

# Apps that benefit the environment

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## 4 free apps that benefit the environment

Access eco-friendly information on the go with these brilliant smartphone apps, writes Sarah Pickette. [SEP 29, 2016 2:04PM](#)

Being conscious of the [environment](#) is an worthwhile cause, but it's also one that can be tricky to keep abreast of – there are so many important eco initiatives out there!

Well, technology is always here to lend a helping hand. Try downloading one of the following lifestyle apps to boost your green credentials.

### **SUSTAIN ME**

An initiative of two Melburnians, this app explains precisely how to recycle specific household items. Ever wondered if, say, baking paper is recyclable? Tap it into the app for an answer (it's yes, by the way) tailored specifically to waste-recovery services in your local area.

You can also set up a bin-night reminder synched to your council's pick-up schedule and track the amount of recycling you're putting out on the kerb. Not all councils are onboard yet but the more people who use this app, the better it will become.

[Sustain Me](#) is available free from the app store and google play.

### **NATURE MAPR**

Are you a nature-lover who's interested in becoming a citizen scientist? This clever app, developed by a keen Canberran bushwalker, will identify plants and animals that you photograph. These images are then verified by experts and the species 'mapped', creating invaluable records for conservation and species-tracking purposes. You can already use it in many ACACT and NSW national parks, and it's currently being rolled out nationally.

Nature Mapr is available free from the app store and google play. Check out their origin story [here](#).

## LIGHT BULB SAVER

Simplify the process of choosing energy-efficient lighting for your home with this handy app. Specify whether you're replacing a halogen or old incandescent bulb, choose what level of brightness you're after and, voila, your LED and CFL options pop up. The cost of new bulbs is provided, as is the length of time they should last and, of course, the projected savings on your power bill.

Originally developed by the Swedish Energy Agency, the app has been customised for use in Australia by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

[Light Bulb Saver](#) is available free from the app store and google play.

## AUSTRALIA'S SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD GUIDE

This app has been around for a while but quite simply, it's the ultimate independent tool for anyone who wants to ensure they're buying seafood wisely. Use it to check on the sustainability of about 90 seafood species commonly found at fishmongers, supermarkets, restaurants and fish and chip shops. It includes assessments of both imported and Australian fish species.

[Australia's Sustainable Seafood Guide](#) is available free from the app store and google play.

Eco-friendly Apps

**4 Eco-friendly Apps (2020). Available at: [https://www.homestolove.com.au/keep-it-green-with-these-free-apps-4132?utm\\_campaign=Sustainability%20Newsletter&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=86226873&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9w4SW4iABh7j7AvqaJrLNxK2oZgezGNkLnSkOjDNBQQ2Ka4rzDAbpkd2v9x6DbSYyyNsZdpgNiBVI8V7TgkU2wK3rSlw&\\_hsmi=86227554](https://www.homestolove.com.au/keep-it-green-with-these-free-apps-4132?utm_campaign=Sustainability%20Newsletter&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=86226873&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9w4SW4iABh7j7AvqaJrLNxK2oZgezGNkLnSkOjDNBQQ2Ka4rzDAbpkd2v9x6DbSYyyNsZdpgNiBVI8V7TgkU2wK3rSlw&_hsmi=86227554) (Accessed: 14 April 2020).**