

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 116

August 2008

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BE THERE OR BE SQUARE

Don't miss out on the waste event of the year, Waste & Recycle Conference **9-12 September 2008**.

Need a Little Authority in Your Life?

On Tuesday 9 September, meet the Waste Authority over breakfast. The event will provide an opportunity for you to meet the new Members, as well as an opportunity to interact with a range of key players from the industry. This event will provide a chance to hear how the Authority will be working *Towards Zero Waste*.

Sustainability Uncovered

On Wednesday 10 September get some of your hard sustainability questions answered. Join Keynote Speaker Jeff Seadon (New Zealand) and on-the-ground practitioners from Australia Rob Weymouth (Sustainability Facilitator, WALGA) and Kane Hardingham (Woolworths Limited) who are involved in the integrated waste management policy and programs.

on Trial. The charge—being a successful government/industry partnership to reduce the environmental impact of packaging. Come and hear about the Covenant's success stories and how industry regulates packaging. Join the citizens on the jury in contemplating the fate of the Covenant.

Visit www.wastandrecycle.com.au for more information.

The Covenant on Trial

On Wednesday afternoon watch the Citizen Jury put the National Packaging Covenant

DATA SCHEME

The Local Government Waste and Recycling Survey is now open at www.zerowastewa.com.au. The survey requests information on a wide range

of issues relating to local government waste services, including waste tonnages and collection services. To access the survey you will require the username and password

supplied in our letter to your CEO (sent August 2008). If you are unable to access the survey, contact phone 6467 5317.

HHW FLIES HIGH

WALGA and the Department of Environment and Conservation are pleased to announce the dates for two HHW Pilot Collection Days.

◆ **Rivers Regional Council** (hosted by City of South Perth) on 6 September 2008, 9.00am to 1.00pm at City of South Perth Civic Centre, Corner of South Terrace

and Sandgate Street, South Perth.

◆ **Southern Metropolitan Regional Council** on 4 October 2008, 9.00am to 1.00pm at the Regional Resource Recovery Centre, Bannister Road, Canning Vale.

Paints, Batteries, Thinners/Solvents, Household Acids and Alkalis, Gas Bottles, Fluoro Tubes and Pool Chemicals.

For more information on the Household Hazardous Waste Program contact Kellie Field on 9213 2062, kfield@walga.asn.au or visit www.wastenet.net.au and follow the links to the events page.

Material collected on the day include Pesticides, Herbicides, Flammables,

LEVY ALL THE WAY

No Non-Metro

Earlier this year the Waste Authority had foreshadowed additional non-metropolitan discussion forums on the issue of extending the landfill levy beyond the metropolitan area. Due to a current incapacity to deliver at this time these forums have been postponed. Non-metropolitan forums on this issue will occur at a future time.

Levy for Free

The Waste Authority will be holding a discussion forum to canvass the views of stakeholders on how the levy

will apply to category 63 landfill sites (inert landfills).

The Waste Authority has set aside two hours at the Waste and Recycle Conference **Tuesday 9 September** from 3.30pm to allow views from selected speakers to be heard at a single forum. Attendance at the forum is free of charge, however will require registration for seating and catering purposes.

To register send your name, organisation and contact details to leanne.reid@dec.wa.gov.au by

no later than **COB Thursday 28 August 2008**.

For more information on the discussion forum visit www.zerowastewa.com.au and follow the 'Landfill Levy Discussion forum: Category 63' links.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has developed a 'Landfill Levy Discussion Paper' which will be posted on www.wastenet.net.au Contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or email jscott@walga.asn.au for more information.

Goodyear Tyres is the latest company to be pulled up by the ACCC for green-washing, for claims over an 'environmentally friendly tyre'

(Source: WME magazine, July 2008, p 5)



ART OF WARR

In July 2008, Proclamation of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Act and Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy (WARRL) Act and Regulations occurred.

WALGA has issued an Info Page to all Local Governments outlining the impact of the WARR and WARRL Acts and Regulations. Information on the GST implications to Local Government has also been included in the Info Page.

Copies of the Info Page and GST information are available at www.wastenet.net.au or contact Judy Scott on 9213 2086 or email jscott@walga.asn.au

SWIS GRANTS

SWIS Grant applications are now open. Applications close **5.00pm Friday 26th September 2008**. The Authority's preferred project areas and Statement of

Strategic Direction are available at www.zerowastewa.com.au Go to the 'Policy and Evaluation' section of 'Our Work' or contact DEC on 6467 5318. Applicants must read *Guidelines for*

Applicants before submitting applications and speak to Project Coordinator Paul Ward on 6467 5320 or email paul.ward@dec.wa.gov.au

GET GREEN PAPER

The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme is an important emerging issue for Local Governments.

At this stage, it appears that the waste sector will be most affected by the commencement of the Scheme. Waste is very likely to be considered a 'covered sector' from scheme commencement, and must be willing and able to quantify, report and 'account for' in a financial and abatement sense, its

emissions. Additionally, although previously considered not liable to report, it appears that the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007* will be amended to ensure that the Local Government sector is clearly captured by these regulations.

The Green Paper and corresponding information, is available from www.climatechange.gov.au/greenpaper/index.html.

To enable WALGA to respond to

the Department of Climate Change in a timely manner, please forward any submissions to Melanie Bainbridge atmbainbridge@walga.asn.au or fax 9322 2611 by **Friday 29 August 2008**.

Alternatively comments can be forwarded directly to the D C C at emissionstrading@climatechange.gov.au. Direct comments to DCC will be received until **COB Wednesday 10 September 2008**.

COMPOST BEATS E-WASTE

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) and Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) have received \$130,000 Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme grants for two waste reduction projects.

EMRC has received \$95,000 from SWIS to trial a third kerbside bin for organic waste collection. The trial will be run over several months in 300 households. The households

will receive a small bin to place in their kitchen, as well as a larger bin. The trial system has the potential to divert up to 61 per cent of organic waste from landfill.

EMRC and SMRC will share a \$35,000 grant to commission a study into a pilot program for the collection and recycling of electronic waste in Perth. This grant will enable the Councils to study interstate and international collection models.

It's envisaged that it will lead to a pilot program for providing householders with responsible e-waste disposal options. Mindarie, Rivers and Western Metropolitan Regional Councils will also participate in this part of the project.

(Source: mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/CurrentMinistersSearch.aspx?ItemId=130615&minister=Templeman&admin=Carpenter)

GET SMART

Living Smart is a joint initiative between The Meeting Place Community Centre (TMPCC), City of Fremantle, Murdoch University and Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC).

It began in May 2002, when TMPCC realised there was a need for a sustainability

education program in Fremantle.

In November 2002, SMRC joined the Living Smart Steering Committee to support the extension of the Program to new centres and groups in the surrounding region.

Living Smart provides multi-week courses covering handy

hints on saving water, gas and energy, transport and waste management, safe use of household chemicals, indoor air quality, biodiversity and healthier and happier lifestyles.

For more information and events visit www.livingsmart.org.au



You can search for where you can recycle in your local area, either by Local Government or Product.

WINNERS AND GRINNERS

Walpole

The Keep Australia Beautiful Tidy Towns annual awards were held in Hobart this April.

The town of Walpole, located in the Shire of Manjimup won the National Protection of the Environment Award.

Walpole was recognised for its community activities in protecting the natural environment and resulted in a well-cared for landscape.

Djarindin

Djarindin has 310 residents and is located on the tip of the Dampier Peninsula. The community has come together to take on the Tidy Towns—Sustainable Communities message of 'cleaning up'.

One week every month the community clean and tidy their yards and community areas. At the end of the cleanups a barbecue is held and prizes

are given out.

\$ for Litter

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council is providing financial support for projects aimed at litter reduction and changing litter behaviour. For grant guidelines, eligibility, assessment criteria and application kits visit www.kabc.wa.gov.au or 6467 5547.



www.recyclingnearyou.com.au

SUBMIT TO WASTE

The Standing Committee on Environment, Communication and the Arts issued Terms of Reference for an inquiry into the Management of Australia's Waste Streams and the

consideration of the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council sent a submission to the Senate Committee Inquiry and it can be found at www.wastenet.net.au follow the 'Policy' links then

'Submissions and Reports' links.

For other documents relating to the enquiry visit www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eca_ctte/aust_waste_streams/index.htm

LET'S FACE IT

The Waste Management Association (WMAA) of Australia Young Professionals are now Facebook savvy. They have a 'group' on Facebook and to join simply type in 'Young Waste Professional WA' into the Facebook search function.

The Young Professionals would like to welcome

Chantell Noack from DEC, as one of the newest members.

The Group aims to:

- ◆ Network with others (young, old or uncertain) in the waste management industry
- ◆ Educate themselves and those in the wider industry
- ◆ Not to take themselves too seriously

- ◆ Promote the waste management industry as a career
- ◆ Make a difference

Young Professionals members come from a diverse range of areas including industry, recycling facilities, consultant, local and state government.

The National Landfill Survey 2007 results are now available at



www.wmaa.asn.au follow the 'Divisions' link and click on 'landfill'.

Plastic Bag Levy

The ACCC has granted interim approval of the month long plastic bag levy trial. Shoppers will be charged a 10 cent levy for plastic bags handed out at Coles, Woolworths and IGA stores in Wangaratta, Warnambool and Narre Warren.

However, the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) said that

charging for the bags may be considered unconstitutional.

Geocycle

Geocycle has been given a \$250 000 grant under the Energy Technology Innovation Strategy (ETIS) Program. The grant will be used to develop methods for extracting and recycling the water content of alternative fuel products.

Geocycle collects solvents, paints and grease. The high viscose fuels are blended, then sent to cement plant kilns and are used as an alternative to coal.

For more information visit www.environmentalmanagementnews.net

(Source: environmentalmanagementnews.net, 16 & 18 July 2008)

NO BAGGING

TASSIE DEPOSITS?

The Tasmanian State Government is looking for consultants to undertake a feasibility study into implementing a Container Deposit Scheme.



said that some of the key issues for the study will be how it might work in Tasmania:

- ◆ Where the population is a little bit more dispersed and regionalised
- ◆ How will it effect existing kerb-side collection and

John Mollison from the Department of Environment

Local Government services

- ◆ The cost of implementing the system.

(Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/07/01/2291233.htm>)

RECYCLING REAPER

Transpacific Industries Group Ltd suggests from recent data collected that less than 20 per cent of Australian businesses recycle.

The National Packaging Covenant recently granted funding to Transpacific for a new national recycling service to encourage businesses to recycle.

The new program 'Harvest' (ph 13 13 39) is worth \$23 million and will offer businesses specially marked bins—Landfill, Recycle (for bulk packaging) and Comix (beverage and food containers).

It is anticipated that 80, 000 tonnes of packaging waste will be diverted from landfill over a 22 month period.

For more information visit www.packagingcovenant.org.au and follow the media release links.



TIMBER...

The National Timber Product Stewardship Group (NTPSG) is an initiative of the timber and wood products industry aiming to double the recovery of post-consumer timber and wood products to one million tonnes per year by 2017.

The group claims that approximately 300 kilo tonnes of waste wood packaging enters landfills each year in Australia.

The group has a new website

that contains a directory listing of over 120 businesses that reuse, recycle or use waste wood packaging to generate renewable energy. For more information visit www.timberstewardship.org.

BARRIERS TO RECYCLING AT HOME

WRAP has recently published a summary report and full report on the *Barriers to Recycling at Home*.

The aim of the research was to generate a more rigorous and in-depth understanding of what prevents householders from recycling. The Reports are available from www.wrap.org.uk

(Source: http://www.wrap.org.uk/local_authorities/toolkits_good_practice/barriers_to_1.html)

LITTLE PIGGY WENT TO THE 7-11

In Japan, animal feed and fertiliser prices are at a record high. As a result, there has been a greater demand than ever before for Japan's food recycling industry to supply pellets for pigs and poultry from recycled leftovers.

Japan disposes of 20 million tonnes of food waste a year and since 2001, Government legislation has encouraged industry to turn food scraps into animal feed and fertiliser, or ship leftovers to methane gas production plants.

Farmers initially were hesitant to use recycled animal feed, but rising feed prices have made them more open to the idea of using recycled feed, which is about 50 per cent cheaper than regular feed.

A former rubbish truck driver was disheartened with dumping discarded food every day and started a food recycling company which is Japan's largest recycled animal feed maker.



The companies truck drivers now cart rice balls, sandwiches and milk discarded by 1,200 Seven-Eleven shops to a factory just outside Tokyo. The scraps are then turned into dry and liquid animal feed.

Japan's food industry now recycles over 70 per cent of leftovers.

(Source: <http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/49474/story.htm>)

COOR WHAT AN IDEA

In the USA, Coors Brewing Company is donating ethanol fuel for the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

The fuel will be used for the fleet of General Motors flex-

fuel vehicles to be used for Convention transportation needs. The ethanol fuel is made from waste beer generated at their brewery.

Coors is the first USA major brewer to convert its waste

beer into ethanol. Coors have been converting it since 1996 and produce 11 million litres per year.

(Source: <http://www.molsoncoors.com>)

NO WASTE GAME

Beijing began its waste collection and recycling project in all Olympic venues in July this year.



It's expected that all 31 venues in the city will jointly produce

14, 000 tones of rubbish (including leftovers, paper, plastic bottles and medical waste). This is based on the expected volumes of spectators.

Food waste will be moved away from stadiums within four

hours. Other rubbish will be transported to four sorting centres and processing plants in Beijing's suburbs after matches.

(Source: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-07/24/content_8762383.htm)

In USA, Pepsi has redesigned the 500ml bottle to be 20 per cent lighter. There will also be a 10 per cent reduction in label size and 5 per cent reduction in the shrink wrap film (used for multi-packs)

(Source: Warmer Bulletin, June 2008, p 23)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 15 October 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 September 2008 **Forum—Landfill Levy**
The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
More information will be available from www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 9-12 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 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
- 23-25 September 2008 **IFAT 3rd International Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Refuse, Recycling and Natural Energy Sources**
- 1-3 October 2008 **1st International Conference: Hazardous Waste Management**
Chania-Crete, Greece
For more information visit hwm1.tuc.gr
- 3 -6 November 2008 **ISWA Congress 2008**
Singapore
For more information visit www.wmras.org.sg/
- 10-16 November 2008 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com
- 17-20 November 2008 **2nd International Symposium on Energy from Biomass and Waste**
Venice, Italy
For more information visit www.venicesymposium.it/
- 19-20 November 2008 **Sustainable Waste Management—A Long Term View**
Melbourne, Victoria

2008 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 28 August 2008 **Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper**
For more information contact Melanie Bainbridge on 9213 2039 or mbainbridge@walga.asn.au
- 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



City of Geraldton-Greenough
Climate of Opportunity



Reducing. Reusing. Recycling.



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



South East
METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL