

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 125

May 2009

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LANDFILL LEVY OR STEALTH TAX?

The waste industry is still reeling after the totally unexpected budget announcement of a proposed 300% increase in the Landfill Levy.

The Levy will go from \$7 to \$28 / tonne for putrescible waste and \$3 to \$12 / cubic metre, on 1 July 2009. This increase has happened without consultation with the sector, or apparent consideration of the likely impacts of such an increase.

For Local Government, this will mean at least a \$20 increase in Council rates per household. For some Local

Governments that will equate to a 10% increase in the waste charge.

The State Government will also seek to change the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, to allow the additional funds to be directed to Department of Environment and Conservation activities. Currently funds from the Levy are hypothecated to strategic waste management activities.

The Association is seeking an urgent meeting with the Minister for Environment to emphasise that:

- ◆ A significant proportion of this additional revenue has to go back to Local Government to support and recycling and resource recovery operations (particularly given the low price for recyclable materials); and
- ◆ The Levy needs to remain hypothecated to strategic waste management activities - it is not a revenue raising tool for the State Government.

If you have any information on likely impacts of the Levy increase please contact Rebecca Brown 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au



ONLY FREE DISPOSAL IN TOWN

The free e-waste recycling event will be held on **Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 June 2009** between 9.00am and 4.00pm.

The collection locations are:

- ◆ **Baldivis:** Rockingham Millar Rd Landfill Facility, Millar Rd.
- ◆ **Canning Vale:** Regional Resource Recovery Centre, 350 Bannister Rd.
- ◆ **Cottesloe:** Town of Cottesloe Public Carpark, Napier St.



- ◆ **Middle Swan:** Operations Centre Carpark, Cnr Great Northern Highway & Bishop Rd (Enter off Great Northern Highway).
- ◆ **Mindarie:** Tamala Park Recycling Centre, 1700 Marmion Ave.
- ◆ **Perth City:** Langley Park, Cnr Hill St & Terrace Rd.
- ◆ **South Perth:** City of South Perth Lesser Hall Carpark, Cnr South Tce & Sandgate St.

- ◆ **Spearwood:** Sims E Recycling, 174 Barrington St.
- ◆ **Stirling:** City of Stirling Administration Centre, 25 Cedric St.

For more information on the products accepted on the collection days, quantities allowed and a FAQ sheet, visit the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au

Recycling provided courtesy of Apple Pty Ltd.

CONFERENCE COMING

A range of Sponsorship and abstract to speak at the For more information visit exhibitor options are available Conference. Notification on www.wasteandrecycle.com.au or contact Keynote Conference 2009. Thank you provided soon! Conference 08 9382 3799. to everyone who submitted an

SBS
Insight Program
recently asked
each year we
recycle more and
more but do we
recycle the right
things and do we
know what it
costs?



Watch Insight
"Rubbish"
Program at
[http://
news.sbs.com.au
/insight](http://news.sbs.com.au/insight)

AN ORGANIC PROCESS

The Waste Authority has released a Draft Position Paper on Recycled Organics for comment. The main points raised in the draft Position Paper include:

- ◆ A focus on source separation for organics;
- ◆ Benefits of organics for soil

improvement;

- ◆ Land use characteristics; and
- ◆ Contamination control.

WALGA will be making a submission on the Position Paper. Comments are requested from Local Government.

A copy of the draft Position Paper is available from the Waste Authority website www.zerowastwa.com

Email comments to Judy Scott jscott@walga.asn.au by **COB 8 June 2009**.

NATIONALLY WASTED

A new National Waste Policy is being developed by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and Arts. To inform the development of the Policy, a Consultation Paper was released.

Comments on the Consultation Paper closed Wednesday 13 May. Given the very short timeframe for comment only limited consultation has been possible.

WALGA has developed a Submission on the Consultation document. The key points outline in the WALGA Submission included:

- ◆ The importance and need for national Extended Producer Responsibility for a range of Products;
- ◆ Need for further research and support for Alternative Waste Treatment;
- ◆ Further national accredited and resourced industry training; and

◆ Leadership from Federal, State and Local Governments regarding purchasing of recycled materials.

A copy of the WALGA submission is available from the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au

Any additional comments to Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au

CJ TO THE RESCUE

Cecilia Jordan has been appointed as the MWAC Project Coordinator. Cecilia will be looking after the Household Hazardous Waste Program.

Cecilia is relatively new to waste management but is

keen to get her teeth into it. Previously, Cecilia worked at WALGA in the Biodiversity area. She has extensive project management and GIS experience.

Cecilia's interests include conquering foreign countries

and knitting, often simultaneously.

Please contact Cecilia for any HHW queries from Tuesday 2 June on 9213 2062 or email cjordan@walga.asn.au

SERVICES REQUIRED?

WALGA are researching the viability of a Local Government Preferred Supplier Panel for the Provision of Waste Collection and Recycling Services to Local Government.

We would welcome feedback from Local Government on which services it would be useful to have a panel contract in place for, for example kerbside or vergeside collections.

For further information or enquiries, please contact Dale Chapman, Business Development Project Manager on 9213 2095 or dchapman@walga.asn.au

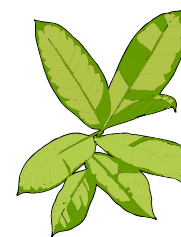
FRIENDLY CREDITS ON SALE!

The Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) is seeking Tenders from interested parties to purchase some or up to 91,214 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂-e) *Greenhouse Friendly™* Approved Abatements.

The SMRC operates a

Resource Recovery Centre, diverting household rubbish of more than 380,000 residents away from landfill. The *Greenhouse Friendly* Abatement arises from the avoidance of methane emissions that would have been generated by placing the organic component of the waste stream into landfill.

The Tender documents (No. SMRC 2009-05 Sale of *Greenhouse Friendly* Approved Abatement Units) will be available from 9:00am Monday 25 May 2009 and will close **2pm Monday 8 June 2009**. For more information please contact Mr Tim Youé on 08 9329 2700.



New Plant Species

TRAINING—NO CLASSROOMS

For those seeking formal qualifications in occupations such as:

- ◆ Landfill supervisor
- ◆ Incinerator plant supervisor
- ◆ Site waste manager
- ◆ Administrative supervisor

◆ Waste management education manager
 ◆ Driver supervisor
 ◆ Recycling plant supervisor
 Challenger TAFE can offer a combination of skills recognition and flexible delivery when needed to

complete a Certificate IV in Asset Maintenance (Waste Management).

For more information contact Pascaline Owers 9229 8443 or Chris Merry 9229 8442.

BIG EMISSIONS?

The Australian Landfill Gas Emissions Research (ALGER) Project is looking to implement a landfill gas emissions project in WA. The project has potential importance to Local

Governments coming into regulatory constraints on methane emissions, whether through CPRS or some other form.



For more information please contact Adam Johnson at EMRC on 9424 2222 adam.johnson@emrc.org.au

TEST YOUR KERBSIDE SYSTEM

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), in consultation with WALGA, developed a draft *Kerbside Collection Decision Making Tool Paper* for discussion.

The Paper included three areas:

- ◆ Identification of Local

Government decision making processes;

- ◆ Outcomes for kerbside systems (environmental, social and economic); and
- ◆ Various kerbside collection service model options.

The Paper is designed to assist decision makers in understanding what is being

achieved at the best practice level in kerbside systems using environmental, social and economic outcomes.

For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott 9213 2086 jscott@walga.asn.au



FULL BOTTLE ON HHW

A training day for operators of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Permanent Collection Facilities was held at Mindarie Regional Council on Tuesday 12 May. Ten people attended and feedback indicated the training was very informative

and well presented. The next training day will be held in October 2009.

The training is free of charge to Local Government HHW facility operators and



is funded through the HHW Program.

Please contact Cecilia Jordan to register for the next training session on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 2 cjordan@walga.asn.au

Coca-Cola Co. has introduced a new bottle made partially from plants that will not contaminate traditional recycling streams, according to the Atlanta beverage company.

(Source: www.wasterecyclingnews.com/email.html?id=1242396357)

STIRLING EFFORT!

A recent independent study conducted by the Carbon Reduction Institute (NSW) has found the City of Stirling's Single Bin Recycling system results in an annual saving of approximately 50,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases when compared to the traditional two bin system.

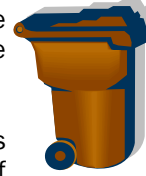
The analysis calculated the greenhouse gas emissions from all inputs in both the single bin and two bin processes including vehicles, labour, fuel, bins, and the materials recycled,

composted or sent to landfill in each system.

The results found the single bin system generated total annual emissions of 3,580 per annum compared to the 52,159 tonnes of greenhouse gasses emitted from the two bin system.

The Atlas system has achieved a recycling rate of up to 68.83% of waste processed at the facility, and has diverted more than 200,000 tonnes of domestic household waste from landfill.

The City has been operating its single bin waste recycling management system since 2001 when it introduced the processing of single 240 litre household wheelie bins at the Resource Recovery Facility.



A copy of the study is available on request, for more information contact

Jenny Jones on 9345 8685 or visit www.stirling.wa.gov.au

Absurd packaging - something we can all agree on.

The Getreal campaign to get packaging waste taken more seriously is hitting its stride.

To view the group rapping about wrapping outside the New Zealand Parliament visit www.getreal.org.nz



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

If you've been wondering what happens to Officers when they leave the Officers Advisory Group...here's a flavour.

Ron Boucher, former CEO of the Geraldton-Greenough Regional Council. After a stint with Sita, Ron is now a roving

Consultant/ Project Manager. To contact Ron phone 9490 8880 or email flashrs@bigpond.com.au

Klaus Mueller, still working hard for the Shires of Manjimup and Bridgetown-Greenbushes. Klaus recently

appeared on the SBS Insight Program 'Rubbish'. To catch up with Klaus phone 9771 7743 or email klaus.mueller@manjimup.wa.gov.au

COVENANT IN PERTH

The National Packaging Covenant Council (NPCC) will be visiting Perth for the first time in two years. Their last visit occasioned a drum protest outside the WALGA offices (pictured left) and we're hoping this meeting will be as much fun. The NPCC will be undertaking site tours to the Wangara MRF and Anchor Food.



The meeting will be hosted by WALGA at Local Government House on Friday 29 May 2009. Topics on the Agenda will include considering the outcome of the EPHC Meeting in May and the future of the Covenant. For more information on the National Packaging Covenant www.packagingcovenant.org.au

PSST PSF FUNDING

The Product Stewardship Forum (PSF) has funding available for small remote Local Governments looking to decrease littering and increase recycling.



PSF has developed the 'clean up' book, a booklet to assist regional and remote Shires in litter management.

The litter program outlined in the booklet aims to reduce litter by about

20% per year, at a very low cost.

For more information on funding opportunities and to access the booklet contact Oliver Furbur on 0407 932 943 or email oliver.furbur@afgc.org.au

FOR MORE AUTHORITY VISIT...

The minutes of Waste Authority meetings are available from the Waste Authority website. Areas discussed at the Authority's March and April meetings include:

- ◆ Review of the Australian Standards on Degradable Plastics ;
- ◆ Two final reports on Used Oil policy management options completed;

- ◆ The draft State Waste Strategy has been forwarded to the Minister for Environment for consideration prior to public release;
- ◆ A 'byte-back' e-waste product stewardship program is being considered;
- ◆ Pilbara Regional Council is



the first Local Government to submit its Regional Investment Plan; and

- ◆ Round 1/2009 of the Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme (SWIS) and Community Grants (CGS) program are open.

To view the minutes visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

HOW AWESOME IS YOUR LANDFILL?

The National Landfill Division of the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) invites you to nominate your landfill site(s) for consideration in the National Landfill Excellence

Awards for 2009. Awards are open to metropolitan, smaller regional and rural landfills. The Excellence Awards have Gold and Silver categories and will be presented at the National Landfill & Transfer Stations

Conference Dinner in Hobart on 27 August 2009. Nominations are due **Thursday 11 June 2009.**

For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au

TYRES ON THE RECYCLING ROAD

Queensland's Main Roads Department is considering adjusting its specifications for roadbase materials, which could create a greater demand for recycled concrete.



roads constructed with recycled

Alex Fraser Group, the nation's largest concrete recycler has begun promoting the outcomes of a report that suggests

concrete base could last twenty times longer than using virgin material.

(Source:www.insidewaste.com.au/StoryView.asp?StoryID=1003002)

Fan Cans, LLC...

...recently announced the latest addition to its product line-up: football-themed recycling and waste receptacles .

The eye-catching products feature lids shaped like football player helmets, which can be produced in any colour and branded with any team and corporate sponsor logos.

(Source: www.azom.com/news.asp?newsID=17076)

REPORT ON NATIONS TOSSERS

The Australia's Federal Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) has issued the *Litter Management in Australia* Report.



This Report aims to summarise and outline all actions which are currently being taken by organisations (including government and non government) to minimise

the impacts of litter on the environment.

Copies of the Report are available from www.ephc.gov.au



DEAD FRIDGE

Local Government waste transfer stations and companies providing kerbside waste collection services are sought as participants in a six-month refrigerator decommissioning pilot program. The program, led by the Department of the

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, aims to collect data and maximise the refrigerant recovered from domestic refrigerators collected from kerbside pickups or left at transfer stations.

Applications to be part of the

trial are due **Friday 29 May 2009.**

For more information visit www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/index.html

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 17 June 2009

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Local Government House

Check out the WA Local Government Association Website at www.walga.asn.au



Visit WasteNet www.wastenet.net.au

CONTACT DETAILS

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2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

- 3-5 June **WasteQ 2009: Can you afford not to...?**
The Sebel Citigate King George Square, Brisbane, Queensland
- 5 June **World Environment Day**
For more information visit www.unep.org/wed/2009/english
- 6 June **Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day**
Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
Town of Bassendean, 69 Scaddan Street, Bassendean.
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au
- 6-7 June **Free E-waste Collection Days**
Various locations around the Perth metropolitan area.
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au
- 20 June **Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day**
Western Metropolitan Regional Council
Town of Cottesloe, Public Carpark, Napier Street, Cottesloe.
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au
- 27 June **Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day**
Southern Metropolitan Regional Council
Recaquatic Centre Carpark, Chisam Avenue, Kwinana
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au
- 25 July **Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day**
Mindarie Regional Council
Lathlain Park Oval Carpark, Cnr Roberts Road and Bishopgate Street, Lathlain
- 14-18 September **Waste & Recycle Conference 2009**
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, Western Australia
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

2009 SUBMISSIONS CALENDAR

- 29 May 2009 **Submission to be part of the Refrigerator Decommissioning Program**
For more information visit www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/index.html
- 29 May 2009 **Community Grants Scheme (CGS)**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 8 June 2009 **Input into WALGA Submission on Waste Authority Organics Position Paper**
For more information contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or email jscott@walga.asn.au
- 11 June 2009 **WMAA Landfill Excellence Awards**
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au
- 31 July 2009 **Submissions for Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards**
For more information phone 6467 5131 or email tidytowns@dec.wa.gov.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

WHAT IS THE MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL?



The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) is a standing committee of the Western Australian Local Government Association with delegated authority on municipal waste issues.

MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management). This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

MWAC focuses its work in three main areas:

- The proactive development of policy on priority issues;
- Comprehensive representation of Local Government views on legislation, regulations, administrative policy and related matters; and
- The delivery of grant funded programs consistent with Local Government priorities.



WESTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



City of Geraldton-Greenough
Climate of Opportunity



Reducing. Reusing. Recycling.



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



Rivers
REGIONAL COUNCIL