

## Sustaining the Markets

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**As the largest single site of employment in the region and the number one private fresh produce market in the world, Sydney Markets at Flemington takes recycling and environmental sustainability seriously and have been nominated for a prestigious United Nations environment award.**

"Sydney Markets is the home of fresh food, flowers and Paddy's and we take pride in delivering a world-class, environmentally sustainable site," said Brad Latham, CEO Sydney Markets Limited. "We have been recognised by the World Union of Wholesale Markets by receiving the Environmental Sustainability Award and more recently being nominated as a finalist in the United Nations World Environment Day Awards."

NSW Environment Minister Robyn Parker visited Sydney Markets last week to inspect their recycling initiatives that have seen them divert 11,500 tonnes of organic waste from landfill.

Touring the Market's recycling station with Strathfield MP Charles Casuscelli, Ms Parker said Sydney Markets environmental management initiatives have been developed in partnership with the Government's Sustainability Advantage Program.

"It's great to see how well the Markets have applied what they've learned by setting up a facility that recycles more than 60 per cent of their paper, plastic, steel and organic waste," Ms Parker said.

"Organic waste now goes to a composting system which is eventually turned into fertiliser.

"Polystyrene waste left over from packing fresh produce was once a big problem until they installed a machine that recycles more than 50 tonnes of polystyrene each year.

Sydney Markets have also cut their water use by up to 20 per cent by installing water tanks and time control taps.

Mr Casuscelli congratulated Sydney Markets for becoming a Silver member of the program.

"Sydney Markets have saved more than 2,400 tonnes of green-house gas emissions by becoming more energy efficient," Mr Casuscelli said.

The NSW Government's sustainability programs for business help small, medium and large business to improve their resource efficiency by offering energy audits, training, technical advice and online resources.

By Belinda Noonan



Environment Minister Robyn Parker and MP Charles Casuscelli with MK Park at Sydney Markets.