

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 127

July 2009

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LEVY POLICY REVIEW

The WA Local Government Association has been advocating strongly regarding the unexpected State Government announcement of a 300% increase in the Landfill Levy and the removal of hypothecation of the Levy to waste management activities.

The State Government has not indicated if they intend to apply the Levy to the non-metropolitan area in the future.

WALGA is therefore seeking the opinion of Local Government on the Levy application to the non-metropolitan area. To access the survey visit the WasteNet website and follow the prompts.

Comments from the survey will be used to inform advocacy and policy review.

Given the significant increase to the Levy proposed by the State Government, the Association is also reviewing its Waste Levy and Strategic Waste Funding Policy Statement.

A draft revision of the Policy Statement is available for comment from the WasteNet Website. The key areas in the Policy Statement which are proposed for revision include:

- ◆ Introduction of a clear statement that Local Government does not want a landfill levy which is not hypothecation to waste management

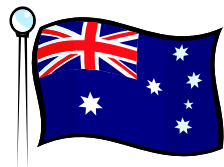
activities;

- ◆ Support for a zero residue material from resource recovery operations; and
- ◆ Clarification on conditions which may effect capacity to pay the Levy.

The survey will close on **Friday 7 August**. Comments on the reviewed Policy Statement are also due on **Friday 7 August**.

To comment on the draft Policy Statement or for more information contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au

NATIONAL WASTE



The new National Waste Policy Framework is now available for comment from the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and Arts. To inform the development of the Policy, a Consultation Paper has been released.

Comments on the Framework close **Friday 31 July 2009**. For a copy of the Consultation Paper visit www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy

WALGA has developed a Submission on the Framework. The key points outlined in the WALGA Submission included comments on the seven key themes:

- ◆ Taking responsibility;
- ◆ Improving the market;

- ◆ Pursuing sustainability;
- ◆ Facilitating investment;
- ◆ Reducing hazards;
- ◆ Reporting on performance; and
- ◆ Tailoring solutions.

A copy of the WALGA Submission is available from www.wastenet.net.au

Any additional comments to Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au by **Thursday 30 July 2009**.

CONFERENCE COMING SOON!



The countdown is on for the Waste & Recycle Conference 2009 (15–18 September). Register now!

Keynote speakers include

- ◆ Dexter Dunphy
- ◆ Lisa Skumatz
- ◆ Sandra Cointreau
- ◆ Peter Leahy

Tours include *The ultimate 'Waste Experience'* –All day

Tuesday 15 September, tour of AWT, MRF and Landfill facilities

More Power in Bed—PM
Wednesday 15 September, tour of EMRC mattress processing, Red Hill and landfill gas and power facility.

Workshops include *WMAA The Carbon Economy*—AM Tuesday 15 September.

Managing the Ups and Downs: Contracting for a Risky Business—PM Tuesday 15 September.

State Waste Strategy Workshop— AM Wednesday 16 September.

Strategic Waste Management Plan Workshop— PM Wednesday 16 September.

Waste to Energy Workshop— PM Wednesday 16 September.

Sponsorship opportunities still available, including the Tropical Cocktail Function and Conference Dinner. This year the Conference get your parrots ready as this years dinner theme will be 'pirates'.

The full program is available from the Waste & Recycle website www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

A free online carbon calculator will soon be available to work out the environmental impacts of events.



Visit www.noco2.com.au/acemcarboncalculator

(Source: www.environmentalmanagementnews.net/StoryView.asp?StoryID=1003465#)

TENDER MOMENTS

Legal Eagle

WALGA has established its newest Preferred Supplier Panel for the provision of Legal Services. The new Panel will facilitate direct access by Local Governments to legal service providers without having to go to tender. The six suppliers include Kott Gunning, Freehills, Minter Ellison, Jackson McDonald, Woodhouse Legal and Civic Legal.

In addition to saving Local Governments significant

procurement costs, the Legal Services Panel will deliver discounts of up to 25% off market rates on the hourly rates for all practitioners - from Partners through to Paralegals.

Groundbreaking

WALGA has also established a Preferred Supplier Arrangement for the provision of Groundwater Monitoring for Landfill Sites. The supplier that was awarded the Tender is GHD and Local Government can access their services directly.

GHD can provide the complete and proper sampling, testing, reporting and monitoring of

groundwater bores associated with Local Government landfill sites.

In addition, GHD can provide the complete and proper sampling, testing, reporting and monitoring of soil and groundwater with contaminated sites investigation, in compliance with the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*.

For more information contact Contracts Administrator, Jessica Bucak on 9213 2094 or email jbucak@walga.asn.au



DAYS OF HHW

The Household Hazardous Waste Program collection days for August and September are as follows:

- ◆ **Saturday, 8 August** hosted by the SMRC at the Regional Resource Recovery Centre, Ranford Rd, Canning Vale.

- ◆ **Saturday, 22 August** (RRC) hosted by the City of Gosnells at City of Gosnells Operation Centre, Canning Park Avenue, Maddington.

- ◆ **Saturday, 5 September** (WMRC) at Tom Perrott Reserve, McCabe Street, Mosman Park.

The hours of operation for each day is 9.00am to 1.00pm.

For more information on the products accepted on the day visit www.wastenet.net.au/programs/hhwprog

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY....

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council is hosting a contingency/emergency planning for waste and recycling workshop on Thursday 13 August. The aim of the workshop is to



bring together representatives from Local and State Government, industry, and other stakeholders, to discuss emergency management/contingency planning for recycling, alternative waste

treatment (AWT) and landfill operations.

For more information contact Cecilia Jordan on 9213 2062 or email cjordan@walga.asn.au

HELLO HELLO, GOODBYE GOODBYE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council's recognition in the waste management industry is due in no small part to the efforts of the Officers.

Goodbye—MWAC would like to say goodbye and a big thank you to Peter Pikor. As the CEO

of the Western Metropolitan Regional Council (WMRC) Peter has been representing his Council as an Officer on MWAC for over three years. He has now left WMRC for the City of Fremantle.

Welcome—Keith Boase is

MWAC's newest non-metropolitan officer representative. Keith is the Manager of Sustainability and Waste Services at the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and has significant experience and ability to contribute to MWAC.

CHEESY APPEAL

The second round of Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) funding for 2009 is now open.



Business, Local Government, community groups and individuals are encouraged to apply.

Funding will be provided for initiatives which are in line with

the Waste Authority's "priority areas for funding" and the Statement of Strategic Direction for Waste Management in Western Australia.

The Waste Authority priority projects are:

- ◆ Organics: source separated green waste;
- ◆ Construction and Demolition

- Waste Recovery and Recycling;
- ◆ Plastics;
 - ◆ Used Tyres; and
 - ◆ Hazardous Waste from Households.

Applications close **5pm Friday 11 September 2009**. For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

FEDS GET HIGH ON E

At the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) meeting on 22 May 2009, Environment Ministers committed to finalising product stewardship arrangements for end of life televisions and computers at their next meeting in November 2009.



An important step in reaching a decision is undertaking public and stakeholder consultation.

The consultation package is now available through the

EPHC website www.ephc.gov.au under Product Stewardship/Televisions and Computers.

The consultation package includes:

- ◆ Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS): Televisions and Computers
- ◆ Willingness To Pay For E-Waste Recycling - Final Report (Choice Modelling study), and
- ◆ Draft Code of Practice for Managing End-of-Life Televisions

A series of public consultation forums will be held in Sydney,

Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. Details will be available on the EPHC website when the forums are confirmed. MWAC will circulate details regarding the Perth forum when they are available. MWAC will be making a Submission on the consultation package.

The closing date for submissions is **Thursday 13 August 2009**.

For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au/taxonomy/term/51

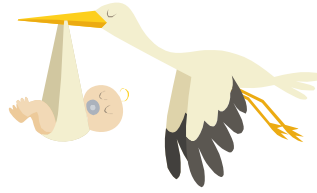
"Giving Vegemite a Sustainable Future" is a contender for the 2009 Banksia Awards—2009 Agriculture and Food Awards.



You can vote for the 2009 Contenders at www.banksiaafd.com

NEW ARRIVAL

Mayor Troy Pickard (MWAC Chair) and his wife Felicity welcomed the arrival of their baby girl *Sumaya Lily Pickard* on Monday 6th July.



Congratulations from all at Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

Consumers on packaging

A global survey found that almost 50% of Australian consumers would consider swapping brands if they thought a product was excessively packaged.



(Source: www.environmentalmanagementnews.net/StoryView.asp?StoryID=1003500)

GOING, GOING, OIL GONE

Local Governments and Regional Councils who have used the WALGA Preferred Supplier Arrangement with Wren Oil, were eligible to apply for the first rebate period (1 January 2009 to 30 June

2009). Local Government response was well received, with over 50% lodging a claim. Application forms have now been collated and sent to the Department of Environment and Conservation for payment.

For more information, contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au or Bienne Argent on 9213 2 0 6 9 or bargent@walga.asn.au

AWARD WINNING MUSTER

Congratulations to the Shire of Lake Grace and Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) for winning at the National MobileMuster Local Government Awards.

Government in Canberra. The Shire of Lake Grace won the "Top Collector Per Capita" award and EMRC for "Working with Schools" award.

Councils across Australia, who have successfully promoted and collected mobile phones and accessories.

Senator Bob Brown presented the awards at the National General Assembly for Local

The MobileMuster Local Government Awards is in its third year and was created to recognise and reward leading

For more information on MobileMuster visit www.mobilemuster.com.au or phone 1300 730 070.

STOP THE TOSSERS

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) is proud to announce the second State-wide litter prevention strategy for WA - *The Litter Prevention Strategy for Western Australia 2009-2014*.

and illegal dumping prevention and management, and provides strategic direction for the combined and consistent efforts of community, industry and government throughout the State.

areas of priority - auditing and evaluation; policy and legislation; education, information and training; enforcement; physical intervention; incentives and stakeholder responsibility.

This Strategy aims to continue on with the work started with the *Litter Prevention Strategy 2006-09*. It sets out a framework for effective litter

Outlined within the five-year Strategy are 21 objectives and 40 actions under seven key



For more information visit www.kabc.wa.gov.au or contact KABC on 6467 5122.

MWAC FACELIFT



Information Bulletin will look like this.

Keep an eye out for the new look MWAC Information Bulletin, coming to you in August.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council thought it was time for a change. This marks the last month that the MWAC

20C DRINK DEPOSITS

The Tasmanian Government has released a *Feasibility Study for Container Deposit System (CDS)*.

The Government commissioned Hyder Consulting to investigate what a best practice CDS would look like should the State choose to implement one.

The Report will be provided to the Environment Protection

and Heritage Council (EPHC) as it considers CDS on a National level.

Some of the findings of the Report include:

- ◆ Recommendation of a 20c deposit;
- ◆ CDS would apply to all beverage containers;
- ◆ A not-for-profit business to be appointed for implementing the system; and

◆ 38-46 depots would be required. Initial capital costs of \$9.5 to \$13.8 million for establishment.

A copy of the Final Report can be downloaded from www.environment.tas.gov.au/whatsnew

(Source: www.insidewaste.com.au & www.media.tas.gov.au/release.php?id=27137)

WMAA TRAINEE WASTEES

The Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) called for Expressions of Interest from its members in using the Commonwealth's "Skilling Australia for the Future" program for the Certificate III in Asset Maintenance (Waste Management).

Within a few days WMAA received over 100 place requests from companies around Australia. WMAA will now apply to the Productivity Places Program (PPP).

If they are successful, a number of training positions will be allocated in each State and Territory through their

Registered Training Organisation partner to be able to offer greatly discounted training.

For information on the Program visit www.deewr.gov.au/Skills/ProductivityPlaces/Pages/default.aspx

(Source: www.insidewaste.com.au)

A Japanese firm that provides office support aims to achieve zero packaging waste with "Eco-turn".



Products are delivered in returnable bags and foldable containers which are collected by the shipper and reused for another delivery.

(Source: www.japanfs.org/en)

WELL STINKY

On 22 June 2009 more than 30,000 employees of the City of Toronto walked off the job, in their first strike since 2002.

City of Toronto officials and union representatives negotiated improvements to pay rates, sick leave, disability programs and retirement and end of contract payouts. No deal has yet been reached, and the strike drags on.

The lack of rubbish collection services has taken its toll throughout the City of Toronto, a Local Government with a population of more than 2.5 million people (8% of Canada's total population).

According to our foreign correspondent in Toronto, Megan Jordan, public bins are full and overflowing, private bins are full, and the streets

are lined with garbage bags, as the community has run out of space to store their garbage.



Some public parks have been designated as temporary dumps, and are now piled high with garbage bags, carried there by members of the public. Squirrels and raccoons have been seen foraging in the accumulating garbage piles, there is toxic "juice" leaking from the bags, and the summer

heat has made the situation "well stinky", says Megan.

Rubbish collection and disposal is an essential service performed by Local Governments around the world, and it's often not until situations like this arise that we appreciate just how vital it is. It is perhaps not until we have to live surrounded by the garbage that we create that we realise how important the reduce, reuse, refuse, recycle message really is.

Hopefully, for the people of Toronto, the strike will come to an end soon.

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 19 August 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

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2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

2 August	National Tree Day For more information visit www.treeday.planetark.com
24-30 August	Keep Australia Beautiful Week For more information visit www.kab.org.au
8 August	Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day Southern Metropolitan Regional Council Regional Resource Recovery Centre Ranford Rd, Canning Vale
22 August	Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day Rivers Regional Council City of Gosnells Operation Centre Canning Park Avenue, Maddington
26-28 August	3rd National Landfill and Transfer Stations Conference: Hobart, Tasmania For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au
15-18 September	Waste & Recycle Conference 2009 Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, Western Australia For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au
9-15 November	National Recycle Week For more information visit www.recyclingweek.planetark.org
28 November	Buy Nothing Day—A Global Holiday from Consumerism For more information visit www.buynothingday.co.uk

2009 SUBMISSIONS CALENDAR

7 August	WALGA Waste Levy Policy Statement & Survey Survey can be accessed from www.wastenet.net.au for more information contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086
13 August	Television and Computer Product Stewardship Submission For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au
30 July	National Waste Policy Framework WALGA Comment Period Contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au for comments
31 July	National Waste Policy Framework For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au
11 September	Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme—Round 2 For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.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

