



ALICE SPRINGS HELICOPTERS – GOING GREEN

As one of the largest helicopter businesses in the Northern Territory, Alice Springs Helicopters actively sources ways to reduce their carbon footprint.

Chief Pilot and Director, Chris Collins, has sourced and implemented fuel efficient turbines for their Bell Jetranger helicopters. These turbines reduce fuel usage by up to 10% per flight. The design of the hanger used for storage of the helicopters was specifically chosen for its capacity to cope with the harsh climate of Central Australia. The hanger design stays cooler in summer and warmer in winter and uses natural ventilation only.

The Directors of Alice Springs Helicopters maintain 700 hectares of virgin bushland in South Australia. ‘It’s the little things that add up’ says Mechelle. ‘We actively recycle paper, printer cartridges and other consumables. All our offices have been constructed to make maximum use of natural light with large windows and vertical blinds. Windows and external doors are screened so in the cooler months we reduce our usage of electricity by not having to operate air conditioning. Independent air conditioning units and offices with interior doors ensures we are only cooling the areas that are actually in use.’

‘Like many businesses, we are not yet able to offer facility for passengers to offset their carbon footprint directly through us. We can however, provide the data to our guests should they wish to utilise one of the many facilities available to offset their personal carbon footprint for their heli-tour’

Other initiatives:

- all lighting is energy efficient fluorescent tubes therefore using less electricity
- office floors are tiled, less chemicals and no electricity to clean
- aerators on all taps
- water filter for refilling bottles and kettles, filtered water takes less time to boil and we help reduce the purchase of new plastic bottles
- our gardens are watered naturally from condensation runoff from our office roof
- we actively reduce, reuse and recycle all office consumables where possible

Alice Springs Helicopters actively partner with other Eco Friendly companies to provide specialised joint touring products to International visitors to the region.