



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 88

April 2006

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MWAC UNITED— WASTE TEAM OF THE FUTURE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council Strategic Plan has been endorsed by the WA Local Government Association State Council and is now in operation.

formulated over several facilitated workshops and is the result of considerable hard work from all on the Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

Strategic Plan is *United Towards a Zero Waste Future*.

To view a one page summary of the Plan visit www.wastenet.net.au/ about

The Strategic Plan was The vision articulated in the

DON'T JUST SIT THERE FIDDLING!



experiences about the most topical issues concerning the waste management industry.

Available from the Waste & Recycle Website are the Call for Papers and Exhibitors and Sponsorship forms.

This years Waste & Recycle Conference, titled '*Crisis? What Crisis? Are we Fiddling while Rome burns?*' will see world leaders in waste management gather in Perth to share their learning and

Amongst the many attractions at this years Conference are:

- ◆ Four renowned international keynote speakers;
- ◆ High profile speakers from around Australia;

- ◆ A unique plenary workshop format which will explore future scenarios for waste management issues; and
- ◆ Unparalleled networking and business opportunities.

Waste & Recycle 2006 runs from the **Tuesday 19th to Friday 22nd September**.

For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

TENDER REJECTION

The Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) has formally rejected the tenders to build, own and operate a Resource Recovery Facility in the Neerabup Industrial Area.

The three tenders received all failed to meet one or more of the mandatory minimum requirements the MRC had set out in the tender specifications.

MRC Chief Executive Officer, Kevin Poynton, stated "this does not mean the project has stalled. The companies that submitted the tenders - Novera Energy Limited, Total Energy Services Tasmania Pty Ltd, and Worley Limited - will now be invited to negotiate with the MRC, as is provided for in the Local

Government Act and regulations."

The process is not expected to delay the timing of a decision as to which company will be awarded the contract. The MRC expects to announce that decision in August.

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



NEW PC UPDATE

The Productivity Commission have completed a round of the Public Hearings for the *Inquiry into Waste Generation and Resource Efficiency*.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council was one of 116 who made submissions to the Commission.

The next stage of the process is the production of a draft report. The Commission

anticipate this will be released in May 2006. The transcripts and submission are available from www.pc.gov.au

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council have produced a supplementary submissions to the Productivity Commission. The key message from the Supplementary Submission is that the Productivity Commission needs to address how sustainability goals can be

achieved if not in the area of waste management. This supplementary submission is intended to directly counter arguments in a submission from an industry group called the Business Roundtable for Sustainable Development (BRSD).

The Supplementary Submission is available from the WasteNet website www.wastenet.net.au

In 1776, the first metal recycling in the US occurred when patriots in New York City melted down a statue of King George III to make bullets.



(Source: www.epa.gov)

WIDE WORLD OF WASTE DATA

In 2005, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council, funded by the Waste Management Board, developed a system to show municipal recycling and resource recovery trends in WA.

This system uses data provided under the Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme and

allows the Municipal Waste Advisory Council to provide Local Government and the Board with 6 monthly reports showing performance.

As part of the data project a Statewide Report was also produced, this Report is now available from the WasteNet website.

For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au/data



TANKS FROM BUNBURY

The City of Bunbury received a used oil collection tank in the final phased of the Used Oil Program. Tony Battersby, City of Bunbury Manager of Waste Services said, "The new facility will encourage the community to pour their used oil back into an empty container and take it to the collection facility for recycling. The new initiative provides a central collection point for the community and encourages the removal and

recycling of this potentially destructive product from the environment."

The usefulness of this tank has received recognition in the Local Paper.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council recently distributed a promotional packaged aimed at assisting Councils with publicising their infrastructure. This package is available for

download from the WasteNet website www.wastenet.net.au/programs/oil/promo

(Source: Monique Warnock, Bunbury Herald Tuesday 11 April 2006)



BICYCLE'S ON BOARD WITH CDL



The Western Australian Local Government Association has received correspondence from the Fremantle Bicycle User Group which expressed the problem to cyclists posed by broken glass.

The Group related the problem to the lack of Container Deposit Legislation and highlighted the potential for such legislation to reduce the amount of litter, particularly broken glass.

If any Local Governments have had similar complaints from community groups or are aware

of any groups with an interest in CDL, please can they inform the Municipal Waste Advisory Council. This will assist us in gaining an understanding of community feeling on this issue.

VOLUNTEER FOR HAZARDOUS JOB

The Department of Environment requested that the Municipal Waste Advisory Council nominate a representative for the Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Steering Committee. The Committee has been set up to help provide strategic direction for the implementation for the HCW Program. The MWAC representative is Mr Viet Nysen, City of Stirling.

REGIONAL RECOVERY SUCCESS



The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) has held its final Resource Recovery Regional Workshop.

The Workshop, one of a series, was attended by nearly 90 members of the

community. The Workshops allowed participants to allocate weightings to the selection criteria which will be used to assist the EMRC in selecting a resource recovery solution for Perth's Eastern Region. EMRC's, Project Development Manager, Stephen Fitzpatrick said, "the weightings of importance

allocated at the workshop have shown that the environment is the most important category for the workshop attendees when selecting the resource recovery technologies and sites."

For more information visit www.emrc.org.au

BUSY BOARD

Community Grants Scheme
The Waste Management Board has advertised another round of the Community Grants Scheme. Funding will be provided for local community scale projects which are consistent with the Board's *Statement of Strategic Direction for*

Waste Management in Western Australia. Submissions close **COB Friday 19th May 2006.**

Feedback on Resourcing the Zero Waste Vision
A summary of written submissions on the Waste Management Board's two

discussion papers *Resourcing the Zero Waste Vision* is now available. This summary covers both the main themes identified in the written submission and during the workshops held. For more information visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au>

CONTAMINATED NEPM

The *Discussion Paper for the Review of the National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure* has been released for comment.

The purpose of the document is to establish a nationally consistent approach to the assessment of site contamination.



During May 2006, public forums will be held in each capital city. The Forum for Perth will be held on **Thursday 25th May.**

To indicate your attendance for this forum please email contaminatedsites@environment.wa.gov.au or visit www.ephc.gov.au/nepms/cs/asc_review_pubconsult.html

The closing date for submissions is **Friday 2 June 2006.**

START YOUR DAY WITH A COVENANT

The Department of Environment (DoE) is holding a free breakfast seminar on **Thursday 27th April 2006** to discuss the Environment Protection (Used Packaging Materials) Regulations, and to look at the National

Packaging Covenant and how West Australian industry can get involved.

Speakers will include Mr Robert Atkins (DoE), Mr Ed Cordner (National

Packaging Covenant) and Mr Mark Gomm (Bunnings).

For more information visit http://zerowastewa.com.au/documents/npc_bfast_flyer.pdf

66.5% of households in WA recycle Glass.



(Source: ABS 2000)

SUBMISSIONS SUCCESS

The 3C's five month Submission period for site selection criteria recently closed. Over 300 submissions were received. 3C expect their recommendations to go to Cabinet in July 2006.

3C identified that many submissions raised unrelated

issues to the siting criteria but reflect the content of discussions in meetings over the past 5 months.

3C have undertaken to make sure that these issues are brought to the attention of Cabinet and will request Government consider these

issues when planning precincts proceed. Expanded analysis of reports prepared by independent consultants for the representative community groups of each eight exhibited sites are also available from the 3C website www.3c.org.au

In Delhi, India one solution to the problem of plastic bag litter, is making colourful handbags out of the recycled plastic bags.

A highly successful business, employing 300 people and making a turnover of about \$150,000, has been established.



(Source: RRF March 11 2006)

BIG FINES FOR DUMPING

The Environment Minister, Hon. Mark McGowan recently unveiled a series of proposed amendments to the Litter Act which will focus on illegal dumping. The Minister stated "under the proposed changes, corporations found to be illegally dumping waste materials will face fines of up

to \$20,000. Individuals will face penalties up to \$10,000." These changes are partly in response to the issues raised associated with illegal dumping near charity bins. Other proposed amendments to the Litter Act included giving authorised officers increased powers to order site clean-ups,

order offenders to meet clean-up costs of littering and illegal dumping, and giving local government officers, such as rangers, authority to operate across jurisdictions.

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

LG MOB

The Australian mobile phone industry has set their focus on local government to help promote their *MobileMuster* recycling scheme.

Rose Read, from the Australian Mobile

Telecommunications Association, says collection volumes are up by 50%. *MobileMuster* is a free recycling service that aims to increase the collection of "dumped" mobile phones and their accessories so they can be

recycled and utilized in other products such as jewellery, fence posts and stainless steel. For more information visit www.mobilemuster.com

(Source: ALGA News, March 24 2006)

NOMINATE A HERO

Nominations are open for the 2006 World Environment Day 'Local Heroes' Conservation Awards.

These awards will be given out by environment groups in each State to honour those working

to protect the unique Australian environment. The award categories are Community Group Conservation Award, Conservation Employee Award, Volunteer Award and the Tassie Tiger Award.

The latter is somewhat of a dubious glory as it recognises the 'group or individual who has done serious damage to Australia's environment over the past year'.

For more information visit www.envict.org.au

COMPOSITION OF CALIFORNIA

The California Integrated Waste Management Board have produced a comprehensive report on waste characterisation. The Report included the most prevalent types of waste disposed in California. These were: food (14.6%); lumber

(9.6%); uncoated Corrugate Cardboard (5.7%); remainder/Composite Paper (5.7%); remainder/Composite Organics (4.4%); leaves and grass (4.2%); remainder/Composite Construction and Demolition Paper (3.6%); other Miscellaneous Paper (3.5%); bulky Items

(3.4%); and remainder/Composite Metal (2.5%).

The Report can be access from www.ciwmb.ca.gov/publications/LocalAsst/34004005.pdf

(Source : RRF 9 April 2006)

SEND WASTE TETRAPAKING

Tetra Pak has announced it is launching a £300,000 fund to help local authorities establish carton recycling schemes as it seeks to

dramatically increase the amount of drinks packaging currently being recycled in the UK.

For more information visit www.tetrapakrecycling.co.uk

(Source: RRF 6 April 2006)

RECYCLED ROADS WORLDWIDE

United Roads

The UK Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) have published *Recycled Roads- A Step-by-Step Guide*. The Guide aims to improve the use of recycled contents in the maintenance and construction of highways.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk

Rubber Roads For California

In California, the Integrated Waste Management Board has paved streets with rubberised asphalt concrete (RAC) made from old tyres. The expected benefits of the RAC are quieter neighbourhoods and longer lasting roads. The savings anticipated (from a two inch thick layer of RAC) are up to US\$22,000 per lane mile

compared to conventional asphalt and the use of more than 2,000 waste tyres over that distance.

The funding for this project comes from the US\$1.75 which the State collects on the sale of each new tyre.

(Source: RRF 9 April 2006)

BYO JAPAN

Vending Machine

How about vending machines that allow you to bring your own cup when purchasing a drink? The Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry has installed such a machine to research consumer behaviour.

It is estimated that about two billion paper cups are consumed each year and if these new BYO vending

machines take off, the consumption of paper cups is expected to decrease by 20 to 50 percent.

(Source: RRF March 11, 2006)

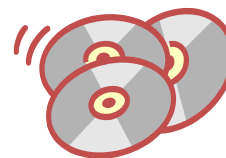
Chopsticks

'Mottainai' means 'waste not want not' in Japanese, therefore to help save forests and to reduce waste produced by a throw away culture (disposable chopsticks), Japan

has decided to bring back the Lacquered Chopsticks. A two year survey showed that the general public was becoming more aware of the need for conservation, so the Kawakami Corporation decided to offer the service of re-lacquering chopsticks.

For more information visit www.kawakamishoten.co.jp/

In Taiwan, authorities are cracking down on those who don't recycle unwanted CDs and DVDs. Those who fail to recycle their discs (and mobile phones) can face fines of up to \$184.



(Source: www.cdfreaks.com/news/13313)

TORONTO GETS TOUGH

The City of Toronto has implemented a bylaw which means residents could face a \$105 fine if they regularly disregard any of the city waste diversion programmes.

It has been estimated about

8% of residents are not currently recycling.

In an effort to reduce that percentage, if a driver notices that a household is not recycling, a bylaw officer will be sent to make sure the

occupants are aware of the bylaw and Toronto's recycling programmes, and to ensure they have the proper containers.

(Source: RRF 9 April 2006)

SUMMIT USEFUL?

The United Nations Environment Programme has released its 3rd *Global Environmental Outlook (GEO) Year Book*. The Book

includes and highlights links between environmental

well-being, vulnerability, poverty and the value of ecosystem services.

As well as highlighting major events such as the G-8 *Summit* in July and the 2005

World Summit in September.

For more information and to access the Book visit www.unep.org/geo/yearbook

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 17 May 2006

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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2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 27 April 2006 **Department of Environment—NPC Discussion Breakfast**
Hotel Grand Chancellor, Perth
For more information visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au/communication/news/npcbakefast/>
- 25–26 May 2006 **2006 Buying Green**
Perth, Western Australia
For more information contact Peter Hoare, WALGA (08) 9321 5055 or email buygreen06@walga.asn.au
- 25 May 2006 **Contaminated Site NEPM Discussion Forum**
Theaterette, Level 4, The Atrium, 168 St Georges Terrace, Perth.
For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au/nepms/cs/asc_review_pubconsult.html
- 31 May–2 June 2006 **Towards Zero Waste: Achieving Practical Solutions**
Stamford Grand Glenelg, South Australia
For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au
- 13–15 September 2006 **ORBIT 2006 Conference**
Weimar, Germany
For more information visit www.orbit2006.de/cms/
- 15–17 September 2006 **Clean Up the World**
Everywhere, Earth
For more information visit www.cleanuptheworld.org
- 19–22 September 2006 **Waste & Recycle 2006: "Crisis? What Crisis?" - Are we fiddling while Rome burns?**
The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au
- 2–4 October 2006 **ISWA Annual Congress**
Copenhagen, Denmark
For more information visit www.iswa2006.org/home.htm
- 15–17 November 2006 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com

2006 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 4 May 2006 **Eureka Awards**
For more information visit www.amonline.net.au/eureka
- 10 May 2006 **Banksia Awards**
For more information visit www.banksiafdn.com
- 19 May 2006 **Community Grants Scheme**
For more information visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au/>
- 2 June 2006 **Contaminated Site NEPM Discussion Paper**
For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting 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.

