

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 118

October 2008

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FINAL DAZE

The third and final HHW Pilot Collection Day was held at the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC) on Saturday 4 October.

81,000 brochures were delivered to member Council residents and newspaper advertisements placed in the community newspapers. A good investment in advertising ensured that this collection day was the most successful to date.



Four hundred and seventy vehicles attended the collection day; delivering a variety of materials including Schedule X Pesticides, paint

importance of in ensuring the removal of hazardous chemicals from the waste stream.

A huge thank you is extended to all Regional Council and Local Government staff that have assisted in the development and success of the pilot days.

Should you have any queries in regards to the HHW Program, please contact Kellie Field on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 2 or kfield@walga.asn.au

OPERATION OIL

Preferred Supplier

In response to Local Government concern regarding the cost and reliability of used oil collections, the WA Local Government Association released a tender for the *Provision for the Collection and Recycling of Used Motor Oil*. Two tenders have been received and are currently being evaluated.

It is anticipated the tender will be awarded in early November.

Review of Feds Good Oil

The Federal Product Stewardship for Used Oil Program is currently under review. This Program provided 112 units of used oil infrastructure to Local Governments in WA. The purpose of the review is to

assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of the PSO Act, regulations made under the Act, and associated provisions of customs and excise legislation.

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 3 or rbrown@walga.asn.au

CURRENT CAPACITY, FUTURE HOLES

The Waste Authority have commissioned Cardno to undertake an Assessment of Waste Disposal and Material Recovery Infrastructure for Perth.

This project looks not only at current capacity, but to future demand. It is anticipated the results from this Report will provide vital information for the development of the State Waste Strategy.

For more information contact Michael Reid at Department of Environment and Conservation michael.reid@dec.wa.gov.au or phone 6467 5327

BINTASTIC SYSTEM

The Department of Environment and Conservation has released a draft *Kerbside Collection Systems Decision Making Tool* for consultation.



The draft Tool is to “initiate a cooperative dialogue regarding the development of a decision making tool to assist Local Governments to identify and implement improved kerbside collection systems”.

survey will close on **Friday 31 October 2008**.

For more information and to fill out the survey visit the **WasteNet Website** www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au

The purpose of the releasing the

MWAC is currently undertaking a survey on the draft Tool. The

The Brisbane City Council has ceased its contract and taken legal action against The Dog Tidy Company. The Council specified that they wanted a dog-waste bag that was less than 2% polyethylene. They allegedly found the product was almost entirely polyethylene.



(Source: WME magazine, August 2008, pg 10)

CATEGORY 63

A two hour Forum, organised by the Waste Authority at the Waste and Recycle Conference 9 September 2008, consisted of a series of presentations on how the landfill levy should be applied to Category 63 sites.

defer consultation for Non-Metropolitan application of the levy until 2009.



The WALGA Submission has been sent to the Waste Authority.

The Waste Authority announced that they intend to

At the Forum, the Authority also requested that written submissions be provided to them on this issue.

For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au

EMRC WIN WITH WOOD

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) won the WA Environmental Awards for its work in the areas of Resource and Waste Management.



(DEC) awarded the EMRC for its Hazelmere Timber Recycling Centre which has diverted over 5,400 tonnes of industrial timber from landfill.

Group; as animal bedding in the poultry industry; and as coloured surface mulch.

For more information visit www.emrc.org.au or www.rgang.org.au

The Department of Environment and Conservation

The diverted timber is chipped and used in the manufacturing of particleboard by the Laminex

(Source: Media Release—EMRC Wins in the WA Environmental Awards, 14 October 2008)

WARR FOR EPR

With the passing of The *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Act 2007*, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) became a legislative possibility and a driver for Product Stewardship.

products for EPR Schemes and provide this feedback to the newly formed Waste Authority. Based on feedback from Local Government and the WALGA EPR Policy Statement, a Position Statement has been developed which makes the following recommendations:

EPR/Product Stewardship Scheme;

- ◆ tyres and oil be the next priority, if Federal action is not forthcoming; and
- ◆ A Container Deposit Scheme become a priority.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council sought to identify Local Government key priority

- ◆ e-waste be classified as the number one priority for an

For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au

DID YOU GET WASTED?

If you attended the Waste & Recycle Conference 2008 and didn't fill out a feedback form, don't despair - there is now an online form to complete.

For filling in the survey you go into a draw and could win one of four \$50 cash prizes. Please complete the survey by **Friday 7 November 2008**.

To access the survey visit the **WasteNet website** www.wastenet.net.au

TIME FOR A CHANGE

The WA Local Government Association is currently developing a Policy Position for Local Government on Climate Change. To support this Policy, the Association has developed a *Climate Change Policy Background Paper*. The Paper outlines the impacts of climate change in a Regional context and the

importance of understanding the implications of decisions and policy positions. The importance of Local Government commitment to greenhouse emission reductions and risk management through mitigation and adaptation are also discussed.

Comments are invited on the Background Paper by **COB Friday 21 November 2008**. For more information please contact Melanie Bainbridge 9213 2039 or email mbainbridge@walga.asn.au

The Background Paper is available from www.wastenet.net.au

GET THE KNOWLEDGE

The WA Local Government Association is running an Environment Management Training Module for Elected Members on **Monday 15 December**.



The Module gives an overview of waste management, climate change, water and natural resource management. This action packed course will provide Elected Members with a broad overview of the topic

areas, legislation and some practical examples.

For more information and to register please contact Brenna Heagney 9213 2098 or email bheagney@walga.asn.au

SECOND STREET

The City of Gosnells has become the second Local Government in Western Australia to specify recycled materials for a road construction project.

Five hundred metres of road in the new residential development at Harmony Fields, Maddington contains 1,300 cubic metres of road-base manufactured from construction waste.

City of Gosnells Project Manager, Paul McAllister said that the standard tender form

used by most Local Government specified that virgin (newly quarried) material should be used for road base.

To use recycled material, the City of Gosnells “agreed, subject to two conditions; we needed to be convinced that the recycled material met all the required specifications and would perform as well as newly-quarried road base, and the price had to be competitive” said Mr McAllister.

The material from the construction waste specialist

“met both criteria, and feedback from the contractor indicated that it was good material to work with, meeting and exceeding all the requirements of rigorous compaction testing”.

For more information contact Paul McAllister on 9398 2922 or PMcAllister@gosnells.wa.gov.au

(Source: City of Gosnells, Media Release, Ward Holt Public Relations, 7 October, 2008)

WHAT'S THE POYNTON?

Kevin Poynton is the Officers Advisory Group Chair, appointed to the position in February 1998.



Manager of Technical Services.

Kevin commenced as CEO at Mindarie Regional Council in 1998, as he was keen to develop his 'leadership journey' in a business with exciting growth prospects.

Kevin developed a keen interest in waste management working in his first Local Government appointment at the Town of Cambridge in the mid-1990's. He led an enthusiastic team at the Town of Cambridge as Executive

Kevin previously served as an Officer in the Australian Regular Army and graduated from the Royal Military College,

Duntroon with an Engineering Degree.

Kevin enjoys an active outdoor lifestyle in Floreat as a keen golfer, swimmer and cyclist. He is an avid supporter of the Essendon Bombers and loves day light savings. He is the proud owner of one cat “Champers” and 15 garden gnomes.

LG Electronics USA have launched a free take back scheme covering all its electronic goods. It encompasses 160 e-waste drop off points across the country.

(Source: WME magazine, August 2008, pg 15)



THE SHADOW



On the 26 September 2008, the WA Labor Leader Eric Ripper unveiled the portfolios for the new Shadow Ministries.

Hon. Dr Sally Talbot MLC is the new Shadow Minister for Environment; Lands; Youth.

Hon. Talbot is the member for the South West Region. Mr Paul Papalia CSC, MLA is the new Shadow Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Citizenship; Multicultural Interests; Corrective Service.

In addition, Alannah MacTiernan MLA is the new

Shadow Minister for Regional Development; Strategic Infrastructure; Climate Change.

For more information on the new Shadow Ministry visit www.wa.alp.org.au

(Source: parliament.wa.gov.au)

WA Are Big Tossers

The Keep Australia Beautiful National Litter Index showed that Victoria was the cleanest State (48 litter items per 1,000m²) in contrast WA was the worst at 85 items.

(Source: *Insidewaste*, Issue 26, September/October 2008, pg 3)

GREEN PRECINCTS FUNDING

Local Governments considering water and energy saving projects of public benefit are eligible to apply for funding between \$500,000 and \$1.5 million (covering 50% of eligible costs) from the

Federal Government *Green Precincts Fund*. Expressions of interest must be submitted by **COB Saturday 22 November 2008**.

For more information about the

Green Precincts Fund visit www.environment.gov.au/water/programs or email greenprecincts@environment.gov.au or call 1800 218 478.

QUIZ NIGHT CORRECTION

Please note in the September 2008 MWAC Information Bulletin it stated that the WMAA Quiz Night was to be held Friday 3 October 2008.



The Quiz Night will actually be held on **Friday 31 October 2008**, hence the Halloween theme.



For more information or tickets contact Kylie on 1300 651 026 or kylie@wmaa.asn.au

AUDIT YOU NEED TO KNOW

A *Kerbside Waste and Recycling Audit Manual* has been released by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The purpose of the document is to provide Local Governments, Regional

Councils and informal Government groups with guidance on how to collect waste management data through waste audits.

To download this document visit www.zerowastewa.com.au and click on the 'Our Work'

link, 'Data Collection' and click on the Kerbside Waste and Recycling Audit Manual pdf. Alternatively visit www.zerowastewa.com.au/documents/2007_Kerbside_waste_and_recycling_audit_manual.pdf

NPC ON TRIAL

The National Packaging Covenant (NPC) on Trial was held at the Waste & Recycle Conference 2008.

The Trial was used as a community engagement tool to provide feedback into the NPC mid-term review. The citizen jury reached the verdict that the NPC was a successful government/industry partnership to reduce the environmental impact of packaging **BUT:**

- ◆ There is a lack of firm incentives to comply or penalties for non-compliance;
- ◆ Lack of community awareness (monitoring of results/empowering market forces);
- ◆ Rigour of figures was a concern. Allow for independent auditors to assess the figures;
- ◆ Skewing of results, need to set and report on state by state targets/benchmarks;
- ◆ Focus should be on reducing

- level of packaging, not just increasing the level of recycling;
- ◆ Needs greater community representation on the Council and synergy between government and community; and
- ◆ Reduce the duplication of effort.

The Report is available from the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au

BEAT BOOZE LOCALLY

The Drug and Alcohol Office have released a *Local Government Alcohol Management Package*; a toolkit to assist Western Australian Local Governments.

The package contains guidance in the form of ideas, tips and tools that promote a 'prevention and risk management' approach to existing Local Government activities, responsibilities and processes regarding alcohol.

Litter is a key part of the Tool Kit, with clear identification of the cleanup cost to Local Government.

For a copy visit www.dao.health.wa.gov.au

ENDANGERED SPECIES

The four week pilot trial charging 10 cents per bag for customers at sixteen Victorian supermarkets in Warrambool, Wangaratta and Fountain Gate was a success. The number of plastic bags used during the trial dropped by 79

per cent. In addition, \$35,300 was raised which will go to land care and water quality projects.

The Victorian Environment and Climate Change Minister Gavin Jennings said that Government will collaborate with industry

towards a National approach on reducing plastic bag use.

(Source: www.environmentalmanagementnews.net/StoryView.aspx?StoryID=337584)

TIME TO PLAY

The Electronic Waste Company in the UK has signed a contract with Sony Computer Entertainment Europe to process and recycle PlayStation.



It is estimated that 250 tonnes of PlayStation plastic cases will be processed into items such as pens and chairs.

The Company pledges to reuse or recycle 100% of the plastic contained in electronic goods that it handles each year.

Electronic Waste Company is now looking at processing other recyclable components from the Play Station such as clips and foam.

(Source: RRF WINS #42-2008-October 17, 2008)

THE WASTE WEB

State

◆ WasteNet is a valuable online resource for anyone interested in Waste, with a particular focus on content of use to Local Government.

www.wastenet.net.au

◆ The WA Local Government Association is the peak body for Local Government in Western Australia

www.walga.asn.au

◆ The Zerowaste website dedicated to the activities of the Waste Authority.

www.zerowastewa.com.au

◆ The Department of Environment and Conservation website.

www.dec.wa.gov.au

National

◆ Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) website.

www.wmaa.asn.au

◆ The Keep Australia Beautiful website provides links to state and territory websites.

www.keeppaustraliabeautiful.org.au

◆ Planet Ark and Sensis have teamed up to give you the 'Recycling Near You' website.

www.recyclingnearyou.com.au

◆ The National Packaging Covenant is a voluntary initiative by Government and Industry, to reduce the effects of packaging on the environment.

www.packagingcovenant.org.au

◆ Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts is responsible for waste at a federal level

www.environment.gov.au

◆ drumMUSTER is the national program that has been set up for the collection and recycling of cleaned eligible non returnable crop production and on-farm animal health chemical containers.

www.drummuster.com.au

◆ The Boomerang Alliance brings together Australia's leading environment groups to work for zero waste in Australia.

www.boomerangalliance.org

Leaky Landfill Update

For the latest news on the methane leaking from the Cranbourne landfill, visit the City of Casey website www.casey.vic.gov.au

And follow the 'Newsroom' then 'Media Releases' links.



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date : 10 December 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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2008/2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 30 - 31 October 2008 **Carbon Market Expo Australasia**
Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre
For more information visit www.carbonexpo.com.au
- 31 October 2008 **WMAA Quiz Night**
Legacy House, South Perth.
For more information or tickets contact Kylie on 1300 651 026 or kylie@wmaa.asn.au
- 10-16 November 2008 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com
- 15 November 2008 **Walk Against Warming**
For more information visit The Conservation Council WA website <http://conservationwa.asn.au>
- 15 December 2008 **WALGA Environmental Management Training Module**
For more information or to register contact Brenna Heagney 9213 2098 or email bheagney@walga.asn.au
- 14-18 September 2009 **Waste & Recycle Conference 2009**
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle.
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

2008 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 31 October 2008 **Kerbside Collection Systems Decision Making Tool Survey**
To access the online survey visit www.wastenet.net.au
For more information contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or jscott@walga.asn.au
- 7 November 2008 **Waste & Recycle Conference 2008 Feedback Survey**
To access the online form visit www.wastenet.net.au
- 21 November 2008 **Draft Climate Change Policy Background Paper Comments**
To access the Background Paper visit www.wastenet.net.au
For more information contact Melanie Bainbridge on 9213 2039 or
- 22 November 2008 **Green Precincts Funding Closes**
For more information visit www.environment.gov.au/water/programs
or email greenprecincts@environment.gov.au or call 1800 218 478.



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

