

## Annual Report 2011

### New Zealand Programme Results

The Paper4trees programme continues to expand throughout New Zealand with the help of funding from the Waste Minimisation Fund, local councils, regional councils and corporate sponsors. At the end of December 2011, there were 3,335 schools and preschools involved in the programme nationwide. This number has significantly increased since then.

Paper4trees achieves in four areas;

- a) Reduction in the volume of waste to landfill in your community, therefore a reduction of methane gas and leachate into the environment from landfills.
- b) Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, increased tree planting means a reduction in air pollution through carbon absorption.
- c) Knowledge. Education about resources, environmental awareness and creating habits of recycling.
- d) Job creation. Increased recycling practises create employment in processing recovered product and eco-development.

### New Zealand wide results for the 2011 year

Statistics collected from December 2011 indicate the 3,335 schools throughout New Zealand earned and will plant 31,400 trees as a reward for their recycling efforts in 2011. Nationwide this means that those schools have saved the following:

- a. Recycled 7,850 tonnes of paper and cardboard,
- b. Saved 62,800 cubic metres of landfill space,
- c. Planted 31,400 trees,
- d. Reduced the amount of carbon produced in landfills by 19,782 tonnes

Also, a significant milestone was passed this year. Since 2001, the schools and preschools in the Paper4trees programme have planted over 100,000 trees.

The most important aspect of the programme is that these schools ***are recycling their paper and cardboard, which is diverting these materials from landfill.***

Offering the schools and preschools trees for recycling is purely an incentive, and it is their choice whether they want to order the trees they are entitled to. Schools and preschools will be able to order trees again in December 2012 for their 2012 paper and cardboard recycling.

As the programme continues to grow and schools and preschools see the savings that they are able to make through Paper4trees, it becomes more difficult for the EERST Trust to meet the needs of these schools and preschools.

To this end we are extremely grateful to those Councils, Corporates, and funding agencies (i.e. Pub Charities) that make it possible. (Please see our website for a full list of sponsors, schools and preschools in your area.)

Bruce Trask

Chairman EERST