

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 113

May 2008

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INTERESTED IN HHW?



Expressions of Interest (Eol's) are out now for the new Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program.

Local Governments interested in being involved in the Program should complete the Eol's and

return them to the WA Local Government Association by **Tuesday 3 June 2008.**

The Program is still in its formative stages, however, some good information was gathered from the recent pilot day conducted by the Western Metropolitan Regional Council (WMRC).

The bulk of the material collected included 600L oil based paint; 1200L water based paint; 80L used oil; 60

gas cylinders; and varied amounts of arsenic, herbicides, pesticides, snail pellets and ant dust.

A Program Design and Site Selection document has been posted on the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au.

For further information please contact Kellie Field on 92132062 or email kfield@walga.asn.au

LAST CALL FOR POLICY

The Container Deposit Systems (CDS) and the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) WALGA Policy Statements are currently out for comment.

With the provisions in the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Act for EPR, a strong and

united Local Government position is needed. Therefore the review of and additional input into the Policy Statements is vital.

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

Submissions on the Policy Statements close **Monday 26 May 2008.**

For more information on the Policy Statements and to submit comments on the Policy Statement contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or email jscott@walga.asn.au

ALL HOT AND BOTHERED?



Sponsorship opportunities are still available for the Waste and Recycle 2008 Conference, *The Heat is On: No Time To Waste* to be held at the Esplanade Hotel Fremantle **8th-12th September.**

Key features of this years Conference will include:

- ◆ Site visit to the WMRC new Alternative Waste Treatment (AWT) Plant;
- ◆ Workshops on Strategic Waste Management Plans, National Packaging Covenant and bin systems; and

◆ The usual high quality papers from international and nationally recognised experts.

For more details visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

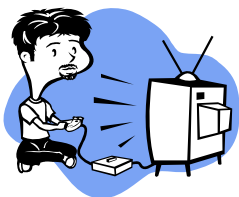
Wastegames101

Just can't get enough of sorting waste in real life?

Want to try something fun virtual?

Think you are the best recycler on Earth?

Well it is time for the test.....



Go to www.bottlesandcans.com/canit/

(MWAC's Best Score: Level 2, 110 points)

Or try

www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCCWR/assets/bcc/pop-ups/waste-roundup-game/game.htm

Good Luck!

I SHOT THE SHERIFF...

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council would like to welcome the new Chair and Deputy Chair of MWAC.

about his landfills and we are looking forward to his positive input into MWAC.



strong links between climate change and waste.

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 08 9213 2063.

Cr Michael Aspinall from the Shire of Gingin is the new Chair. Michael is passionate

Cr Doug Thompson from the City of Fremantle is the new Deputy Chair. Doug sees

WALGA TRAINING



Local Government Workplace Solutions has developed a new training course for elected members— *Module 17: An Introduction to Environmental Management.*

that Local Government has to contend with. The course has been specifically designed to inform elected members on current issues regarding the environment, as well as, outlining Local Government roles and responsibilities.

respective environmental fields. Topics covered include Natural Resource Management, Climate Change, Water management, Waste and Recycling.

For further information please contact Bernadette Howes Learning and Development Consultant on 9 2 1 3 2 0 9 0 or bhowes@walga.asn.au

WALGA recognises that environmental sustainability is one of the most urgent matters

The course was developed with subject matter experts and academics specialising in their

EDUCATED OPINION

MWAC has commenced work on a Policy Statement covering Consultation, Communication and Waste Education Processes.

- ◆ Identify consultation/communication methods;
- ◆ Identify the roles of Federal, State and Local Government regarding waste education.

available from the WasteNet website www.wastenet.net.au

Some of the areas covered by the Policy Statement include:

- ◆ Commitments from WALGA on consultation;
- ◆ Test parameters for level of consultation/

The Draft Policy Statement on Consultation, Communication and Waste Education is currently out for comment. The draft Policy Statement is

The submission period will close on **Friday 27 June 2008**. For more information contact Judy Scott on 9213 2 0 8 6 or email jscott@walga.asn.au

A WHOLE LOT OF GAS



The SMRC is looking to sell more than 57,000 tonnes of independently verified greenhouse gas abatement units. The credits were approved in recognition of methane gas abatement achieved at the waste

composting facility at the SMRC's Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC).

The RRRRC diverts more than 350,000 residents household waste. The net difference between landfilling and composting gives the SMRC its Verified Emission Reductions (VERs).

The SMRC attracted strong tenders for its latest allocation

and is the first Local Government in Australia to operate a Greenhouse Friendly™ project providing carbon credits verified by the Department of Climate Change. The SMRC is one of only 16 organisations in Australia to achieve this recognition.

For more information contact Chuck Ellis on 08 9329 2714.

WHO CARES?



Reducing, Reusing, Recycling

Earth Carers are the volunteers who assist groups and individuals to learn ways to protect the environment through reducing, reusing and recycling waste.

Earth Carers of the Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) have recently began holding free training courses and information sessions for the community.

The aim of the Earth Carers workshops is to engage the community in reducing waste from purchase to disposal;

provide an historical background on how waste is processed; and provide a positive platform for Local Government to interact with residents.

For more information on Earth Carers in the MRC contact Peg Davies on 0422 941 492.

FLUORO IS IN!



The EMRC recently introduced a recycling service for fluorescent globes and tubes. Residents are encouraged to take the

globes to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days held monthly in the Regional Council.

Many fluorescents contain small amounts of mercury, therefore once collected they will be transported to a

specialist recycler of mercury wastes. The globes will be recycled into household insulation batts, dental amalgam and fertilisers.

For more information visit www.emrc.org.au

IS WASTE A LIABILITY?

The Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) WA Branch, in conjunction with the Department of Environment and Conservation, will be holding a seminar *Climate Change and The Waste*

Sector: Opportunities and Liabilities on **Wednesday 21 May 2008**.

The purpose of the seminar is to provide information and equip the waste sector of the responsibilities and

opportunities in climate change legislation.

Bookings close Friday 16th May. For more information go to www.wmaa.com.au/flyers/cc/wacc080521.pdf

ESPERANCE IS TOPS

Recent figures show that Esperance residents are recycling at rates exceeding the national average. The national average for recycling is approximately 40kg per person per year, with 50 - 60kg considered a fairly high rate.

Esperance residents are well

above the national average with a staggering 67kg per person recycled each year.

The recycling program began 6 years ago and participation rates have risen nearly 100 per cent since inception. In addition, Esperance has maintained consistently low contamination rates at 14 per

cent. The Shire continues to improve the kerbside collection system through promotion, education and policing of the system.

For more information contact Scott McKenzie on 08 9071 0647. (Source: Esperance Express, April 2008)

ZWPDS PHASE

The Department of Environment and Conservation have recently released the *Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme Phase 1 Report 2006-2007*.

Phase 1 closed on 28 September 2007. Ninety-one per cent of Local Government participated in an online survey to establish baseline characteristics for all Local Government in Western Australia.

Phase 2 of the ZWP Development Scheme closes **September 2008**.

The report is now available from www.zerowastewa.com.au

Join the urban mining boom

Got an unused old mobile phone?

“Urban Miners” are extracting precious metals from electronic products and then



melting them down for jewelry and manufacturing.

For more information or To join the Mobile Muster

Go to www.mobilemuster.com.au

To start collecting mobile phones in the workplace.



DEAD TYRED



The Federal Government has released a package on end-of-life tyres for public comment.

The proposed recycling scheme aims to drive innovation, decrease environmental impacts and build end-of-life management costs into product prices.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be developing a submission on the proposed scheme.

For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au and click on the "Product Stewardship" link.

The Environmental Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) met in April and agreed to initiate a national approach to managing end-of-life tyres.

Submissions close **Friday 11 July 2008**. Public forums will be run on the proposed scheme in all major cities.

BRBA LAUNCH



The Buy Recycled Business Alliance (BRBA) launched Australia's first National Recycled Product Directory on the 29th April 2008 in Perth, WA.

to help their members promote the purchase and use of their recycled content products (RCP's).

The directory lists over 480 products available in Australia and has around 200 products pending approval to be listed over the next six months.

The aim of the directory is to provide transparent, detailed and consistent information on a range of recycled products.

For more information visit www.brba.com.au

BRBA is a non-profit alliance of businesses and also provides a range of services

YOURS 2 TAKE



A new website has been launched where everything on it is free! In an effort to reduce "waste" going into landfill the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) which covers 13 local councils in

NSW launched the Yours2Take website.

The purpose of the website is to divert waste from landfill by providing an outlet for giving items away rather than throwing them away.

The website is available nationally and is similar to ebay, users register a few details and contact between the giver and taker is by email.

For more information visit www.yours2take.com.au

ADELAIDE IS MORE THAN OK!

Adelaide City Council agreed at a meeting in April to introduce a kerbside waste collection for foodscraps.

Residents in the City and in North Adelaide will soon be able to put their food scraps in cornstarch bags and place

them into their green organic waste bins.

Food scraps account for up to 40 per cent of household waste and it is intended that the collected food scrap will be composted.

The aim is to significantly reduce household waste going to landfill from the current 70 per cent to 50 per cent.

(Source: WME, April 2008)

US GONE POSTAL

The US Postal Service launched a pilot program allowing customers to recycle small electronic and inkjet cartridges for free.

The Post will provide 'mail back' envelopes, with the postage to be paid for by Clover Technologies Group, which

recycles, remanufactures and remarkets small electronics.

(Source: EMN.net.au search: Postal)

In China, there will be a kebab crackdown to help ensure that Beijing meets its clean air targets for the Olympic Games.



(Source: WME, February 2008)

EU ACTION

Naples, Italy is expected to be taken to court by the European Commission (EC) over the cessation of rubbish collection.

Collection of household waste stopped last Christmas when almost every landfill was declared full. There is currently over 1,000 tonnes of

waste rotting in the streets of Naples.

Even though the Italian Government has proposed a new plan to address the backlog of waste and future waste management issues, the EC stated that the proposals are "insufficient". An official said the government still lacked

sites for treating and storing waste and that nothing was planned to sort or recycle it.

(Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk>)



HOLE LOT OF POWER



In New York, Waste Management Inc in a joint venture with The Linde Group announced that its planning to open the worlds biggest facility to turn landfill gas into fuel for its 300 collection trucks.

It is expected that the plant will be operational in 2009 and cost \$15 million US Dollars.

Linde will be responsible for the engineering of the plant as well as the cleaning and liquefaction of the landfill gas. Waste Management Inc will be supplying the landfill gas

sourced from decomposition of organic waste. It is expected that the plant will produce over 490 000L of liquid biogas per day.

(Source: www.sustainablebusiness.com)

ID GREENWASH

"Greenwash" was coined by environmental activists to describe the efforts by companies to portray themselves as environmentally responsible in order to mask environmental wrongdoings.

Here is some ways to identify signs of greenwash:

1. **Gobbledygook** Jargon that only a scientist or boffin could understand.
2. **Suggestive pictures** Green images that indicate an unjustified green impact ie flowers blooming from an exhaust.
3. **Irrelevant claims** Emphasising one small green attribute when everything else is ungreen.

4. **Best in class** Declaring you are slightly greener than the rest, even if the rest are pretty terrible.
5. **Imaginary friends** A label that looks like a third party endorsement, except its made up.

For more information visit www.futerra.co.uk

NAPPY REINCARNATION

Britain will soon be converting smelly disposable nappies into freshly made plastics, cladding and roof tiles. The facility aims to recycle 30 000 tonnes of nappies, which

makes up 4 per cent of Britain's nappy waste per year. Knowaste will initially source nappies and incontinence products from hospitals and

nurseries, but plans to extend into the domestic market.

(Source: The Guardian, April 2008)



WE WANT YOU

Does your Local Government have some hot gossip?

Do you have the solution to a waste dilemma?

Advisory Council or by fax on 9322 2611.

Has the new transfer station changed your life?

Share your stories or ideas by emailing the Municipal Waste



Thirsty work

An Englishman has invented a 750ml bottle that can instantly clean contaminated water and make it drinkable.

It uses a filtration system that blocks anything longer than 15 nanometres.

For more information visit www.lifesaversystems.com

(Source: WME, February 2008)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 18 June 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

- 21 May 2008 **Climate Change & The Waste Sector: Opportunities & Liabilities**
Perth, WA
For more information go to www.wmaa.com.au/flyers/cc/wacc080521.pdf
- 5 June 2008 **WALGA Elected Member Training**
For more information contact Bernadette Howes on 9213 2090 or bhowes@walga.asn.au
- 9-11 July 2008 **National Environment Conference**
Port Douglas, QLD
For more information contact Malcolm Petrie on 07 3000 22020 or email malcolm_petrie@lgag.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
- 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
- 18-21 November 2008 **WMAA 2nd National Landfill & Transfer Stations Conference**
Melbourne
Details at www.wmaa.asn.au

2008 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 23 May 2008 **Management of Australia's Waste Streams & the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008 Terms of Reference**
For more information contact the Secretariat on 02 677 3439 or visit www.aph.gov.au
- 26 May 2008 **Container Deposit Systems and Extended Producer Responsibility**
For more information www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or email jscott@walga.asn.au
- 3 June 2008 **HHW Program—Expressions of Interest Due**
For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au or contact Kellie Field on 9213 2062 or email kfield@walga.asn.au
- 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

