

# GREEN SAGES



## Environmental Legacy Statement

The **COTA Green Sages** Environmental Legacy Statement represents the views of Victorian seniors about what they wish to leave to future generations. Older people want to engage with younger generations to help solve the environmental issues that confront everybody now and in the future.

**COTA Green Sages** recognise that all life depends upon the fragile natural systems and finite resources of our planet. We want economic and population growth to be environmentally sustainable.

As older people, we are leaders, active participants and concerned citizens regarding environmental issues. We are concerned by what the scientific evidence and our own experience are telling us about the future of our environment. Many current human activities, for example, are clearly unsustainable and likely to have major negative effects for humans and the natural world.

**COTA Green Sages** call for protection of the natural environment. Degraded environments must be restored so that future generations can enjoy a healthy, sustainable quality of life.

**COTA Green Sages** seek strong action to:

- involve more seniors in helping create a more environmentally sustainable, just and harmonious society;
- draw upon the wisdom of seniors about environmentally sustainable living;
- nurture partnerships across all generations to create a collective sense of responsibility for the environment;
- identify and support those groups who are likely to be worst affected by environmental degradation.

COTA Green Sages urgently call upon all political parties and governments to show constructive leadership and concerted action to address these community concerns. Significant outcomes can be achieved with effective policy, programs and practices, including working with COTA Green Sages, to make a more sustainable society.