

# How to set up an ECO Club

## Action Step 1

### Form a group

The first thing to do is to find a group of people with similar interests as yourself - in this case people who have an interest in the environment.

## Action Step 2

### Get permission if needed

It will be necessary to get permission if you are setting up an ECO Club in school or as part of a youth club. If it is a school, then talk it over with a teacher. In a youth club, ask one of your youth leaders.

## Action Step 3

### Arrange a meeting

Once you have your group together, you can start to organise meetings to co-ordinate your environmental activities.

## Action Step 4

### Elect Officers

The ECO Club will need a core group of people to organise and co-ordinate the main activities. People who are interested should fill the following positions:

**Chairperson:** someone to organise the meetings and all the Club's main activities

**Secretary:** someone to organise and take notes of all meetings and to keep records of all the Club's activities

**P.R.O.:** someone to promote the Club and act as its spokesperson.

## Action Step 5

### Draw up an action plan

Now, you need to identify any environmental problems or areas of concern in your local area e.g. Is litter a problem? Is there recycling? Use a map of your area to mark in any 'black spots' or locations for environmental work. You could also ask members of the local community for their views and opinions.

Draw up an action plan based on your findings and use this as the focus for the activities in the ECO Club. The information leaflets in this pack will help you deal with some of the items on your action plan.

## Some tips for running an ECO Club!

- Organise regular meetings to discuss progress, any problems encountered and to divide tasks and responsibilities among the group.
- You'll need to raise money for tools, seeds, shrubs, trees etc. You could do odd jobs or organise a sale of work, raffle or sponsored walk for example.
- Find out what help is available from the local authority, conservation groups or community groups in terms of tools, materials guidance and advice.
- Get as much publicity for your work as possible. Write to local papers, or put up notices in libraries, schools and community and youth centres. It'll help you get more people involved and help you raise some money.

