



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 101

May 2007

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Young + Waste—We Need You Young Waste Professionals at Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference	2
Working it in Kalgoorlie MWAC Officers Non-Metro Workshop	2
Explosive Situation Used oil explodes in Busselton	2
New MWAC Executive Officer Rebecca Brown gets the job!	2
New Stage on Brockway WMRC contract with AnaeCo	3
Board Survey WMB releases survey report.	3
EMRC Annual Report Release of 05/06 Annual Report	3
Campbell for Campbell Jenny Campbell leaves the DEC	3
Attention Good Holes National Landfill Excellence Awards 2007	4
Milk Money Avon Valley Dairy returnable bottles	4
Swansea Tidiest Town Swansea, Tasmania wins Tidiest Town Award	4
Contractual Diversions Liverpool signs new contract	4
Kerbing the MobileMuster MobileMuster going to Victorian households	4
Reducing Wood Waste National Timber Forum	4
Recycling UK Style C&D, Paper Quality and Recycling Court case	5
Producing Responsibility Israel updates Container Deposit Law	5
Touching Base Canadian Battery Study	5
Hazardous Restrictions in Korea E-Waste Laws	5
A Greener Apple? Improving Apples Environmental Performance	5

## WASTE & RECYCLE—PAPERS DUE

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** has now issued a call for papers and

preliminary Conference details.

Abstracts for papers need to be submitted by **COB Wednesday 6 June 2007**.



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

For more information visit [www.wasteandrecycling.com.au](http://www.wasteandrecycling.com.au)

## ZWP—COMMENT NOW

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC), in conjunction with officers from Local Government and Regional Councils, has been working collaboratively with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) to give shape to Zero Waste Plans (ZWP).

Zero Waste Plans are intended to ensure a consistent and rigorous approach to waste management throughout the State.

The Plans are also intended to be useful planning tools for Local Government. However, they do not commit Local Government to undertake all of the actions outlined in them.

The Plans will provide a tool for the DEC, Waste Management Board and Minister when assessing applications for waste infrastructure funding and deciding strategic direction for the State.

Local Governments are strongly encouraged to provide feedback by **COB Friday 25 May 2007**.

The possible structure for the plans and the anticipated timeline has been sent out to all Local Governments.

For more information visit the WasteNet Website [www.wastenet.net.au](http://www.wastenet.net.au)

## MINI ME—NPC

Missed out on SWIS funding and the last round of the NPC? Got a small scale project related to packaging waste?



development of recycled packaging material.

than \$50,000, it is still worth putting in an EoI—the next funding round of the full NPC closes in November.

The WA Jurisdictional Projects Group (of the NPC) is taking the initiative—amounts of up to \$50,000 are available for projects relating to the recovery packaging market

Local Governments are eligible to apply (through the membership of the WA Local Government Association). Expressions of Interest (EoI) should be received by **Wednesday 4 July 2007**.

For more information contact Reuben Gregor at the Department of Environment of Conservation on 6467 5391 or email [reuben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.au](mailto:reuben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.au)

## YOUNG + WASTE—WE NEED YOU

At the Waste & Recycle Conference 2007, the WMAA's Young Waste Professionals (YWP) Group are holding a half day session on Tuesday 11 September 2007.

Presenters are now being sought. We are looking for people from the waste industry (or those currently studying in related areas), who are under 35 (or young at heart).

as it is related to the Conference theme and waste management (however tenuously).



chance. Students are also encouraged to participate.

The call for papers closes **Thursday 31 May 2007.**

To get a copy of the call for papers or for more information please contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email [rbrown@walga.asn.au](mailto:rbrown@walga.asn.au)

A USA County is developing plans to turn local beer waste into ethanol, which will produce enough energy to power most of the county's fleet vehicles.



(Source: RRF, 20 April 2007)

Your presentation can cover pretty much anything, as long

If you've never presented at a Conference before, this is your

## WORKING IT IN KALGOORLIE

On Monday 14 May 2007 Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) Officers held a non-metropolitan workshop at the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.



(Pictured Above: MWAC Officers at Superpit in Kalgoorlie)

At the workshop, the implications for Local Government of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Bill, Zero Waste Plans (ZWP), Used Oil recycling situation and Container Deposit Systems (CDS) were explored.

The workshop was attended by representatives from the Shires of Esperance, Coolgardie, Leonora, Laverton, Menzies and

the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

MWAC would like to thank the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder for hosting the workshop and all workshop attendees for their input.

For more information on the workshop outcomes or information presented please contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062 or email [singlis@walga.asn.au](mailto:singlis@walga.asn.au)

## EXPLOSIVE SITUATION



Drums of used oil placed in a MGB in the Shire of Busselton exploded when the bin was collected.

The MGB contained three drums of used motor oil, totaling 60L. When the drums were hit by the paddle in the compactor they exploded, simultaneously spraying thick black oil all over the cab.

The clean up cost for the Shire was in the region of \$700, which they billed to the householder.

Given the current used oil recycling situation in WA, the potential for events of this nature to occur will only increase.

(Pictured left: Shire of Busselton rubbish truck covered in used oil)

(Source: Busselton-Dunsborough Mail, 28 March 2007)

## NEW MWAC EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Rebecca Brown has been appointed to the role of MWAC Executive Officer. For the past four months Rebecca has been acting in the role.

Rebecca has been working for MWAC since 2003, fulfilling roles as both Waste Management Officer and Project Coordinator. Her educational

background includes and Environmental Science degree and a Master of Science.

## NEW STAGE ON BROCKWAY

The Western Metropolitan Regional Council (WMRC) has approved a Waste Supply Agreement with Anaeco for the operation of a Resource Recovery Facility using DiCOM process at their Brockway Waste Transfer Station in Shenton Park.

The construction will be in

two stages, with the first being a performance trial. The construction of this first phase is set to commence mid 2007 and take approximately six months. The plant being constructed will include a waste sorting and preparation facility and a single processing vessel.

The performance trial will be undertaken over approximately another nine months. For more information on the DiCom trial visit WMRC's website [www.wmrc.wa.gov.au](http://www.wmrc.wa.gov.au)

For more information contact Peter Pikor on 9286 5015.

## BOARD SURVEYING

The Waste Management Board has released a survey of Western Australian householders' current attitudes and behaviour towards recycling.

The Report examines attitudes and behaviour in both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas of Western Australia, with a further break down of Regional Council areas.

Some key points of the survey included:

- ◆ 33% of residents were unsure of how to recycle certain items;
- ◆ Residents believe recycling issues currently take a back seat to other environmental issues;
- ◆ Reasons most commonly listed for not recycling were lack of time, lack of effort and lack of recycling services;

- ◆ Most residents believe better product labeling and packaging would increase recycling; and
- ◆ 20% of residents would be willing to pay for more regular kerbside recycling pickup service.

The report, *WA Recycling Attitudes and Behaviour Survey* is available [www.zerowastewa.com.au](http://www.zerowastewa.com.au)

## EMRC ANNUAL REPORT



The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

(EMRC) has released its 05/06 Annual Report. The report outlines the achievements and financial performance of the EMRC in 2005/2006.

Some waste management highlights for the EMRC included:

- ◆ Red Hill Facility—member Council disposal tonnages decreased but total tonnages increased 34.8%;
- ◆ Green Waste—12,000 tonnes diverted from landfill;
- ◆ Methane Gas Collection—approximately 19,800 mega watt hours were supplied to the energy grid, which is enough energy to power around 3,300

- homes; and
- ◆ Household Hazardous Waste Collections—expanded and each month collections were undertaken at one of the member Councils depots. The school 'Dry-cell Battery Collection Programme' was also expanded.

For more information visit [www.emrc.org.au](http://www.emrc.org.au)

## CAMPBELL FOR CAMPBELL

Jenny Campbell, Senior Project Coordinator within the rural, regional and remote Stakeholders Program of the Department of Environment (DEC) and Conservation has now left the DEC.

Cath Campbell, Regional

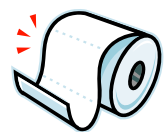
Coordinator, South West Waste Management, based in the DEC Bunbury office has now been appointed to coordinate rural, regional and remote programs.

For more information contact Cath Campbell on 9725 5977 or email

[catherine.campbell.dec.wa.gov.au](mailto:catherine.campbell.dec.wa.gov.au)

Alternatively, contact David Healy, Manager of Stakeholders Program in Perth DEC office on 6467 5311 or email [david.healy@dec.wa.gov.au](mailto:david.healy@dec.wa.gov.au)

Attendees of the annual Glastonbury rock festival in the UK this year will receive a free roll of recycled toilet paper. 10,000 rolls are being provided promote recycling and make the festival more environmentally friendly.



(Source: *Times*, 8 May 2007)

## ATTENTION GOOD HOLES!

The National Landfill Division of the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) is taking nominations for the National



Landfill Excellence Awards for 2007.

The awards will be presented at the National Landfill Conference in November 2007 in Melbourne.

For more information contact the WMAA National Office on (02) 8746 5000 or email [sam.bateman@hanson.biz](mailto:sam.bateman@hanson.biz)

(Source: Environmental Management News, 7 May 2007)

## MILK MONEY

Avon Valley Dairy, a WA company, sells its milk in returnable glass bottles.

The milk bottles are imported from Smithville Canada and

are fully reuseable. Customers are able to return the bottles after use to the point of purchase.



The Dairy has a return rate of approximately 80%.

(Source: [www.realmilk.com.au](http://www.realmilk.com.au))

A professor at Virginia Tech, USA, is developing biodegradable polymers from poultry feathers in an attempt to produce plastics that will biodegrade in landfill.



(Source: RRF 11 May 2007)

## SWANSEA TIDIEST TOWN

Australia's Tidiest Town Award for 2007 has been won by the coastal town of Swansea in Tasmania.

Swansea's recycling and resource recovery initiatives

have diverted large volumes of waste from landfill and the numerous public waste and recycling bins around the town have allowed visitors to source

separate waste and recyclables.

Cue was the WA town competing for the National title.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 14 May 2007)

## CONTRACTUAL DIVERSIONS

Liverpool City Council has awarded waste giant SITA Environmental Solutions a contract to develop and operate an advanced waste treatment facility, which is expected to divert over 70% of municipal solid waste from

landfill. The Council in Sydney's west said the 10-year, \$5.5 million per year contract would cut disposal costs by \$664,000 in the first year of operation, escalating to \$1.2 million in year two and increasing each year after that.

The treatment would also reduce organic waste methane emissions through composting.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 18 April 2007)

## KERBING THE MOBILEMUSTER

Over 45,000 households in Victoria have been sent special bags for collecting their unwanted mobile phones, batteries and accessories under MobileMuster, an



industry initiative. The phones, along with other items such as books, bric-a-brac and clothing will be collected using the existing household kerbside recycling.

If the trial is successful, kerbside recycling could become a future method of recycling problematic products, such as old mobile phones.

(Source: [www.amta.org.au](http://www.amta.org.au))

## REDUCING WOOD WASTE

A national timber forum last month agreed greater end of life use and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) are needed to drive down timber waste. For more information visit [www.a3p.asn.au](http://www.a3p.asn.au)

(Source: Environmental Management News, 2 May 2007)

## RECYCLE UK STYLE

### Construction Tools

The Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has launched a new online tool which will support the construction industry to increase recycled content in building work and meet minimum requirements.

The new searchable Recycled Product Guide documents more than 150 products, across 35 common product categories which are available with higher levels of recycled content for use in construction, regeneration and refurbishment projects.

For more information visit [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

(Source: RRF, 13 April 2007)

### Paper Quality

A material recovery facility (MRF) operator in the UK has responded to claims that commingled recycling produces poor quality paper by seeking to develop standards for MRFs to meet.

The company, Community Waste, hopes that a formal grade for MRF-sorted paper would demonstrate that MRFs achieve a standard which can be sent to any paper mill.

(Source: [www.letsrecycle.com](http://www.letsrecycle.com))

### Recycling Success?

Can recycling be too

successful? Grovsenor Waste Management in the UK seem to think it can. They cast blame on the success of the national recycling campaign, the success of which led them to send some of the excess collected material to Holland to be sorted prior to shipment to the Far East.

During their prosecution the Company told the Court "There was no coordination between the national recycling drive and the readiness of industry to cope."

(Source: [www.letsrecycle.com](http://www.letsrecycle.com))

## PRODUCING RESPONSIBILITY

The Israel Government has approved a proposed amendment to its *Deposit Law on Beverage Containers, 1999*.

The amendment is aimed to improve the deposit/refund system by applying it to all beverage containers and imposing direct responsibility

for collection and recycling on producers and importers of the containers.

(Source: RRF, 20 April 2007)

## TOUCHING BASE

Environment Canada has released a Canadian Consumer Battery Baseline Study, which has revealed that the annual number of consumer batteries discarded is increasing

dramatically, releasing a growing amount of dangerous substances into land and water.

The study has further confirmed the need to improve

consumer battery recovery and recycling.

For more information visit [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

(Source: RRF, 20 April 2007)

## HAZARDOUS RESTRICTIONS IN KOREA

Legislation restricting the use of hazardous substances in electrical equipment and vehicles has been passed in South Korea. The legislation also imposes stringent

recycling requirements for end-of-life vehicles and electronics.

The Act was introduced to encourage manufacturers to reduce the use of hazardous

substances and design products with easily recyclable structure.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 11 May 2007)

## A GREENER APPLE?

The Apple computer company has announced that it will transition away from use of mercury in its displays and

eliminate the use of polyvinyl and brominated flame retardants in its products by 2008.



(Source: Environmental Management News, 10 May 2007)

Keep America Beautiful have developed a zany new recycling awareness campaign based on dorky-but-hip cartoon dude, KAB Man.



KAB Man is accessible at [www.kabman.org](http://www.kabman.org)

## MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Next Meeting

Date: 20 June 2007

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Local Government House

Check out the WA Local Government Association Website at [www.walga.asn.au](http://www.walga.asn.au)



Visit WasteNet [www.wastenet.net.au](http://www.wastenet.net.au)

### CONTACT DETAILS

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WEST PERTH WA 6872

## 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 4-6 June 2007 **WasteQ 2007—Leadership in a Climate of Change**  
Surfers Paradise, Queensland  
For more information visit [www.wmaa.com.au](http://www.wmaa.com.au)
- 20-22 June 2007 **12th International Congress for Battery Recycling**  
Budapest, Hungary  
For more information visit [www.icm.ch](http://www.icm.ch)
- 21-24 June 2007 **Recycling Istanbul 07**  
Istanbul, Turkey  
For more information visit [www.ifo.com.tu](http://www.ifo.com.tu)
- 18-20 July 2007 **Banksia Awards**  
Sydney, NSW  
For more information visit [www.banksiafdn.com](http://www.banksiafdn.com)
- 18-20 July 2007 **National Energy from Waste Conference 2007**  
Sydney, NSW  
For more information visit [www.wmaa.asn.au](http://www.wmaa.asn.au)
- 2 August 2007 **4th Australian Wine Industry Environmental Conference**  
Adelaide Convention Centre  
For more information visit [www.awitc.com.au](http://www.awitc.com.au)
- 27 August—  
2 September **Keep Australia Beautiful Week**  
For more information visit [www.kab.org.au](http://www.kab.org.au)
- 10-14 September 2007 **Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference**  
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle  
For more information visit [www.wasteandrecycle.com.au](http://www.wasteandrecycle.com.au)
- 12-18 November 2007 **National Recycling Week**  
For more information visit [www.planetark.com.au](http://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](http://www.wmaa.asn.au)

## 2007 CALENDAR OF

- 31 May 2007 **Young Waste Professionals Waste & Recycle 2007 Call for Papers**  
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email [rbrown@walga.asn.au](mailto:rbrown@walga.asn.au)
- 6 June 2007 **Waste & Recycle 2007 Call for Papers**  
For more information visit [www.wasteandrecycle.com.au](http://www.wasteandrecycle.com.au)
- 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](mailto:reuben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.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.

