



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 99

March 2007

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PLANNING AHEAD

This year's Waste & Recycle Conference themed: *Planning in an Uncertain Climate: A Delicate Balancing Act*, will be held at the Esplande Hotel Fremantle from **10-14 September 2007**.



WASTE & RECYCLE
2007 CONFERENCE
Planning in an Uncertain Climate:
A Delicate Balancing Act?

It will focus upon finding acceptable solutions to the growing production of waste

with the right balance between economic, social and environmental needs.

A call for papers will be out soon.

For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

DROP IN THE OCEAN

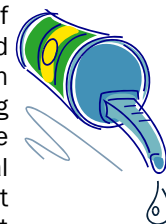
Used motor oil collector, Wren Oil, have sold some of their stored used oil, which has allowed them to start limited collections again.

For further information please contact David Wren from Wren Oil on 9725 4002.

The Municipal Waste

Advisory Council (MWAC) is in facilities and will provide discussions with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and Department of Consumer and Employment Protection (DOCEP) regarding licence conditions for the storage of additional used motor oil onsite at

Local Government



For further information contact Rebecca Brown from the Municipal Waste Advisory Council on 9213 2063.

PAPERED OUT

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) held two workshops to discuss the array of Waste Management Board Papers, released in late 2006.

MWAC would like to thank Local Government Officers and Elected Members who attended these workshops.

Submissions, based on feedback gained from these workshops, are now available for the following:

- ◆ *Household Chemical Waste Storage Guidelines;*
- ◆ *Impacts of Banning Certain Items from Landfill;*
- ◆ *Draft Building Products Strategy;*
- ◆ *Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia;*
- ◆ *Used Glass Market Development;* and
- ◆ *Tyres - Review of Management at Landfill and Used Tyre Stockpile Guidelines.*

MWAC has also developed a submission on the Environmental Protection and Heritage Councils (EPHC) *Regulatory Impact Statement: Investigation of Options to Reduce the Environmental Impact of Plastic Bags*

MWAC's submissions are available from www.wastenet.net.au

BATTERY IN THE WORKPLACE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) is currently conducting a study of used battery collection models.

The study aims to research and recommend possible recycling/alternative treatment collection methods for used household batteries. As a part of the study MWAC carried out a survey on consumer attitudes, commitments and awareness

of battery collection and recycling schemes.

Some key results of the survey were:

- 60.7% of respondents were aware batteries could be recycled;
- Less than 20% of respondents currently separately dispose of their batteries;
- The majority of respondents would use special battery

bins located in public places; and

- The most preferred locations for these were: the workplace; and local and large shopping centres.

Further results of the survey are available from www.wastenet.net.au For more information please contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062.

Male workers at a recycling plant in the UK have gone home smelling suspiciously of roses after recalled perfume was sent to the facility.



(Source: www.news.bbc.co.uk)

GET SUM

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) 2006 Annual Summary is now available. The MWAC Annual Summary contains the key events, achievements and projects of



the Municipal Waste Advisory Council over the 2006 year.

The Annual Summary is available from www.wastenet.net.au

WALGA'S SHIFTING

The Western Australian Local Government Association is holding a forum *The Journey: From Cost Shifting to Sustainability* to discuss issues surrounding cost shifting - its effects, initiatives currently

employed to address it, and models of best practice.

It will be held **9:30am-4:30pm, Friday 20 April 2007**, at the Duxton Hotel and will cost \$190.

For further information, please contact Public Relations Officer, Kate Murray, on 9213 2083 or email kmurray@walga.asn.au

A CHANGE IN CLIMATE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council would like to welcome Hon. David Templeman who was recently appointed Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; and Peel.

Background to New Minister

David Templeman was elected to the Mandurah City Council in 1994, was re-elected in 1997 and was Deputy Mayor until his election to Parliament in February 2001. David was re-elected for his second term as Member for Mandurah in February 2005.

During his first term of Parliament David's Parliamentary duties included Acting Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and

Chairman of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee.

At the start of his second term, David was appointed as Government Whip for the Legislative Assembly and served as a Committee Member of the Economics and Industry Committee.

On 3 February 2006, David was sworn in as Minister for Community Development, Seniors and Volunteering, Youth and Minister assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.

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

MWAC Communication



The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) have identified a number of key issues for Local Government and sent correspondence to the Minister seeking a meeting to discuss the following issues:

- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Bill 2006;
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR);
- Container Deposit Systems (CDS);
- Diversion of waste from landfill/alternative waste treatment;
- Used oil recycling and collection; and
- Carbon credits.

KERBING WASTE IN GERALDTON



GERALDTON GREENOUGH
REGIONAL COUNCIL
WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY

The Geraldton Greenough Regional Council has almost finalised its kerbside recycling plan.

If the newly amalgamated Council supports kerbside recycling, the greater Geraldton area could see the

service in operation by 2008/2009 financial year.

Details are currently being finalised regarding size of bins and which areas will be serviced.

The service will cost approximately \$50 extra on residents rubbish charge. For

this fee residents will gain an extra 120 litres of space for waste a week.

For more information contact Ron Boucher at the Geraldton Greenough Regional Council on 9956 6650.

(Source: *Mid-West Times*, 15 February 2007)

HAPPY 10TH BIRTHDAY

The City of Stirling and their principle recycling contractor, the Atlas Group, are currently celebrating the 10th anniversary of the locally designed and built facility, which initiated the use of Alternative Waste Treatment Technology in Western Australia.



one bin system. At the facility, waste from the bins undergoes a complex sorting process whereby a minimum of 65% of material is recovered; this is then either recycled or composted.

All products that are recyclable are transported offsite for processing. The compost is sent to a farm in Calingiri,

owned by the Atlas Group, where it is matured, screened and used onsite.

The City has a 10 year contract with the Atlas Group, till 2013, for the recycling of their domestic waste.

For more information contact Eddy Albrecht at the City of Stirling on 9345 8797.

The City of Stirling operates a

DROP IN ON SOUTH PERTH

The City of South Perth, in partnership with the South East Metropolitan Regional Council (SEMRC), will be holding a computer drop-off day at the Collier Park Waste Transfer Station.

The computer recycling event will take place **10am-2pm**

Saturday 31 March 2007.

Residents of the City of South Perth will have the opportunity to drop-off computers, printers and machines to be recycled.

This is likely to be the start of



an annual event as the SEMRC's member Councils act on issues of sustainability.

For more information contact Sarah Muirhead at the SEMRC on 9391 6033.

WASTED AT TAMALA PARK

The Young Waste Professionals (YWPs) conducted a site visit to the Mindarie Regional Councils (MRC) Tamala Park Facility and the landfill gas plant on 1 March 2007. The site visit included a tour of the landfill

and recycling facilities, as well as an inside look at the landfill gas facility.

The YWPs would like to thank Mindarie Regional Council and Landfill Gas and Power Pty Ltd for hosting the event.

Any persons interested in joining the YWPs should contact Adam Johnson at the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council on 9424 2223 or email adam.johnson@emrc.org.au

SHREDDING UP THE PILBARA

TPA Australasia is investigating the feasibility of developing a tyre recycling facility in the Pilbara region.

At full capacity the plant will be able to process most tyres, rubber conveyor belts and mountings used in the area.

For more information contact Vic Andrich at TPA Australasia on 9358 2555.

ReCoup, a group of London based musicians, are distributing their new CD single (based specifically on mankind's environmental impacts) with recycled crisp packets as the CD's cover.



(Source: RRF 23 February 2007)

BRIGHT IDEA?

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) has sent correspondence to the Federal Minister for Environment requesting consideration of waste management issues associated with the replacement of incandescent light globes with fluorescent globes.



taken, other environmental issues must also be addressed.

The Australian Council of Recyclers (ACOR) is also concerned by the Federal Governments plans to phase out and replace incandescent light globes with fluorescent globes from years 2008 to 2012.

hazardous waste and any plan to use such globes as a replacement must be accompanied by legislation to make sure they are safely recycled. ACOR suggests that this could be achieved through an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Scheme, administered by globe manufacturers.

Whist MWAC is appreciative that positive action to combat climate change is being

The mercury content in fluorescent globes is a

For more information visit www.acor.org.au

Approx. one million volunteers collected over 8,000 tonnes of litter on this years Clean Up Australia Day, held 4 March 2007.



(Source: www.cleanup.com.au)

DEC FEE INCREASE

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) is currently reviewing the Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulation and will be implementing amendments relating to the

removal of certain powers of the Chief Executive Officer and an increase in the Schedule of Fees.

Amendment of the fee structure within the Controlled Waste Regulations came into effect

Thursday 1 March 2007. Tracking forms used for waste collections after this date will incur the new fees.

For more information contact Samantha West at the DEC on 6467 5291.

LITTER UP

The volume of litter across Australia has increased by 7 % over the past year, according to the Keep Australia Beautiful National Litter Index. The Index measures the types and amounts of litter across Australia and is based on

audits conducted in November 2006.

WA registered an overall increase in litter items, with plastic and paper being the most common materials littered.

49%of WA's litter, by volume, is found along WA's highways.

For more information visit www.kab.org.au (Source: Waste Disposal and Water Management in Australia, February 2007)

NSW LOVES CDS

'Survey figures released by Clean Up Australia show that 83% of people in NSW believe a 10 cent deposit and refund scheme would encourage more people to recycle bottles and cans. And that 89% of people surveyed think drink manufacturers should

be involved in setting up such a deposit and refund scheme.' These comments came from NSW Upper House MP Ian Cohen who has renewed the push for Container Deposit Legislation in NSW; further stating that the current National Packaging Covenant

(NPC) agreement does not force the packaging industry or retailers to take a fair share in the cost of recycling.



(Source: Environmental Management News, 26 February 2007)

CORRECTION ON BOARD

In the February Information Bulletin an article 'New Board Minutes' was published on page 2. There is a



slight correction to this article. The Waste Management Board Minutes will not be available from the

ZeroWaste Website. However, copies will be available from the Department of Environment and Conservation Library.

BENEFICIAL DIRECTION

The UK Governments Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) have published a comprehensive lifecycle assessment study of batteries, *Battery Waste Management Life Cycle Assessment*.

The Report, from environmental consultants ERM, shows a net environmental benefit associated with the implementation of the proposed Directive on batteries and accumulators when compared with disposal.

However, this benefit will come at a significant increase in economic cost.

For more information visit www.defra.gov.uk

(Source: Warmer Bulletin, February 2007)

LACK OF MARKETS COSTLY

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) have published a report titled *Improving Recycling Markets*.

The Report states that while markets for many classes of potentially recyclable materials are growing, market failures and barriers are constraining some markets.

Factors such as information failures, technological externalities and market power can affect the prices, quantity and quality of materials traded.

Markets covered include those for waste oils, waste plastics and used tyres.



The report emphasises that encouraging high recycling rates in the absence of complementary measures in market development may impose high social welfare costs.

For more information visit www.oecd.org

ATTRACTIVE RUBBERS

Developing business, Rubber-Regan from the UK, has won support from WRAP for de-vulcanization, a new technology that is looking to treat rubber from used tyres in such a way as to change the physical

appearance of the rubber and make it attractive for higher end markets.

The process will break down the connecting sulphur bands, which make up the chemical composition of

rubber and return it to its original chemical state.

For more information visit www.imperialinnovations.co.uk

(Source: www.letsrecycle.com)



LOOK ON THE PLUS SIDE

ACR+ have published the results of a survey, undertaken in 2005, of more than 35 local and regional authorities in Europe.

The survey aimed to identify the current situation in terms of waste management strategies at the local and regional level.

For more information visit www.acrplus.org

(Source: Warmer Bulletin, February 2007)

STEPIING UP EFFORTS TO TACKLE E'S

The UN is to set up an initiative to extend the life of computers and electronic equipment and tackle the growing problem of 'e-waste' in the developing world. Solving the E-waste Problem (StEP) is a consortium of major hardware

manufacturers, software companies, the UN and partner organisations.

The key goals of the initiative will be: to draw up global standards for recycling; extending the life of products; thus creating markets for their

reuse; and harmonising world legislation and policy toward e-waste.

For more information visit www.step-initiative.org

(Source: www.scidev.net)

To reduce the waste spike in the UK caused by Valentines Day (approx. 9 million red roses given and 12 million Valentine's cards sent) in the future residents are asked to: use cards requiring less packaging & recycle them; and buy unpackaged local flowers & compost them afterwards.



(Source: www.edie.net)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 18 April 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

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2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 23-24 April 2007 **Identi Plast 2007**
Concert Noble, Brussels, Belgium
For more information visit www.plasticseurope.org
- 26 April 2007 **Alternative Waste Technologies**
London, UK
For more information visit www.alternative-waste.co.uk
- 6-12 May 2007 **International Compost Week**
For more information visit www.compostingcouncil.org
- 11-12 May 2007 **Australian Tidy Towns Awards**
Ballarat, Victoria
For more information visit www.kab.org.au/tidytowns
- 20-22 June 2007 **12th International Congress for Battery Recycling**
Budapest, Hungary
For more information visit www.icm.ch
- 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
- 27 August–
2 September 2007 **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
- 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

- 30 March 2007 **Comments on Technology and Market Development for Tyre Derived Products**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 14 April 2007 **Comments on Waste and Recycling Infrastructure Census**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Setting the Environment Right"

WHAT IS THE MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL?



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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.



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

