

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 81

September 2005

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Flown the Coup Farewell	2
Posters on Display SEMRC's poster design competition	2
EMRC's Big Cat EMRC new compactor	2
Mandurah Conduct Review Operational review of landfill site	2
Healthy Discussion New Health Act for WA	2
Board's Been Busy WMB Activities	3
Chemical WARR Department of Environment activities	3
Anything But Boring European House Borer update	3
Online Construction Clean Site's new website	3
Celebrate September Sustainable September	4
Always Something There to ReMida Reuse of materials	4
ChemClearasil ChemClear Program	4
Outback Next Year Clean Up Australia day results and focus for next year	4
Internet Procurement Online database on environmental impacts of products	4
Eureka—Plastic Steel One of the winners of the Eureka Awards	4
Lo\$! Loses in manufacturing	5
Somewhere over the Rainbow Draft MGB colour standards	5
Recycling = Jobs Funding for projects leads to jobs	5
Plastic Bags are Lethal Effect of bags in India	5
Biomass Plant New power plant	5
Sharp Practice Biomass into plastic	5

GO FOR THE BIG SWIS CHEESE

Expressions of Interest (Eoi) are being sought from business, industry, Local Government, community groups and individuals for the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS).

This process is different to previously, Eoi's should be submitted for assessment and successful proponents will be invited to submit a more detailed application. Both financial and

non-financial support is available.

Through SWIS, support will be provided for initiatives which are consistent with the Waste Management Board's *Statement of Strategic Direction for Waste Management in Western Australia*.

Advertisement for SWIS will be called annually.

The closing date is **5pm on Friday 7th of October 2005**.

Eoi forms and further information is available from the Waste Management Board website www.wastewa.com



COVENANT MKII UNWRAPPED

The National Packaging Covenant Mark II, has been agreed by Ministers and invitations to sign should have been received by Councils in the past few weeks.

The Western Australian Local Government Association will be making its own determination in

November on whether to sign the Covenant Mark II.

The Department of Environment and the National Packaging Covenant Council will hold an information workshop on Wednesday 28th of September, to provide information to potential signatories.

For further information on the information workshop, as well as history and background information on the Covenant, visit www.wastenet.net.au/issues/npc.



WASH UP AFTER WASTE & RECYCLE

Waste & Recycle is over for another year and as we wipe the tears from our eyes

we can eagerly look forward to Waste & Recycle 2006!

The 2006 Conference will once again be held at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle from the 18th to the 22nd of September.

The Waste & Recycle 2005 Conference Communiqué, along with late papers and presentations, presenting the key outcomes of the Conference, are available from the Waste & Recycle Website www.wasteandrecycle.com.au



FLOWN THE COUP

Danielle Witham, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council Project Coordinator, is making the move to the WA Local Government Association's Perth Biodiversity Project.

It is with much sadness that the waste team bids farewell to Danielle and we all wish her the very best in her new and diverse role which is more closely aligned with her real passion in life.



Fond farewell from MWAC

POSTERS ON DISPLAY

As part of Sustainable September, the South East Metropolitan Regional Council (SEMRC) is holding a poster design competition.

Students from the Cities of Gosnells, Armadale and South Perth will have the opportunity to have their artwork used as part of an ongoing waste awareness promotion.

The competition, sponsored by WA Landfill Services, Member Councils and Cleanaway,

offers a range of prizes from cash awards to book and art vouchers. In addition, students can also win prizes for their schools, including a visit from Captain Cleanup, book vouchers for the library, and for Year 11 and 12 a visit to an art gallery exhibition.

Award functions will be held to announce the local and regional winners, with displays to encourage people to waste less and recycle more.

The winning posters will be displayed during National Recycling Week (7th to the 13th November 2005).

For more information contact Sarah Muirhead on 9492 0135 or visit the SEMRC website www.semrc.wa.gov.au



More than 380 landfills in the United States are now supplying methane, which generates 9 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually.



(Source: BioCycle, August 2005)

EMRC'S BIG CAT



The EMRC (Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council)

recently took delivery of the largest Cat Waste Compactor in Australia. The Cat 836H weighs 51.7 tonnes and is the only compactor which complies with

the US EPA and EU Stage III standards for emissions.

For more information visit www.emrc.org.au

MANDURAH CONDUCT REVIEW

The City of Mandurah recently engaged Cardno BSD to conduct an operational review of the City's Waste Transfer Station in Gordon Road, Meadow Springs and the Tims Thicket Inert Landfill Facility.

The purpose of the review was to examine and assess both facilities in order to determine

opportunities to improve operational efficiencies and reduce waste being disposed to landfill.

Cardno BSD have now completed the operational reviews and the report is currently being assessed by City of Mandurah staff, in conjunction with the City's

Alliance partner, Cleanaway. It is proposed that the recommendations within the Cardno BSD reports will be implemented during 2006.

For more information please contact Kyle Boardman on 9550 3965.

HEALTHY DISCUSSION

The Department of Health has released a *Discussion Paper on a New Legislative Framework for Public Health in Western Australia*. This paper is a key part of the review of

the *Health Act* 1911 and has implications for Local Government regarding waste processes. The deadline for submissions was recently extended, submissions now

close at **5pm on Wednesday the 30th of November 2005.**

For more information visit www.newpublichealthact.health.wa.gov.au

BOARD'S BEEN BUSY

Business

The Waste Management Board has released their *Business Plan for 2005-2006*. The Plan lists the Board's major funding initiatives and the outcomes they are seeking.

their Communication Strategy and 2005-2006 initiatives. The Strategy gives the Board's overarching communication message *Zero waste – live the vision!*

Triple Bottom Line Analysis. The Analysis provides a basis for the development by the Board of a used tyre strategy which it expects to complete by November 2005.

Communication

The Board has also released

Tyres

The Waste Management Board has just released its *Used Tyre Recycling Industry*

For more information visit the Board's website www.wastewa.com

CHEMICAL WARR

It's WARR

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bill (the WARR Bill) is currently under development by the Department of Environment.

sometime before the end of 2005. The WARR Bill is intended to address a number of Waste related matters, including the legislative underpinning required to implement EPR-style schemes.

\$1.02 million household chemical waste program. The Department is coordinating the program in partnership with Local and State Government, industry and the community.

Recent indications from the Department are that a new draft of the WARR Bill should be put out for consultation

Chemical Romance

Work has commenced on the Department of Environment's

For more information visit the Department website www.environment.wa.gov.

ANYTHING BUT BORING

The recent detection of European House Borer (EHB), an exotic pest of seasoned softwood timber (pine particularly), has raised some issues for waste management. Lisa Christy, EHB Program Director said, "Waste Management staff are being urged to process any untreated pine for disposal immediately and not to offer any untreated pine to the public for

recycling. The EHB Program commends Councils that have already taken steps to discourage residents from collecting any waste untreated pine." Some Councils have also rescheduled their vergeside collections in EHB affected areas to avoid moving any untreated pine between the months of September and March when adult EHB beetles are known to emerge from affected

materials. The public are also being encouraged not to collect any untreated pine materials put out for verge side collection as this may increase the risk of spreading EHB to new areas.

Suspected EHB activity should be reported to Freecall 1800 084 881. For more information visit www.ehb.wa.gov.au

ONLINE CONSTRUCTION

The Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Site program has just launched its new website.

The site provides information about positive environmental land development and building practices in WA. It is aimed at Local Government, developers, builders, contractors, trainers, apprentices and home renovators. The site provides best practice information on:

- Litter management-hazardous and non-hazardous materials;
- Waste management-reusing and recycling construction and demolition waste; and
- Stormwater management-preventing pollutants from entering our stormwater system.

Information is also available on different training opportunities offered by the Program and the resources available to industry personnel.

Visit the new Clean Site website at <http://community.environment.wa.gov.au/cleansite> or for more information contact Clean Site Coordinator Justin Mowatt on 9278 0682.



The City of Sendai, in northern Japan, has set-up an exchange of organic waste for fresh vegetables in its morning markets. Each kilogram of dried compressed organic waste will be exchanged for 100 Yen's worth of fresh vegetables.



(Source: Japan for Sustainability 16-22 August 2005)

CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER



Sustainable September 2005 aims to celebrate a wide range of activities to help create a more just, sustainable and prosperous Western Australia. A variety of events are listed on the website and range from small community gatherings to national events. For more information visit www.sustainableseptember.net.au

ALWAYS SOMETHING THERE TO REMIDA

In Chicago, people are paying \$7 to go on a "Down in the Dumps" tour of more than a dozen waste related sites, including a recycling centre and landfills.

ReMida WA is an educational creative reuse centre. It provides the community with a centre that focuses on the need to re-orientate existing production and consumption patterns. ReMida collects 'clean' material from local industry and makes it available to schools for art projects. For more information visit www.remidawa.com



(Source: Johnson, A. 22 August, 2005 Yahoo news.com)

CHEMCLEARASIL

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has issued a determination which will allow a levy to be introduced to fund the ChemClear Program. This Program will provide a collection and disposal service for agricultural and veterinary chemicals. Agsafe, who currently run drumMuster, will oversee ChemClear. ChemClear will allow the disposal of unwanted chemicals through a web-based booking system and a freecall number. For more information visit www.chemclear.com.au (Source: Environmental Management News, 30 August 2005)

OUTBACK NEXT YEAR

Clean Up Australia thanked Councils for their support of Clean Up Australia Day. Nationally more than 7,000 clean up sites were registered. For more information regarding Western Australian Councils involvement visit www.cleanup.com.au additional focus for Clean Up activities. For more information visit www.outbackinfront.com As 2006 is the year of the Outback, this area will be an

INTERNET PROCUREMENT

An online database has been launched to provide information on the environmental impacts of different brands of Australian products and services. The Green Procurement Database is an initiative of the Australian Green Procurement Network. The database is available at www.greenprocurement.org (Source: Environmental Management News, 26 August 2005)

EUREKA—PLASTIC STEEL

One of the winners of this year's Eureka Awards was Dr Veena Sahajwalla and her team who received the University of New South Wales Eureka Prize for Scientific Research. They have developed a technique to use waste plastic in steel manufacture. The waste plastic is fed into electric steel making furnaces as a source of carbon. This process is important for the recycling of scrap metal, which accounts for 40% of steel production. For more information visit www.austmus.gov.au/eureka

LOST

Losses of raw material through manufacturing practices may cost Australian manufacturers as much as \$35 billion a year, according to Jon Ward of EcoRecycle.

EcoRecycle is talking to industry about material efficiency. To facilitate this, grants have been given to 15 small businesses to measure material input and output.

For more information visit www.ecorecycle.vic.gov.au

(Source: WME Weekly, 21 July 2005)

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW

The *Draft Mobile Waste Containers Part 7: Colours, markings and designation requirement* was recently released.

The closing date for comment on the draft standards is the **28th of September 2005**.



website and register to access the document www.standards.com.au

For a more information visit the Standards Australia

RECYCLING = JOBS

The Federal Industry Minister, Hon Ian Macfarlane, and South Australia's Deputy Premier have announced \$6.4 million funding for three projects.

expansion and upgrade of facilities for receiving, sorting and redistributing building and construction, commercial and industrial waste.

The upgrade will create more than 120 jobs directly and 40 jobs in related industries.

For more information visit <http://minister.industry.gov.au>

One of these is the Resourceco Pty Ltd



PLASTIC BAGS ARE LETHAL

The Indian state of Maharashtra has banned plastic bags after severe flooding was blamed on the bags blocking gutters and drains. The flooding caused the deaths of more than 1000 people.

This move has not been without opposition. A group representing plastic bag makers claims the Government is making "plastic bags the scapegoat" and trying to avoid upgrading infrastructure.

Other Indian states are issuing plastic bag restrictions to stop bags affecting tourist sites.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 2 September 2005)



(Source: www.ordeman.nl)

BIOMASS PLANT

A biomass fuelled power plant will supply energy to the community of Motala in Sweden. The \$17.84 million plant will burn waste wood

and pulp products using technology which will produce energy with low carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide emissions. In Sweden, almost

30% of domestic energy is from renewable resources.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 7 September 2005)

SHARP PRACTICE

Electronics manufacturer, Sharp have developed a manufacturing technique which allows biomass based plastic to be blended with conventional waste plastic

recovered from used electronics. Sharp estimate that by 2011, up to 30% of all its products could be made using this blended plastic.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 24 August 2005)



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting (Ordinary)

Date: 23 September, 2005

Time: 3.30 pm

Venue: Council Chambers, City of Albany

Check out the WA Local Government
Association Website at www.walga.asn.au



Visit WasteNet www.wastenet.net.au

CONTACT DETAILS

MWAC Executive Officer

Mr Bernard Ryan

Tel: 08 9213 2037

Email: bryan@walga.asn.au

MWAC Project Coordinator

Ms Danielle Witham

Tel: 08 9213 2062

Email: dwitham@walga.asn.au

MWAC Waste Management Officer

Ms Rebecca Brown

Tel: 08 9213 2063

Email: rbrown@walga.asn.au

MWAC Waste Policy Officer

Mr Mike Reid

Tel: 08 9213 2086

Email: mreid@walga.asn.au

Office: Local Government House
15 Altona Street, WEST PERTH WA 6005

Postal Address: PO Box 1544,
WEST PERTH WA 6872

2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 2005 **Sustainable September**
A variety of events are listed for this month
For more information visit www.sustainableseptember.net.au
- 3–7 October 2005 **Sardinia 2005: 10th International Waste Management & Landfill Symposium**
Cagliari, Italy
For more information visit www.sardiniasymposium.it
- 10–12 October 2005 **Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production**
Melbourne, Australia
For more information visit www.6aprscp.com
- 11–14 October 2005 **AUSPACK 2005**
Sydney, Australia
For more information visit www.auspack.com.au
- 25–29 October 2005 **R'05 7th World Congress & Exhibition on Recovery & Recycling**
Beijing, China
For more information visit www.r05.org
- 1–3 November 2005 **WasteMinz Conference 2005**
Rotorua, New Zealand
For more information visit www.wasteminz.org.nz
- 5 November 2005 **Red Hill Open Day**
Red Hill Landfill, Perth
For more information visit www.emrc.org.au
- 6–8 November 2005 **ISWA 2005: Towards Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management System**
Buenos Aires, Argentina
For more information visit www.iswa2005.ars.org.ar
- 18–22 September 2006 **Waste & Recycle 2006**
The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

2005 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 7 October 2005 **Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme Expressions of Interest**
For more information visit www.wastewa.com
- 30 November 2005 **Discussion Paper on a New Legislative Framework for Public Health in Western Australia**
For more information visit www.newpublichealthact.health.wa.gov.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
Working for the Environment's Future

WHAT IS THE MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL?



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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.

