

TRANSITION STREETS

How to change the world, one street at a time



Step-by-step guide to setting up your neighbourhood group

There are a range of ways you can start a Transition Streets Canberra project for your neighbourhood, however the key first step is to engage with your neighbours.

Here are just a few ideas of ways you could engage with your neighbours:

1. You could visit your neighbour's in person to invite them to come to a street party.
2. You could visit your neighbour's in person to invite them to get involved with helping you kick-off a Transition Streets project for your neighbourhood.
3. You could organise a play date with other parents in your neighbourhood that have children and share with them the opportunity of creating a Transition Streets project for your neighbourhood.
4. You could organise a garage sale or host a BBQ and invite your neighbours to get involved.
5. You could start a 'Champagne Friday's' event on a regular basis.

(Refer to NABO for additional ideas: blog.nabo.com.au/blog/ways-to-meet-your-neighbours)

How you choose to engage with your neighbours will depend on how well you know them already, but if you remember one key aim is to make sure you have fun in the process, then you'll be on the right track!

Engaging your neighbours

Over the page is an introduction script template that you could use as a guide to help you get started with inviting your neighbours to join you in an activity.

You can use this *introductions script* as a guide and visit your neighbour's in person to invite them to come along to an event. **[Please note: To ensure your personal safety, only enter a neighbour's house if you know them already.]**

Make sure you have copies of your *Street Party Flyer* or *Transition Street Flyer* or other flyer when you visit your neighbours. These flyers should have the details of the time, date and location of the event, how they can get involved and if your neighbours are not at home, leave one of the flyers in their letterbox.

An Introductions Script Template

[Knock on the door or ring the bell, nicely relaxed with a smile on your face.]

- Hi, I'm
- I am your neighbour and I live at
- Is now a good time for you?

[If the answer is 'no', give them a flyer and note:]

- I just wanted to let you know about a Street Party/Transition Streets Canberra project I am kicking off for our neighbourhood. It would be great if you could get involved – here are the details.
- If you have any questions please contact me, my contact details are on this flyer.
- Thanks for your time. Hopefully we will catch up again soon.

[If the answer is 'yes' and you are organising a Street Party:]

- I just wanted to let you know about a Street Party that I am organising for our neighbourhood, to celebrate all things neighbourly and as a way to get to know some of our neighbours a bit better.
- It's happening on at The details are all on this flyer [hand them a flyer].
- All you need to bring along is yourself and
- At this street party I'll also have information about the Transition Streets Canberra project that I am keen to get started for our neighbourhood. This project gives us the opportunity to come together as neighbours and support each other to take control of our energy and water bills, learn about growing food, reducing waste, and building a more connected neighbourhood.
- Does this interest you and do you think you can make it along?

[Continue, enjoy the conversation with them, and thank them for their time].

[If the answer is 'yes' and you are organising a first session for your Transition Streets group:]

- I just wanted to let you know about a Transition Streets Canberra project I am kicking off for our neighbourhood.
- Transition Streets Canberra is a program that offers us the opportunity to come together as neighbours and support each other to take control of our energy and water bills, learn about growing food, reducing waste, and building a more connected neighbourhood.
- It's a free program and in a nutshell we have 7 sessions together where we work through a digital workbook that looks at what we can do to take actions to save money in the areas of water, energy, food, transport and waste.
- Here is a flyer with more information about the project, including a website where you can find more information [hand them a flyer].
- I appreciate you will most likely need to think about this, but does this sound like something you might be interested in?

[Continue, enjoy the conversation with them, and thank them for their time].