



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 98

February 2007

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Model Study Battery collection model study	2
Smell No More SMRC update	2
AC/DC First Tour Complete First phase of AC/DC Scheme	2
Rolling Out Captain Clean Up City of Joondalup activities	2
New Board Minutes WMB Minutes now available	2
Funds for All SWIS and CGS out now	3
Get Clean of Chemicals ChemClear Program roll out	3
CDS Bottom Analysis Triple Bottom line analysis of CDS	3
Melville Muster Mobile Muster in Melville	3
Brief Contamination Contaminated Sites Legislation	3
Cleaning Up Climate Change Clean up Australia Day	4
CDS Come Back Conservation Council and CDS	4
Best DUMPs of 2006 DUMP Awards	4
Recycling 'One-Stop-Shop' Buy Recyclable Business Alliance	4
Best Practice Makes Perfect NZ Plastic guidelines	5
Not a Good Vista Impact of Microsoft's Vista	5
UK Into Battery Battery programs in UK	5
Trashing the World China waste out put	5
Regional Councils Spreading UK to have joint waste authorities	5
Plastic Innovations Different plastic innovations world wide	5

CRISIS? WHAT CRISIS?

The two major used motor oil recyclers in WA (Nationwide and Wren Oil) are providing only limited used motor oil collection services to Local Government. This situation has arisen for several reasons. The short-term cause is the closure of one of the major consumers of used motor oil (Loongana Lime). The longer term cause, is a lack of markets for used motor oil in Western Australia. Much of the oil has traditionally been used as burner fuel and as more companies move toward cleaner production it is unlikely this market will expand.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council have met with Local Government officers and representatives

from the Department of Environment and Conservation to gain clarification on the issues, an understanding of the State Government's position and activities and to discuss strategies for further action.

In the short-term, the only option appears to be storage (either on site, or transportation to another storage facility). Transport to other states for use, market development and Extended Producer Responsibility are the longer-term possible solutions.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council is actively pursuing storage and funding options to deal with the short term problem. MWAC are also liaising with the Federal

Department of the Environment and Water Resources (formerly Department of Environment and Heritage) and will be writing to the Federal Minister to fully appraise him of the situation and to ask for action on this issue.

To enable MWAC to gain a full picture of the situation, regarding storage capacity, a survey of Local Governments with used oil collection infrastructure has been undertaken. Please can any Local Governments who have not already done so please return the surveys as soon as possible. For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au

WONDERFUL WASTE WORKSHOPS

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

The first workshop, held in January, covered:

- ◆ Household Chemical Waste Storage Guidelines;
- ◆ Impacts of Banning Certain Items from Landfill; and
- ◆ Draft Building Products Strategy.

MWAC responses developed from these workshops, have been submitted to the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

The second workshop, held in February, covered:

- ◆ Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia;
- ◆ Used Glass Market Development;
- ◆ Tyres - Review of Management at Landfill;
- ◆ Used Tyre Stockpile Guidelines; and
- ◆ Technology and Market

Development for Tyre Derived Products.

MWAC is currently developing a response to these papers, any comments should be emailed to Megan Graham at mgraham@walga.asn.au Submissions and Draft Submissions will be available from the WasteNet website www.wastenet.net.au



MODEL STUDY

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



treatment collection methods for household batteries. As a part of the Study MWAC is carrying out a survey on consumer attitudes, commitments

The survey is available at www.wastenet.net.au

For more information on the Battery Collection Model Study contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062.

The Study aims to research and awareness of battery and recommend possible collection and recycling recycling/alternative schemes.



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

SMELL NO MORE

The Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC), Canning Vale Waste Composting Facility has reopened, after being temporarily closed down by an Environmental Protection Act Prevention Notice.

Robert Atkins, from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) said "the prevention notice was removed after the DEC received an independently verified assurance from the SMRC that the issues identified in the notice had been addressed."

The Facility reopened at half capacity for one week, and after the plant complied with specifications in this time, it was allowed to increase to full capacity.

For more information contact Chuck Ellis at the SMRC on 9329 2714.

London's two free evening papers, London Lite and the London Paper, could be banned from parts of Central London if their publishers refuse to tackle the problem of litter.

The papers cause an extra 3 tonnes of waste in the borough every day.



(Source: RRF, 31 January 2007)

AC/DC FIRST TOUR COMPLETE

Applications for the first Period of the Auditing Continuity/Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme closed on 31 January 2007.

56 applications were received from Local Government. This is down from previous numbers

applying in Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme Periods but still significant, particularly considering the change in funding arrangements.

Applications are currently being recorded and assessed by the

Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

For more information on the AC/DC Scheme contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062.

ROLLING OUT CAPTAIN CLEAN UP

Bin Roll Out

As part of the City's adopted Waste Management Strategy implementation, the City of Joondalup is currently upgrading their kerbside recycling collection bags to 240L mobile garbage bins (MGBs).

The recycling bin program and the introduction of the first stage of Resource Recovery into the region (scheduled for 2008) will see the current 14%

diversion rate from landfill jump to over 50%. 10,000 MGBs have already been distributed, with approximately 1,000 new bins being delivered each week.

Promotional campaigns are being run at local shopping centres.

Captain Clean Up

The City also ran a Captain Clean Up promotion at the children's Little Feet Festival, held in late January. The Captain Clean Up

campaign includes signing up 'recycling rookies' who help to recycle in the home.

Upgrade

The Cities of Joondalup, Swan and Wanneroo will be upgrading the Wangara Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). This is a \$3.9 million upgrade on the facility.

For more information contact Peter Hoar at the City of Joondalup on 9400 4592.

NEW BOARD MINUTES

The Minutes of Waste Management Board Meetings are now available to the public.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council welcomes this change in policy.

The minutes can be accessed from www.zerowastewa.com.au

FUNDS FOR ALL

SWIS
Expressions of Interest (Eols) for the Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme (SWIS) funding are due by **Friday 23 February 2007**.

The Waste Management Board's preferred project areas for this round of funding are: organics; building products; glass; paint; Business and Industry

(SME); Industry (large); and Regional, Rural and Remote.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

Community Grants Scheme
Applications for Community Grants Scheme funding are due by **Friday 16 March 2007**.

Community based, local interest and environmental

groups, as well as individuals are invited to apply. Funding will be provided for successful local community scale projects, which are consistent with the Waste Management Board's Statement of Strategic Direction for Western Australia.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

GET CLEAN OF CHEMICALS

The ChemClear program has been granted funding for an upcoming rural chemical collection across WA.

Group 1 chemicals (registered chemicals, supported by a levy into a stewardship program) will be collected for free and Group 2 (unregistered,



deregistered, unknown or mixed chemicals) have a fee for their collection. The fee is subsidised by primary producers and farmers.

The collection will be taking place in April 2007. Interested parties need to book their unwanted chemicals for collection prior to

the commencement of the retrieval.

Any Local Governments interested in the service need to take an inventory of their unwanted chemicals and contact the ChemClear booking line on 1800 008 182 or register online at www.chemclear.com.au

CDS BOTTOM ANALYSIS

The State Government has appointed consultants McLennan Magasanik Associates to undertake a full economic analysis - including triple bottom line consideration - of Container Deposit Systems (CDS).

The Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) formed to investigate the benefits of the deposit-refund system in

WA released an interim report in December 2006 which believed it would at least double WA's present beverage container recycling rate.

The group also hoped CDS would support existing kerbside recycling and reduce waste management costs for Councils.

The Western Australian Local Government Association Policy Statement on Container Deposit Systems is available from the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au

(Source: Environment News, 9 February 2007)

MELVILLE MUSTER

The City of Melville has installed two mobile phone recycling stations as part of the Mobile Muster campaign. These can be found at the

Council offices in Booragoon and Murdoch.

The Stations also accept mobile phone accessories.

For more information contact Stuart Edwards at the City of Melville on 9364 0270.

BRIEF CONTAMINATION

The Contaminated Sites Act came into effect on the 1st of December 2006. The Western Australian Local

Government Association has put together a brief on the Act, to help Local Government comply.

The brief can be obtained from Melanie Bainbridge at mbainbridge@walga.asn.au

Householders in the UK have been told to fit odour eaters into their MGB's in an attempt to tackle foul smells caused by the introduction of fortnightly collections instead of weekly.



(Source: www.letsrecycle.com)



CLEANING UP CLIMATE CHANGE

For the first time, Clean Up Australian Day will target climate change, including practical measures the community can adopt to help cut greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2006, 700,000 volunteers removed more than 9000 tonnes of rubbish at over

7,500 sites during Clean Up Australia Day.

In 2007, Clean Up Australia Day Organisers are aiming to sign up one million volunteers.

Clean Up Australia Day is **Sunday 4 March 2007** and

Clean Up Australia Day for Schools and Local Governments is **Friday 2 March 2007**.



To register a site to be cleaned up in your local area, or to volunteer, visit www.cleanup.com.au or phone 1800 282 329.

CDS COME BACK

The Conservation Council of Western Australia (CCWA) is a member of the Boomerang Alliance of environment groups and Local Government.

Together they are gathering support from environmental

and affiliate groups for their position on Container Deposit Systems (CDS).

Over 39 Local Government, community and environment groups have already signed in support of CDS.

If you would like to support the Conservation Council's statement of position on Container Deposit Systems please visit www.conservationwa.asn.au

BEST DUMPS OF 2006

The 2006 Dump Awards list poor packaging design in six different categories. The 2006 winners were:

- ◆ Peoples Choice Award, "Loser of the Year" went to Safeway and Coles supermarkets for needlessly packaging fruit and vegetables in multipacks. Nearly 30% of people nominated this type of packaging;
- ◆ Excessive Use of Material DUMP Award went to the packaging of a Fisher Price toy which included a marketing device requiring

3 AA batteries. Fisher Price instructs consumers to throw the powered device away with the packaging;

- ◆ The Going Backwards DUMP Award went to Nescafe Short Black coffee in a smoky black glass jar which would be rejected for recycling;
- ◆ Misleading Labelling for Waste Management DUMP Award went to Smith's Stax for packaging that is labelled in a way which is confusing to the consumer with respect to how best to dispose of emptied items;

- ◆ The Likely to be Littered DUMP Award went to Seakist Lunch Kit for inappropriate packaging around products that are likely to be consumed away from home and out of doors; and
- ◆ The Poorly Designed for Recycling DUMP Award went to all plastic and glass bottles using a full plastic sleeve as a label.

For more information visit www.envict.org.au

(Source: www.envict.org.au)

RECYCLING 'ONE-STOP-SHOP'

The Buy Recycled Business Alliance (BRBA) has just released a three-year Business Plan for 2006-9 outlining key actions and objectives for the organisation.

The BRBA provides companies with practical help to influence the demand for Recycled

Content Products (RCPs) by encouraging the purchase of these products which strongly contributes to corporate sustainability.

A key aspect of their business plan includes development of an online database of recycled content products to provide a

'one-stop-shop' of detailed information on RCPs nationally.

For more information visit www.brba.com.au

(Source: *Waste Disposal and Water Management In Australia*, December 2006)

Germans have found a novel way of recycling thousands of used and unsold Christmas trees: give them to the local zoo to feed to the animals.



(Source: <http://uk.news.yahoo.com>)

BEST PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

The New Zealand plastics industry has published a best practice guide on design for the environment. It suggests ways that product developers can identify opportunities for changes that will reduce the environmental impacts of the products they are creating. For more information visit www.plastics.org.nz

NOT A GOOD VISTA

The release of Microsoft's Vista operating system has sparked fears that millions of computers will become obsolete. as the global standard but many existing machines will not have the hardware necessary to support Vista. business computers in North America would not be compatible with the basic version of Vista while 94% could not currently cope with the premium version.

The new operating system is designed to replace Windows. A study by Softchoice Corporation in the USA suggested that around half the (Source: www.edie.net/news)

UK INTO BATTERY

Kerbing Batteries

A local Council in the UK has now included household batteries in its normal kerbside recycling collection. Householders are given a special plastic bag to put batteries into within their normal recycling bin. These batteries are then taken to a processor to be recycled.

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



Net Benefit at Net Cost

The UK Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has published a comprehensive lifecycle assessment study of batteries. The Report shows that there is 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 with a significant increase in economic costs.

For more information visit www.defra.gov.uk

(Source: RRF 31 January 2007)

TRASHING THE WORLD

According to a Government Study, China's fast-growing cities will be unable to cope with the amount of rubbish they produce by 2020. By that time the garbage produced annually will reach 400 million tonnes, equivalent to the figure for the entire world in 1997. (Source: www.guardian.co.uk/)

REGIONAL COUNCILS SPREADING

The UK Government has announced new powers for English Local Governments, which will allow two or more Councils to establish a statutory Joint Waste Authority. The Joint Waste Authorities would be similar to Regional Councils currently operating in Western Australia. (Source: www.letsrecycle.com)

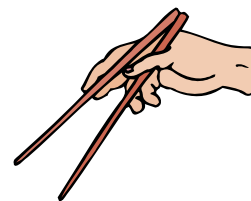
PLASTIC INNOVATIONS

In India a Chemistry Professor has developed a zero-pollution industrial process to convert non-biodegradable and mostly non-recyclable plastic waste into liquid hydrocarbons. (Source: RRF, 2 February 2007)

A Professor at Sojo University in Japan has developed a chemical reaction that completely decomposes PET bottles to raw materials within two minutes in a microwave reactor vessel. This reaction is the fastest of its type in the world. (Source: www.japanfs.org/db/)

25 billion pairs chopsticks are used annually in Japan - 200 pairs per capita.

The "My Chopsticks" movement hopes to reverse this throwaway culture by encouraging people to bring their own chopsticks when eating out.



(Source: www.japanfs.org)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 21 February 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

MWAC A/Manager, Waste & Recycling

Ms Rebecca Brown

Tel: 08 9213 2063

Email: rbrown@walga.asn.au

MWAC Policy Coordinator

Ms Megan Graham

Tel: 08 9213 2086

Email: mgraham@walga.asn.au

MWAC Waste Management Officer

Ms Shelly Inglis

Tel. 08 9213 2062

Email: singlis@walga.asn.au

Office:

Local Government House

15 Altona Street,

WEST PERTH WA 6005

Postal Address:

PO Box 1544,

WEST PERTH WA 6872

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2 & 4 March 2007 **Clean up Australia Day 2007**
For more information visit www.cleanup.com.au
- 6-7 March 2007 **Global Plastics Recycling Conference**
Florida, USA
For more information visit <http://www.wmaa.asn.au/director/events/international.cfm?itemID=72E4572ACA42AB4592F91640E4024261>
- 6-12 May 2007 **International Compost Week**
For more information visit www.compostingcouncil.org/section.cfm?id=25
- 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, Australia
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au/director/events/national_and_major_events.cfm?itemID=0483D608AEFFA64C0E3261B82706A26

2007 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 16 February 2007 **Comments on Draft Building Products Strategy**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 23 February 2007 **Expressions of Interest (EoI)s for Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) Funding**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 26 February 2007 **Comments on Regulatory Impact Statement: Investigation of Options to Reduce the Environmental Impact of Plastic Bags**
For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au/ephc/plastic_bags.html
- 2 March 2007 **Comments on Review of Management of Used Tyres at Landfill Sites and Review of Management and Operation of Used Tyre Stockpiles: Stockpile Guidelines**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 March 2007 **Comments on Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 March 2007 **Comments on Used Glass Development**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 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.

