

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 114

June 2008

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GET WASTE SMART WA

New Waste Authority

The membership of the new Waste Authority has been announced. The Authority will be known as Waste Smart WA and replaces the Waste Management Board.



- ◆ Marcus Geisler; and
- ◆ Professor Paul Hardisty.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

Problematic Waste Survey

One of the first task for the new Waste Authority will be the development of a State Waste Strategy.

Government and to identify priority wastes for Extended Producer Responsibility schemes.

This survey will provide a basis for development of issues for MWAC to raise with the new Waste Authority. The problematic waste survey link is available from wastenet.net.au The closing date for the survey is **COB Friday 27 June**.

Waste Smart WA are:

- ◆ Barry Carbon (Chair);
- ◆ Jan Grimoldby (Deputy Chair);
- ◆ Carolyn Jakobsen;

To ensure early input into this process, WALGA is conducting a survey to determine problematic wastes for Local

OILY EXPRESSION OUT NOW

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has initiated an Expression of Interest process for the provision of collection and recycling of used motor oil from metropolitan and non-metropolitan local governments. It is anticipated this approach will reduce the cost of used oil collection and recycling

for local government. For contractors interested in submitting an EoI, email your request to rbrown@walga.asn.au

The Waste Authority will also be providing funds for local government to assist with collection and recycling costs. More information on this opportunity will be distributed

in the near future. For further information regarding this Expression of Interest contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063.

Expression of Interest close at 2.00pm (WST) on **Monday 23 June 2008**.



GAS GIVING YOU A PROBLEM?

Local government is showing great leadership in the current gas crisis by reducing its electricity use. It is likely, however, that many aspects for local government service will be affected.

WALGA has representation on the Gas Supply Disruption Recovery Committee and is keen to hear if there are any flow on issues or perverse outcomes for local government.

If you have a particular waste related impact of the gas crisis please contact Emergency Management Project Coordinator, John Lane on 9213 2074 or email jlane@walga.asn.au

GRAND CONFERENCE TOURS

The heat is on and excitement is mounting for this years Waste & Recycle Conference (8-12 September 2008).



The Western Metropolitan Regional Councils (WMRC) DiCOM Alternative Waste Treatment (AWT) Facility is one potential tour. The first stage of construction will be complete and visitors can

marvel at the cutting edge resource recovery technology.

Tours will also include delegate favourites, the Tamala Park Landfill. This year there will be the option of a highly technical tour.

The Southern Metropolitan Regional Council's Regional Resource Recovery Centre in Canning Vale will also be welcoming visitors. The tour will include viewing the

materials recovery facility, the waste audit facility and the AWT plant. SMRC's will also outline the process they went through to become Greenhouse Friendly™ accredit carbon offset providers.

For more information on the 2008 Waste & Recycle Conference visit www.wasteandrecycle.com



Planning in an Uncertain Climate: A Delicate Balancing Act?

The 2007 Waste & Recycle Conference proceedings are now available from the Conference website

To access the proceedings visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au/2007-conference/proceedings07.html

HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



The EMRC commenced a compost and mulch trial, funded by Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme, at Sandalford Wines on 5 May 2008.

Recycled organic material, in the form of mulch and soil conditioner produced at the Red Hill Waste Management Facility, was spread along the vines. The soil around the vines will be monitored over the next two years for its structure and

infiltration capacities. We are looking forward to tasting the difference.

For more information contact Rebecca Smith, Market Development on 9424 2220 or visit www.rgang.org.au

GIVE US A REVIEW

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has recently completed the biennial review of two of its Policy Statements—Extended Producer Responsibility and Container Deposit Systems.

Feedback was received from a range of local governments and the Policy Statements have been amended to reflect

these comments. The Policy Statements will go to the next WALGA State Council meeting for endorsement.

MWAC has also developed a draft Consultation, Communication and Waste Education Policy Statement. This Policy Statement is out for comment, submissions due **COB Friday 27 June 2008**.

The Policy Statements are available from the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au

For further information, please contact MWAC Policy Coordinator, Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or email jscott@walga.asn.au

TYRED YET?

The Environmental Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) have released a consultation package on tyres for public comment.

The package includes:

- ◆ Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) for end-of-life tyre management;
- ◆ Tyre product stewardship agreement;
- ◆ Draft National

Environmental Protection (Tyres) Measure (NEPM);

- ◆ NEPM—Impact statement;
- ◆ Tyre NEPM Threshold study; and
- ◆ ATIC End-of-life tyres leaflet.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be making a submission on these documents and is seeking the input of local government. Due to the length of the documents MWAC has developed a

summary of each. These summaries, as well as MWAC comments, will be available from the WasteNet Website, www.wastenet.net.au, on Monday 23 June.

Feedback to inform the MWAC submission is due by **COB Friday 4 July**.

For further information visit www.ephc.gov.au

AWT ON THE LINE

There is currently a Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs on the SMRC's Regional Resource Recovery Centre in Canning Vale.

MWAC will be sending correspondence to the Standing Committee in support of the facility and outlining situation for local government. We will highlight the following points:

- ◆ All of the metropolitan Regional Councils are moving towards

alternative waste treatment (AWT) and these facilities represent a huge potential to reduce waste to landfill and consequent greenhouse gas emissions;

- ◆ The initiative that local government is taking needs support from the State Government;
- ◆ There is only limited planning for future landfill therefore maximum diversion needs to be achieved;
- ◆ AWT facilities need to be located within the Perth

metropolitan area (reducing both fuel consumption and greenhouse gas release).

This Standing Committee offers the opportunity for local government to show its support sustainable waste management.



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



CHINA UPDATE

This July Chinese shoppers will not get free plastic bags due to new regulations to save energy and to end so-called white pollution.

Retailers can be fined up to \$1,400 for providing free plastic bags to customers.

(Source: upi.com)



NEW RIVER, INCREASED FLOW

On Friday 6 June 2008, the South East Metropolitan Regional Council was renamed the Rivers Regional Council (RRC).



The RRC comprises of the Cities of South Perth, Armadale and Gosnells and has expanded to include City of Mandurah, and the Shires of Murray and Serpentine-

Jarrahdale. The renaming was in recognition of the new members and the signing event was a very successful and enjoyable evening for all.

MORE PILOTS PLANNED

The Household Hazardous Waste Program is progressing well. Over 20 responses were received in the recent Expression of Interest round.



Three more pilot collection days for HHW are planned and will be held in the Southern Metropolitan, Mindarie and Rivers Regional Council areas. In addition, a Site Selection Survey will be issued to

Regional Councils in the near future.

For more information contact Kellie Field on 9213 2062 or email kfield@walga.asn.au

THE GREAT CARBON DEBATE

The Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) has formed a National Carbon Committee (NCC). The formation is partly in response to the increasing debate over whether to include waste in an emissions trading scheme (ETS).

In a recent media statement the NCC called for consideration of the emissions avoided through recycling in shaping the

Australian Emission Trading Scheme (AETS).

The NCC's response to the Garnaut Review's Emission Trading discussion paper, was that the emissions abated through resource recovery and recycling, by avoiding the production of goods from raw materials should be taken in consideration in the AETS.

The Committee Chair commented that it would appear that the Scheme will

only deal with emissions from landfill.

The WMAA WA Branch of the Carbon Committee meets regularly and had input into this position. For more information and to get involved in the WA Carbon Committee contact Sam Wilkinson on 6467 5445 or email sam.wilkinson@dec.wa.gov.au

(Source: www.wmaa.com.au)

MR ED

A recent *The West Australian* Ed Magazine Topic feature was 'Your Rubbish'.

The two page spread highlighted community waste activities in relation to local government. It explained the communities role in waste reduction, reuse, recycle and

recovery and the services that local government provide. The paper also noted that services relating to waste and recycling vary between local government areas.

The article showcased the City of Joondalup and the Mindarie Regional Council, detailing

recycling options, annual bulk collection and the author, Perri Coloquhoun's, guided tour through Tamala Park.

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

WASTE AND NRM

The State Government has released *A Natural Resource Management Plan for Western Australia— Consultation Draft for Public Comment*.

As natural resource management relates to human activities that use, enhance, protect or conserve assets and their values, this document is relevant to waste management.

The purpose of the NRM Plan is to articulate a direction for all Western Australians when planning, implementing and reviewing efforts to protect and enhance natural resources. It provides a vision and set of goals, as well as clarifying ways to achieve them and principles to guide future arrangements for NRM in WA.

WALGA encourages all Local Governments to consider this document. The draft Plan and a

feedback sheet to guide stakeholders is available at www.nrm.wa.gov.au/draftNRMPlan.htm

The Association will provide a composite submission based on your feedback.

Please forward submissions to Jessica Sheppard, NRM Facilitator at jsheppard@walga.asn.au or fax 9322 2611 by **Friday 29 August 2008**.

WELL SCABBED AREAS PICKED

Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beach Award finalists have been announced.

Scarborough Beach was the winner in WA and has the chance to win the National Title. The other state winners include:

- ◆ SA - Kingston, South East;
- ◆ TAS - Freer's Beach, Port Sorell;
- ◆ VIC - Frankston Foreshore;
- ◆ NSW - Tathra Beach, South Coast; and
- ◆ QLD - The Strand, Townsville.

The Clean Beaches Awards identifies, actively acknowledges and promotes the best examples of environmental improvement in coastal areas around Australia. For more information on the finalists visit www.kab.org.au

RUBBISH REVOLUTION

Melbourne plans to build eight factories to convert waste into energy, water, fertiliser or biofuel.

It is expected that each factory will cost \$100 million and the draft plans are expected to be finalised and put to Cabinet within weeks.

(Source: news.com.au/heraldsun/story/0,21985,23756650-2862,00.html)

DOGGY DOS AND DON'TS



The fouling of reserves and parklands with dog faeces can be a real issue for local government. In the press recently, there has been discussion regarding

the unsustainable use of non-biodegradable doggy bags.

The Shire of Busselton has stepped up to the challenge and have been able to source biodegradable doggy bags that

use TDPA oxo-biodegrading technology.

For more information contact Owen Anderton at the Shire of Busselton on 9781 0466.



Congratulations

Hazelmere Timber Recycling Centre on being a finalist in the Banksia Environmental Local Government Award



(Source: banksiafdn.com)

REWARD YOURSELF



Nominations for the 2008 Environment Awards are open.

The awards are great recognition for individuals, community groups,

businesses, Local and State Government who promote and maintain high standards in biodiversity conservation and environmental care.

The awards are being run by the DEC and there are 11 categories, including;

- ◆ Community Achievement (Volunteer Group);
- ◆ Prevention of Littering and Illegal Dumping;
- ◆ Environmental Education

and Communication;

- ◆ Government Leading by Example;
- ◆ Biodiversity Conservation; and
- ◆ Resource/Waste Management.

Entry is free and closes **27 June 2008**. For details visit www.dec.wa.gov.au/awards or phone 6467 5147 or email awards@dec.wa.gov.au

REUSE YOUR REFUSE

Freecycle Online

Is an Australian website which aims to divert waste from landfill. You can advertise unwanted household goods. Membership, advertising and goods are free. For more information visit www.freecycle.org.au

Charities

Many Charities can collect unwanted household goods for free. They only accept quality goods and some don't accept electrical items. See websites for details.

- ◆ www.goodsammy.com.au
- ◆ www.vinnies.org.au

- ◆ www.rspcawa.asn.au
- ◆ www.paraquadwa.asn.au
- ◆ <http://salvos.org.au>
- ◆ www.anglicare.org.au

For more charity sites, visit www.donations.com.au

C&D—ALL WRAPPED UP

The Waste & Resource Action Programme (WRAP) in the UK has recently welcomed the launch of the Governments Strategy for Sustainable Construction.



The Strategy has set a target to halve the construction waste to landfill by 2012. WRAP is supporting the strategy by developing voluntary agreements with the construction industry.

These agreements will provide the industry with a standardised framework and measurement tool for delivering the waste reduction targets, that are part of the

Strategy for Sustainable Construction.

WRAP believes that the targets are highly achievable and that there are many organisations that have made a positive progression towards it.

WRAP has indicated that to

significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill there will need to be a co-coordinated effort that effectively targets all stakeholders within the supply chain.

WRAP intend to work closely with other organisations in order to successfully achieve this target.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk

BETTER THAN VIRGIN

Scottish manufacturers Brand and Rae have produced over one million breeze blocks (cement blocks) in the last 18 months using recycled glass.

The crushed glass replaces some of the sand that would normally be used. It assists

builders in reaching the local authority requirements for using a ten per cent recycled material component in construction projects.



The glass helps provide better

weather resistance, a cost saving and a slight reduction in the amount of concrete used, compared to using virginal material.

(Source: Warmer Bulletin, April 2008, p 16)

Marks and Spencers Swiss Chocolate Assortment with Plantic “environmentally friendly” packaging was one of the winners of this years Dupont Awards for Packaging Innovation. ‘



The Plantic tray inside the box is biodegradable, home compostable and made from renewable and sustainable resources.

(Source: WME, May 2008, p21)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 20 August 2008

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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2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 9-11 July 2008 **National Environment Conference**
Port Douglas, QLD
For more information contact Malcolm Petrie on 07 3000 2202 or email malcolm_petrie@gag.asn.au
- 30 July-1 August 2008 **A Climate For Change**
Adelaide, South Australia
For more information phone 02 8746 5066 or email katrina@wmaa.asn.au
- 25-31 August 2008 **Keep Australia Beautiful week**
For more information visit www.kab.org.au
- 8-12 September 2008 **Waste & Recycle 2008 Conference, The Heat is On: No Time to Waste**
The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au
- 16-18 September 2008 **NSW Waste Management Conference and Expo**
Sydney, New South Wales
For more information visit www.nswwasteconference.com.au or contact Veronica Dullens on 02 8746 5055 or email veronica@wmaa.asn.au
- 20-21 September 2008 **Clean Up the World Weekend**
For more information visit www.cleanup.org.au
- 10-16 November 2008 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com

2008 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 27 June 2008 **Local Government Problematic Waste Survey**
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086
- 27 June 2008 **Draft Consultation, Communication and Waste Education Policy Statement for Review**
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086
- 11 July 2008 **Tyres NEPM Product Stewardship**
For further information visit www.ephc.gov.au and follow the 'Product Stewardship' link.
- 9 September 2008 **A Natural Resource Management Plan for Western Australia**
For more information visit www.nrm.wa.gov.au/draftNRMPlan.htm
- 30 September 2008 **Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme—Phase 2**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.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.



WESTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



City of Geraldton-Greenough
Climate of Opportunity