

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 102

June 2007

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CALLING ALL OFFICERS

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) is seeking nominations from six serving Officers (four metropolitan and two non-metropolitan). The term is for one year, starting in August 2007.

Nominations close **5pm Monday 16 July 2007**. Nominations close **5pm Monday 16 July 2007**. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the WA Local Government Association's website www.walga.asn.au and should be emailed to nominations@walga.asn.au

For more information on MWAC activities visit www.wastenet.net.au For more information about nominations contact MWAC Executive Officer on 9213 2063.

EXHIBIT YOURSELF

The Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference, *Planning in a Uncertain Climate: A Delicate Balancing Act?*, to be held at the Esplanade Hotel Fremantle **10-14 September 2007** is now seeking Sponsorship and Exhibitors.



Planning in an Uncertain Climate: A Delicate Balancing Act?

The Conference will purchase Greenhouse Friendly™ approved carbon offsets generated by the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council to make the Conference carbon-

neutral, as well as, taking various measures to reduce its environmental impact.

Keynote speakers at this year's Conference will include:

- ◆ Lisa Heinzerling (Professor

of Law, Georgetown University, USA);

- ◆ Enzo Favoino (Scuola Agraria, del Parco di Monza, Italy);
- ◆ Paul Gilding (CEO, Ecos Corporation);
- ◆ Peter Jones (Director, Biffa Waste Services Ltd, UK); and
- ◆ Chantel Ilbury (Mind of a Fox, South Africa).

For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

ROCKING OUT—AC/DC

Application forms for the second period of the Auditing Continuity/Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme have been distributed to Local Governments and Regional Councils

Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) is put in place.

The second period covers 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2007.

however, funding is now based upon the range of recycling services provided by Local Government.

Application forms are due **Tuesday 31 July 2007**.

The Scheme aims to ensure data continuity until a replacement for the

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) administers the Scheme which requests similar data to the RRRS,

For more information contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062 or email singlis@walga.asn.au

CONDITIONAL LEVITATION

A response has been received from Hon. David Templeman, Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel, regarding correspondence sent by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) on the *Waste Avoidance and*

Resource Recovery (WARR) and Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy (WARRL) Bills 2006. The correspondence includes a decision on the appeals process; and provides clarity on what the levy will be applied to.

A copy of the letter is available from the WasteNet website www.wastenet.net.au

For more information contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086.

HOLE SHORTAGE

In April 2007, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) undertook a survey of landfills in the Perth metropolitan area.

From the results of this survey MWAC has identified a future

critical shortfall in landfill airspace in the Perth area.

Correspondence has been sent to the Department of Environment and Conservation detailing the critical importance of addressing this situation.

MWAC will now expand the survey to regional centres of WA and non-metropolitan areas surrounding Perth.

For more information please contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062 or email singlis@walga.asn.au

Every tonne of paper recycled saves almost 13 trees, 2.5 barrels of oil, 4100Kw of electricity, 4 cubic metres of landfill space and 31,780L of water.



(Source: www.uow.edu.au)

YOUNG WASTIES SESSION

At this year's Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) will present a Young Professionals session. The session will be held **1:30pm to 5:30pm Tuesday 11 September 2007**.

The session will include Keynote Speaker Richard Gilmore, Earthwatch Australia, speaking on *Beyond Recycling—Engaging Your Staff and the Community in Conservation*, as well as other speakers associated with the Young

Professionals.

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au



LAST RRRS CHEQUES OUT

Cheques for Period 16 of the Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) were recently distributed to Local



Governments who participated.

Period 16 was the last period of the

Scheme. Over its lifetime, the RRRS has assisted in diverting 1,541,923 tonnes of material from landfill, 101 Local

Governments have participated and over \$16 million worth of funds have been distributed back to Local Government. The

RRRS has been replaced, in the interim, by the Auditing Continuity / Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme.

For more information contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062. or email singlis@walga.asn.au

OIL LOOSENS DEC LICENCES

Given the current situation regarding used oil, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council requested clarification from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) on storage of used oil.

A response has been received from the DEC Licensing Unit, regarding Local Government storage of additional used oil onsite.

With regards to the licences for Council operated landfills and transfer stations, no amendments are necessary should the storage of used oil be less than 10,000L per annum and for a period of less than 12 months. Provided that the used oil is stored in accordance with the Department of Water: Water Quality Protection Guidelines No. 10 - *'Mining and Mineral Processing: Above-ground fuel and chemical storage, 2000'*

namely Parts 6.1 - 6.3 and 6.6. Available from Department of Water website www.water.wa.gov.au

For more information contact Irene Vasquez on 6467 5277 or email irene.vasquez@dec.wa.gov.au or Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au

ZEROING IN

The first phase of the Zero Waste Plan (ZWP) Development Scheme process has commenced. Phase One of the ZWP Scheme involves online data collection from Local Government.

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) has sent correspondence to all Local Governments and Regional Councils in WA informing

them of the details of this phase, including the available funding and how to access it.

Formally constituted Regional Councils will be completing the online survey on behalf of their member Councils. The Regional Councils will therefore receive the funds for their member Councils. Those Local Governments who are not members of a formally constituted Regional Council have to complete their own

forms and will receive funding directly.

The online survey forms need to be completed by **Wednesday 15 August 2007.**

For more information on completing the ZWP online survey or regarding the funding arrangements, please contact James Milne on 6467 5454.

DOWERIN TAKES OVER

The Shire of Dowerin and Dowerin District High School P&C have combined efforts to take over recycling in Dowerin. Previously the Lions Club of Goomalling conducted most of the recycling, however, due to other commitments Goomalling was forced to reduce their services.

The final bundling and marketing of the recyclables will still be conducted by the Goomalling Lions Club and money raised will go to the Dowerin P&C.

Dowerin Recycling Co-ordinator, Adrian Price, previously with the Shires of Wickiepin and Boyup Brook, is

helping the two Shires work together to make small town recycling viable and reduce waste to landfill.

For more information contact Adrian Price at adrianpriceaoy@bigpond.com

ON THE DEC BUILDING BLOCK

A Bit of Direction

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) has released the *Perth Metropolitan Recycling Directory for Construction and Demolition Secondary Resources*. It is available online from the Waste Management Board website

www.zerowastewa.com.au

Board Opportunities

The Waste Management Board is establishing a new online 'Buy Recycled Guide' to help in developing and promoting markets for recycled products. Expressions of interest are sought from retail, wholesale and

manufacturing businesses interested in promoting their products in the guide. Products should be: partly or entirely made of recycled material and accessible to WA consumers.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

SLIPPERY DISCUSSIONS AT THE EPHC

An Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) meeting was held 2 June 2007.

Waste related discussions at the meeting included:

- ◆ Product Stewardship-agreement to finalise proposed National Environment Protection measure for tyres as a priority, with work on other products including

electronic equipment to follow in the future;

- ◆ Plastic Bags - reaffirmed commitment of phasing out plastic bags by January 2009 with a working group established to explore regulatory action;
- ◆ Fluorescent Light Bulbs - welcomed phase out by June 2010 but agreed to explore the need for end-of-life management options; and

- ◆ Used Oil - discussed the acute problem facing WA in the disposal of used oil and agreed to form a working group comprising WA, SA and the Commonwealth to investigate the used oil issue and solutions to it as a matter of priority.

For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au



In the lead up to this years Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference we can look back at the success of last years Conference. Pictured below: Ancient Roman Emperor James Ladyman of Claw Environmental



THE DIG IS OVER



Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) hosted the Red Hill 'Hole in the Ground' celebration to officially launch

On 16 May 2007, their new Class III Stage 11 and Class IV Stage 2 landfill cells. metres in the Class IV for the EMRC.

The major construction project was carried out by Ertech and will provide an additional 1.1 million cubic metres in the Class III cell and 300,000 cubic metres in the Class IV for the EMRC. For more information visit www.emrc.org.au (Source: EMRC Newsletter, June 2007)

A new jetty made from almost 90,000 plastic milk containers and other recycled materials has been built in Swansea, Tasmania



(Source: Environmental Management News, 4 June 2007)

BUILDING COOPERATION

The WA branch of the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) has announced the formation of a working group specialising in issues relating to construction and demolition (C&D) waste recycling.

The inaugural meeting was very well attended by representatives from Local

Government, Main Roads, the Department of Environment and Conservation, C&D recyclers and processors, and consultants.

The group will meet quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 25 September 2007.

For more information contact group chairman Adrian Lester at ajlester@lestergroup.com.au or Bruce Bowman at bruce@promptsettlements.com.au.



GET RECOGNISED

Nominations for the WA 2007 Environment Awards have now opened. The Awards recognize individuals, community groups and businesses who strive to maintain a healthy environment and use resources sustainably.

Past winners include National Lifestyle Villages

(NLV) and Custom Composts (who used innovative methods to recycle potentially pollutant organic waste into high quality compost.)

There are twelve categories and an overall winner will be selected from one of the category winners. Some of the categories include:

- ◆ Government leading by example;
- ◆ Resource and waste management; and
- ◆ Littering and illegal dumping prevention.

Entries close **Friday 3 August 2007.**

For more information visit www.dec.wa.gov.au

BATTERYBACK

Batteryback, a rechargeable battery recycling collection trial, has been launched in Melbourne.

Residents can drop their unwanted batteries at retailers Harvey Norman



where they will be recycled for free. Rechargeable battery manufacturer UniRoss and Cleanaway are operating the program which will see Cleanaway collecting the batteries and sending

them overseas for processing.

For more information visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au

(Source: Environmental Management News, 14 June 2007)

ONLINE SUSTAINABILITY

A database has been developed to help NSW Local Government locate sustainable products and services.

It is designed to meet the unique needs of Councils looking to make their activities and operations environmentally sustainable.

For more information visit www.lgsa-plus.net.au

(Source: Environmental Management News, 28 May 2007)

‘OLD PHONES, NEW TREES’

MobileMuster in partnership with Landcare Australia, has launched an “Old Phones, New Trees” campaign, which will involve the planting of a native tree for every old mobile phone handed in for recycling until the end of June

2007. They have also launched an online education kit for primary and secondary schools on recycling old mobile phones, batteries and accessories.

Landcare is aiming to plant 100,000 trees in the

campaign, targeting the over 15 million old and unused mobile phones in Australia.

For more information visit www.mobilemuster.com.au (Source: ALGA News, 25 May 2007)

RECYCLING STEPS UP IN NZ

Visy Recycling has just been awarded a contract to build the first large scale materials recycling facility (MRF) in New Zealand.

The two Councils financing the MRF, Auckland and Manukau, will also be replacing their existing crate systems with 240L MGB's. The \$18 million facility will be processing 20%

of recyclables from New Zealand's population.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 13 June 2007)

ITALIAN RUBBISH UP IN FLAMES

In early June, sanitation officials in Naples, Italy, were forced to open temporary rubbish disposal sites in short term relief of the refuse collection crisis, which closed schools and sent angry Italian residents to the streets at night to set fire to the mounds

of uncollected waste. The City ran out of space to dispose of rubbish, leaving 3,000 tonnes piled up by roadsides in the city, prompting residents to burn the



rubbish themselves.

Local authorities blamed the crisis on a lack of permission for disposal sites and incinerators in their areas.

(Source: RRF, 8 June 2007)

PACKAGING TAXED OUT OF BELGIAN

The Belgian government proposed tax on non-refillable containers has twice been annulled by the Belgian Court of Arbitration on the basis of discrimination.

now revised the tax to include refillable containers - to be taxed at 1/7 the rate of non-refillable containers - on the assumption they can be reused seven times.

The Belgian government has

attempted to introduce a

carbon-based tax on all packaging materials but due to a lack of environmental justification backed down to apply the tax to plastic bags, plastic films, aluminum foil and disposable cutlery only.

(Source: RRF, 25 May 2007)

INNOVATING JAPAN

Printing in Green

Canon has released an eco-friendly model of its office-use multifunctional printer in Japan.



impact of the manufacturing process of this product has been reduced by 76%, while still meeting the standards required by the Law on Promoting Green Purchasing.

(Source: www.japanfs.org/)

Absorbing the Tyre Problem

Yokohama Rubber Co in Japan has developed 'multifunctional

elastic pavement' from used tyres and silica sand.

The pavement was developed to control traffic noise on local streets, which it does through the high proportion of internal voids and elasticity that reduce and absorb the noise.

(Source: www.japanfs.org/)

A biodegradable car has made its debut at the Science Museum in London.

The body panels are made from kenaf, Asian hemp, driver controls are from a single orb, wing mirrors are proximity sensors and light emitting diodes and the car is powered by lithium ion batteries.



(Source: RRF, 1 June 2007)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 22 August 2007

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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2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 20-22 June 2007 **12th International Congress for Battery Recycling**
Budapest, Hungary
For more information visit www.icm.ch
- 21-24 June 2007 **Recycling Istanbul 07**
Istanbul, Turkey
For more information visit www.ifo.com.tu
- 18-20 July 2007 **Banksia Awards**
Sydney, NSW
For more information visit www.banksiafdn.com
- 18-20 July 2007 **National Energy from Waste Conference 2007**
Sydney, NSW
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au
- 2 August 2007 **4th Australian Wine Industry Environmental Conference**
Adelaide Convention Centre
For more information visit www.awitc.com.au
- 27 August–
2 September **Keep Australia Beautiful Week**
For more information visit www.kab.org.au
- 10-14
September 2007 **Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference**
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au
- 12-18 November
2007 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com.au
- 19-21 November
2007 **2nd National Landfill and Transfer Station Conference**
Melbourne, Victoria
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au

2007 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 4 July 2007 **WA NPC / JPC Small Projects Funding**
For more information contact Reuben Gregor on 6467 5391 or email reuben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.au
- 16 July 2007 **Officers Advisory Group, Officers at Large Nominations**
For more information contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062 or email singlis@walga.asn.au
- 31 July 2007 **Auditing Continuity / Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme Applications**
For more information contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062 or email singlis@walga.asn.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Setting 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.

