

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 105

September 2007

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WASTE & RECYCLE OVER FOR 2007

The Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference, *Planning in an Uncertain Climate: A Delicate Balancing Act?*, held at the Esplanade Hotel Fremantle, was a huge success!

Keynote speaker Liza Heinzerling, a Professor of Law from Georgetown University in the US, proved to be a crowd favorite. Her insight into assessment methods for environmental policy provided a stimulating

talking point throughout the Conference.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) booth lived up to its reputation, with delegates who dared to wander near challenged into



(Pictured left: George Naylor from the City of Gosnells)

juggling their 'triple bottom line'.

Plans are already underway for the Waste & Recycle 2008 Conference, *The Heat is on: No Time to Waste*, to be held **Monday 8 to Friday 12 September 2008**, at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle.

More information will soon be available from the Waste & Recycle Conference website www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

MINISTER REACHES THE SUMMIT

On Monday 10 September 2007, a pre-Conference, Ministerial Waste Summit: *Partnering for Success—The Road to Best Practice*, was held.

The Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel, Hon David Templeman hosted the



Summit which was well attended by a range of Local Government representatives.

At the Summit, the Minister outlined the implications of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Bill. The Minister acknowledged that Local Government should not have to pick-up all of the costs associated with waste management and producers

of material should take more responsibility.

The Minister emphasised the provisions in the WARR Bill for Extended Producer Responsibility and outlined how these provisions would facilitate more appropriate cost sharing such as providing an economic incentive to manufacturers to consider disposal when designing products.

SQUEEZING OUT THE LAST DROP

The two used motor oil recyclers in WA (Wren Oil and Nationwide) have announced that they will now be charging for collections of used oil.

The charge will be used to cover the cost of heavy fuel

oil, which is being blended with the used oil to make a suitable export under the Basel Convention.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) has written to the Federal Minister for the Environment and Water

Resources for assistance.

Local Governments are urged to do the same. For assistance in sending correspondence please contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062 or email singlis@walga.asn.au

MWAC'S BI REVIEW

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) is undertaking a biennial review of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Landfill Levy and Strategic Waste Funding Policy Statement.

A copy of the updated Policy

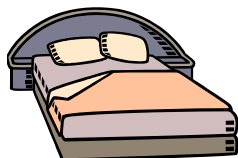
Statement is available from www.wastenet.net.au

A key question in the updated Policy Statement that feedback is sought on, is support for the imposition of the Landfill Levy to certain Local Governments outside of the metropolitan area (Regional Centres).

Comments should be emailed to mgraham@walga.asn.au by **Friday 5 October 2007**.

For more information contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au

An eco-friendly mattress has been developed by the Sustainable Technologies Initiative in the US. The mattress replaces non-renewable foam and polyester with natural materials such as wool and recycled fibres.



(Source: RRF, 24 August 2007)

BACK TO SCHOOL

On Tuesday 11 September 2007, at the Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference, the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) hosted a Young Professionals (YP) session.



The session was well attended by young professionals and veterans of the field alike. The

session was a big success and a great opportunity to showcase new members to the industry.

A big thankyou to WMAA and the YPs who organised the event and even dressed the part (pictured left).

For more information on the YPs contact James Ladyman on 04 38 257 864 or email jladyman@clawenvironmental.com

THE FINAL ORGANIC

The draft Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Policy Statement and Background Paper on Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land has now closed for comment.

Thank you to all those Local

Governments who provided feedback on the draft Policy Statement.

The draft Policy Statement will now go the Municipal Waste Advisory Council where it will undergo any final changes before endorsement is sought.

The endorsed Policy Statement will be circulated to Local Government later in the year.

For more information please contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au

GET YOUR SLICE

Round 2 of the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) for 2007 is now open. Business and industry, Local Government, community groups and individuals are eligible to apply. Preferred project areas are:

- ◆ Product Stewardship;
- ◆ Used Oil Reuse;
- ◆ Container Deposit Systems;
- ◆ Organics Market Development Projects;
- ◆ Establishment of Demonstration Sites;
- ◆ Source-based Auditing of the Commercial and Industrial Waste Stream; and

- ◆ Hospitality Industry Waste Auditing.

The closing date for Round 2 applications is **Friday 5th October 2007**.

Successful applicants to Round 1 SWIS funding for 2007 have been announced. A total of \$900,000 worth of grants was awarded. Some of the grants included:

- ◆ City of Albany - Refinement of Crushing Building Rubble;
- ◆ City of Nedlands - Performance review of a 3



Bin Municipal Waste System;

- ◆ Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) - Developing Markets for Recycled Organics in the viticulture, orchard & horticulture industries; and
- ◆ Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) - Market Development for Used Glass.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au or for more information on Round 2 contact Paul Ward on 6467 5320 or email paul.ward@dec.wa.gov.au

AC/DC SCHEME PAYS OFF

Period 2, the last period of the Auditing Continuity / Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme, closed 31 July 2007.

Payments for Period 1 of the AC/DC Scheme have now

been distributed to Local Government. Accompanying this, rural Local Governments will have also received funds from the Rural Recycling Cost Offset Scheme (RRCOS). It is intended that these funds be

linked to improving recycling in rural Local Governments.

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

WHO'S THE BOSS NOW?

Alex Sheridan has been appointed as the new CEO of the South East Metropolitan Regional Council (SEMRC). Alex commences his position on 2 October 2007.



Technical Services at the Town of Victoria Park. Alex has also been actively involved in the Mindarie Regional Council (MRC), assisting in the tender process for the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF).

Serpentine-Jarrahdale and City of Mandurah will be joining the City of South Perth, Armadale and Gosnells in the SEMRC. The new office for the SEMRC is located in Armadale.

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

Originally from Scotland, Alex has worked in Local Government in Perth for 17 years, with 9 years as Executive Manager for

The Shire of Murray,

GOT WOOD?



The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) will shortly open its Hazelmere Timber Recycling Centre at Lakes Road, Hazelmere.

Initially, the Centre will accept untreated industrial timber waste such as pallets and packaging and process it into woodchip for use as a raw material to several end markets. One of these

predominant markets is in the manufacture of particleboard at The Laminex Group plant in Dardanup. It is proposed to then expand the range of materials accepted to timber waste generated from construction and demolition activities.



A gate fee will apply for all untreated industrial timber waste disposed of at the site.

The EMRC's initial estimates indicate about 15,000 tonnes of timber waste may be received in the first year, with this reaching about 50,000 tonnes within three years. For more information contact Geraldine Busby at the EMRC on 9424 2220 or email Geraldine.Busby@emrc.org.au

Fujitsu has designed a notebook with a biodegradable cornstarch chassis. When disposed of, the chassis will decompose in a number of months.



(Source: RRF, 24 August 2007)

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council



(SMRC) for award for its efforts in winning the 2007 Greenhouse Challenge plus

For more information visit www.smrc.com.au

GET TRAINED IN WASTE

The WA Horticulture & Environmental Science Skills Centre at Challenger TAFE WA is offering a range of opportunities to gain formal qualifications in the waste management industry.

These include Certificate II, III

or IV in Waste Management (Asset Maintenance), which are relevant to a variety of occupations in the waste industry. There is also an opportunity for Skills Recognition of prior knowledge and skills related to the course.

For more information visit www.horticulture.challenger.tafe.wa.edu.au or contact Troy Webster, Lecturer Waste Management on 9229 8442 or email troy.webster@challengertafe.wa.edu.au

DRUMMING TO AN OLD BEAT

drumMUSTER has had its recycling of empty, cleaned, For more information visit
 10th million drum, in its eight non returnable crop www.drummuster.com.au
 year history, delivered. production and on-farm
 drumMUSTER is the national animal health chemical
 program for the collection and containers. (Source: ALGA News, 24 August 2007)



A new psychological disorder, eco-anxiety, has been identified as on the increase. Sufferers experience an overwhelming and sometimes debilitating concern for the worsening state of the environment. A common symptom is a feeling of hopelessness about where the polar bears will live if they lose their habitat.



(Source: www.time.com)

MATERIAL OBLIGATIONS

In April 2007 the (NEPM) on used packaging and keeping of records; and
 Environmental Protection materials. achieving minimum recovery
 Regulations 2007 were rates for packaging
 gazetted and became The Regulations support the materials.
 enforceable. National Packaging Covenant and obligate Local
 The Regulations implement Government, operators of For more information
 the National Environment material recovery systems and contact Reuben Gregor on
 Protection Measure 2005 brand owners on: reporting 6467 5391 or email reu-
 ben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.au

A PLASTIC REDUCTION

The Carnarvon based project funded through the from use, and has enforced
 Gascoyne Growers Market Towards Zero Waste a reusable, recycled and
 has gone plastic bag free. Community Grants Scheme. recyclable alternative to
 plastic within the
 marketplace.
 The Market is a community leader in the reduction of plastic packaging with the
 Plastic Bag Free The project has also provided a focus on
 overcoming the practical
 implications of
 withdrawing plastic bags
 For more information visit
www.zerowastewa.com.au
 (Source: Waste Management Board News, 5 August 2007)



RISKY BUSINESS

The Environmental chemicals for comment. Submissions close **Friday 23**
 Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) has They set out national best **November 2007.**
 released two environmental practice for conducting For more information visit
 risk assessment manuals for environmental risk www.ephc.gov.au
 the management of assessments, including (Source: WME, September
 industrial and agricultural transparency to stakeholders. 2007)

NO DEDICATION

The South Australian Local of the levies' ability to drive objecting to the levies.
 Government Association (LGA) change in municipal waste and For more information contact
 has begun a campaign not all of the funds are Adam Gray at the SA LGA, on
 against the SA State dedicated to waste 08 8224 2055 or email
 Government new waste levies. management adam.gray@lga.sa.gov.au
 They are objecting to the SA Local Governments have (Source: RRF, 10 August 2007)
 levies because there was no been urged to write to the SA
 consultation, no assessment Environment Minister,

CANNED SPECIFICATIONS

As of July 2007, the ACOR revised. The new available from the ACOR
 steel can recycling specifications for kerbside website www.acor.org.au
 specification has been collected steel cans is



THE RECOVINYL TOUCH

Plastic Recycling

Europe's PVC industry recycled 82,800 tonnes of plastic in 2006, more than twice the total in 2005, with the increase attributed to the Recovynl program that provides collection points and

puts consumers in touch with recyclers.

(Source: WME, May 2007)



Battery

The European Battery Recycling Association (EBRA) has

reported 30,870 tonnes of portable batteries recycled in 2006. This is an increase of 19% from 2005. The greatest proportion of batteries recycled is primary batteries (26,928 tonnes).

(Source: RRF, 27 July 2007)

SCHWARZENEGGER'S PLASTIC INITIATIVE

On July 1 2007, California has become the first state in the US to initiate a mandatory recycling program to cut down on its plastic bags.

Supermarkets, pharmacies and other major retail outlets in the State must now provide recycling bins to make it easier

for customers to recycle their bags.

(Source: Warmer Bulletin, August 2007)

BERR STRATEGY

The Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) in the UK has drawn up a draft strategy on Sustainable Construction, which is now out for comment.

amount of construction waste sent to landfill from 2005 levels by 2012, and possibly zero waste to landfill by 2020.

making compulsory. This would mean businesses will have to draw-up plans explaining how waste will be managed before beginning work on-site.

Targets proposed in the draft include halving the



It also wants contractors to draw up Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs), which Defra is presently considering

For more information visit www.berr.gov.uk

(Source: www.letsrecycle.com)

IMPORT BAN

The Malaysian government has announced a ban on the import of plastic waste into Malaysia for five years

beginning October 1 2007. The ban is to ensure Malaysia will not be the destination for cleaning and processing other

countries contaminated wastes.

(Source: RRF, 31 August 2007)

UNIVERSIAL REDUCTION

According to an international study on sustainability and environmental trends, waste reduction is the most important environmental issue facing manufacturing businesses today.

The study of more than 1,000 people found that while there are differences in emphasis around the world, the priority for companies both big and small is to reduce their own

environmental footprint through reducing waste.

For more information visit www.dowcorning.com

(Source: RRF, 18 September 2007)

THE ONE AND ONLY ZERO

Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates, is attempting to become the world's first zero-waste, zero-carbon city. This

should be quite a challenge for the fourth largest OPEC oil producer and one of the highest per capita emitters of

greenhouse gas emissions in the world.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 14 September 2007)

Clam and oyster shells from the Hampton Roads area of Southeast Virginia, USA, are finding their way back to their original habitat in Chesapeake Bay. Locals are collecting discarded shells from restaurants and recycling them by returning them to the bay to provide habitat for future generations of shell fish.



(Source: RRF, 24 August 2007)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 17 October 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

- 10-11 October 2007** **Producer Responsibility and Liberalisation of Services Conference**
Leige, Belgium
For more information visit www.conferenceacropidec.be/pages/accueil/en.php
- 16-19 October 2007** **Waste 2007—Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Conference**
Coffs Harbour, NSW
For more information visit www.impactenviro.com.au/waste2007/
- 6-8 November 2007** **WasteMINZ 19th Annual Conference**
New Zealand
For more information visit www.wasteminz.org.nz
- 6-7 November 2007** **Food Consumers & Resource Recovery Conference**
London, UK
For more information visit www.resourcesnotwaste.org
- 12-18 November 2007** **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com.au
- 14-15 November 2007** **LARAC (Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee) Conference 2007**
Telford, UK
For more information visit www.larac2007.co.uk
- 19-21 November 2007** **2nd National Landfill and Transfer Station Conference**
Melbourne, Victoria
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au
- 19-21 November 2007** **Sustainable Waste Management – A Long Term View**
The Waste Management Association of Australia, Victorian State Conference.
Melbourne, Victoria
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au

2007 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 28 September 2007** **Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) Grants**
Applications for litter prevention grants
For more information visit www.kabc.wa.gov.au
- 5 October 2007** **Comments on WALGA Draft Revised Policy Statement on the Landfill Levy and Strategic Waste Funding**
For more information contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au or visit www.wastenet.net.au
- 5 October 2007** **Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) funding Round 2**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting Our 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

