Website](#)  
PIP

[Retrosuburbia – the downshiffters guide to a resilient future | Book](#)  
David Holmgren

[The Edible Garden Cookbook and Growing guide | Book](#)  
Paul West

[Dark Emu | Book](#)  
Bruce Pascoe

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## PRODUCE NO WASTE

[Can I recycle this? | Look up items](#)  
Sustainability Victoria

[Zero Waste resources and tools](#)  
Zero Waste Victoria

[Zero Waste blog](#)  
The Rogue Ginger

[Recycling Victoria | A Plan for waste and recycling](#)  
Victorian Government

## BE WATER SMART

[Ways to Save | Virtual House](#)  
Victorian Government

[Top water wise tips in the Home](#)  
North East Water

[Top water wise tips in the Garden](#)  
North East Water





# TAKE CLIMATE ACTION



## REDUCE ENERGY USE

[Household Energy Action | Guide](#)  
Sustainability Victoria

[Victorian Government Energy Saver | Program](#)  
Victorian Government

[Solar Homes | Program](#)  
Victorian Government

[Measure, audit, action | Mobile app](#)  
Climate Clever

## GROW FOOD

[North East Seasonal Planting Guide](#)  
North East Catchment Management Authority

[The Vegie Guide | Guides and Videos](#)  
ABC

[Grow | Articles](#)  
PIP

[How to grow seedlings | Video](#)  
PIP

[Create a resilient garden | Article](#)  
Milkwood

[Share homegrown produce](#)  
Milkwood

[Find and shop from local producers](#)  
Open Food Network

## PRODUCE NO WASTE

[Recycle your soft plastics](#)  
REDCycle | Woolworths & Coles collection

[Compost your organics | website](#)  
Sustainability Victoria

[Share your compost](#)  
Share Waste

[Find local recycling programs | batteries, bread tags, toothpaste tubes](#)  
TerraCycle

[Recycle your clothes and linen](#)  
Uppearl

[Love Food Hate Waste | Challenge](#)  
Sustainability Victoria

## BE WATER SMART

[Victorian Energy Showerhead Upgrades | Program](#)  
Victorian Government

[Water Efficiency 'How to' | Videos](#)  
Smart Approved WaterMark

[Plant finder | Search engine](#)  
Smart Approved WaterMark

