



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 94

October 2006

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TIME FOR SUBMISSION HAS COME

The Western Australian Local Government Association, in conjunction with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), conducted a series of Workshops around WA on the new Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Bill. Also covered in the Workshops were Container Deposit Systems (CDS) and Zero Waste Plans (ZWP).

The workshops were attended by approximately 170 Local Government

representatives including Officers and Elected Members. The feedback provided at the workshops will be used by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) to formulate a submission on behalf of Local Government.

Some general issues which arose from the workshops included:

- ◆ Discrepancies between Waste Management Plans and Zero Waste Plans;
- ◆ Funding sources (Landfill

levy vs. consolidated funds); and
◆ Local Governments' control over waste.

Submissions to the Bill close **Monday 27 November 2006**. For more information contact the DEC on 6364 6500.

To provide additional input on the MWAC Submission or for more information please contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or mgraham@walga.asn.au

NEW VISIONARIES ON BOARD



corporate, commercial and Board.
insolvency law.

- Geoff Richards

Mr Richards has held executive positions in the Nursery and Garden Industry Association, Greening Australia and Compost Australia; was a member of the Horticulture Australia Council and a number of bodies involved in market development for the nursery industry.

- Graeme Slessar

Mr Slessar, following a long career in environmental management in the Australian minerals industry, worked for a number of years in the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment.

Ms Carolyn Jakobsen and Mayor Paddi Creevey have been reappointed to the

The WA Waste Management Board has undergone an extensive overhaul, with a new Chair and four new members appointed. Former Environmental Protection Agency Chief Executive, Barry Carbon, has been appointed as the new chair. The four new members are:

- Anne Nolan

Ms Nolan was formerly Coordinator of Energy in the Office of Energy in Western Australia.

- Fleur Newman,

Ms Newman is a solicitor in major law firm Clayton Utz who specialises in environment law, property and planning law, and

The Board's 2006-07 Business Plan has been released. The Plan takes the Board across the product landscape and seeks to make an impact on householders, businesses, and local and state government, through nine key areas of action. The following products have been identified for action through a Product Stewardship approach:

- Polypropylene;
- Paint;
- Computers;
- End of life tyres;
- Concrete; and
- Mobile Phones.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

WASTE AND RECYCLE 2006

Waste and Recycle 2006 Conference has wrapped up for another year! Looking forward, Waste and Recycle 2007 will once again be held at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, this time from **10-14 September**, so put it into your diary now!

Feedback from the Conference noted the high quality and competency of all the keynote speakers.

The outcomes from the

Workshop at the Waste and Recycle 2006 Conference, along with late papers and presentations, will soon be available from the Waste and Recycle website www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

Of specific interest will be the outcomes from the scenario planning Container Deposit Systems (CDS) Workshop held on the Tuesday, ably facilitated by Clem Sunter. The CDS Workshop was effective at getting the various stakeholders

involved to work together for an idea of what CDS could mean for WA.

The State Government Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) on CDS will be releasing a Discussion Paper later this year and providing a recommendation to the Minister for Environment early next year. For more information on the Stakeholder Advisory Group please visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

A Welsh company has received a £20,000 Millennium Award for paper made from sheep droppings. The sheep Poo Paper products are made by collecting sheep poo, sterilising it, and recovering the fibres it contains.



(Source: www.edie.net/news)

SWAN BIN STUDY

In an attempt to try to improve their street bulk rubbish and greenwaste collection service, and to minimize the amount of time the waste is left out on the streets for collection, the City of Swan conducted a study into different methods of bulk rubbish collection.

In the study the cost of each system was researched as well as public preferences (via a survey). The different types of bulk rubbish collection looked at in the survey were:

- ◆ Existing tri-annual bulk

kerbside collection (2 white goods, 1 greenwaste);

- ◆ Provide tip passes to all residences;
- ◆ Three bin system (including a green bin) and annual white goods collection;
- ◆ Three bin system and tip passes; and
- ◆ Skip bins on demand.

Of those who responded, 50% wished to retain the present system (tri-annual bulk kerbside collection), 22% would like a green waste bin and one white goods collection and 12%

wanted bins skip bins on demand. The results of the survey are consistent with previous surveys carried out by the City of Swan in June 1999 and October 2000.

Consistent with this the City of Swan is continuing to investigate all the options along with varying methods and equipment for their current operation.

For more information contact Colin Pumphrey on 9267 9421.

WMAA—FILLING HOLES

The Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) WA is holding a Landfill Rural Information Workshop on **Friday 27 October 2006** at the Northam Visitor Centre.

The Workshop aims to provide operators of rural landfill sites in WA with a forum to access the skills of a number of experienced people in the local waste management industry. Members of the Department of

Environment and Conservation will also be attending.

For more information contact Ashley Felton on 9424 2262. or Ashley.felton@emrc.org.au

YOUNG WASTOIDS

On 27 September 2006 the inaugural meeting of the Young Professionals in the Waste Management Industry was held.

This group is open to Environmental Health Officers, waste administration staff, consultants, regulators,

policy operatives—if under 35—and gives an opportunity for those newer to the industry to converse with their peers.

The first meeting included a tour of the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council's (EMRC) Red Hill Waste Management facility.

The next meeting will be on **27 November 2006** in Leederville.

For more information email Adam Johnson (EMRC) adam.johnson@emrc.org.au



BOARD?

Voluntary Invitation— Product Stewardship

The Waste Management Board is inviting relevant business, industry, and other stakeholders to work with the Board in developing Product Stewardship Agreements (PSA) for selected Action Products. Through this invitation, the Government is demonstrating that it is committed to working with those in industry who wish to develop PSA's.

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

Tyre and Tested

The Board has engaged Sustainable Strategic

Solutions (S3) to investigate options for Tyre disposal/ recycling. The Report *Investigation into the Environment, Social and Economic Impacts of a Potential Banning of Used Tyres to Landfill and of Mandatory Recycling of Used Tyres* is available from www.zerowastewa.com.au Comments are being called for and should be submitted via email, by **Wednesday 27 December 2006** to jill.lethlean@dec.wa.gov.au

Plastic WA

Cardno BSD have developed a report for the Board on issues relating to the current generation and fate of used industrial plastics in Western

Australia. The report *Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia* is available from www.zerowastewa.com.au

Shattered Market

APrince Consulting is undertaking a study on the behalf of the Board to identify potential markets for used glass in WA and the viability of those markets.

Comments should be emailed to peter.tapsell@dec.wa.gov.au by **Monday 8 January 2007**.

For more information please contact Peter Tapsell on (08) 6364 5310.

LUBE UP, SECOND OPPORTUNITY

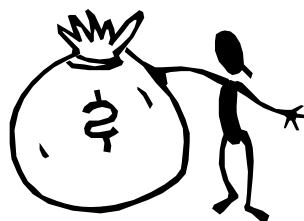
Senator Ian Campbell has announced additional funding for oil recycling in Australia of \$820,000. This is a boost to the final round of the seven-year Product Stewardship for Oil Transitional Assistance Grants Program. Since 2000, the \$34.5 million Program has created a national network of more than 900 used oil collection facilities.

In the previous round, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council received \$1.6 million of funding which it used to supply 112 pieces of infrastructure to 62 Local Governments throughout WA.

In this final round of funding, the Department of Environment and Heritage will give preference to applications which address barriers to growth of used oil markets.

Applications close **Friday 10 November 2006**.

For more information visit www.oilrecycling.gov.au/program



Thousands of prisoners in the Philippines maximum security prison have shaved their heads and chests to donate hair to help mop up oil in the Philippines worst oil spill.



(Source: RRF 8 September 2006)

MORE FUN FROM THE NPC

The second-term National Packaging Covenant (NPC) is now effective. Funding is available to National Packaging Covenant signatories and local governments to improve the recovery and recycling of packaging materials in Western Australia.

Expressions of interest are sought by **COB Wednesday 1 November 2006** in the following priority areas:

- ◆ Reduction, recycling and reuse of commercial and

industrial sources of packaging;

- ◆ Sustainable alternative markets for recycling;
- ◆ Waste minimisation through improved packaging design; and
- ◆ Improving recycling schemes in rural regional areas of WA.



An information session will be held on **Wednesday 25 October** at the Department of Environment and Conservation. For more information contact Reuben Gregor (DEC) on 6467 5391 or email reuben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.au.

For more information about the NPC, visit www.deh.gov.au/settlements/waste/covenant/index.html



LETS DO IT

A new alliance, Lets Do IT!, has been formed by computer recycling companies, local Councils and environment groups whose aim is to accelerate government action on computer recycling.



E - Waste , Conservation Council of Western Australian, and Australian Conservation Foundation.

The group also called on all state governments to ban all end-of-life computers from landfill.

This alliance has been formed because of frustration with the drawn-out process by industry and government to agree on a computer take-back scheme.

In the alliance is Total Environment Centre, SIMS Recycling Solutions, MRI Australia, Environment Victoria, NSW LGA, TIC

The Lets Do IT! Alliance has issued a deadline for all State Governments to implement national safety-net regulations by 1 January 2007 for computer recycling or face calls for individual state action.

For more information visit www.envict.org.au

Guidance has been produced in the UK to reduce the number of staff and pedestrians killed or injured by waste and recycling collection vehicles. The new guidance includes detailed information on the reversing of vehicles.



(Source: www.letsrecycle.com)

SIM CITY

Sims E-Recycling has recently opened a new facility in Brisbane, to add to its e-waste recycling plants in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth, all launched in the past year.

Council and the Queensland EPA for their internal recycling and planned to bring in e-waste from Asia to be recycled.

Responsibility Schemes (EPR) are introduced.

For more information www.simsmetal.com/au

Sims has recycled more than 250,000 units nationally in the last year, a figure expected to grow if Extended Producer

Sims Recycling Solutions have signed up Brisbane City

(Source: Insidewaste August/September)

AVOIDANCE BEHAVIOUR NSW

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy and Performance Report 2006 , recently issued in New South Wales (NSW) by the Department of Environment and Conservation, compares a performance report against the recycling and other targets set in Waste Strategy 2003 and key programmes

implemented in NSW during this time. The underlying policy drivers behind Waste Strategy 2003 were the need to maximise conservation of our natural resources and to minimise environmental harm from waste management and disposal. These drivers are even more important in 2006 against a backdrop of a growing

population in NSW and a healthy economy that is producing more goods and services.

For more information visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au

(Source: RRF 29 September 2006)

KICK BUTT

The Australian Government is seeking an indication from councils wishing to take part in a national day of action against cigarette butt litter. Those who participate will receive a support kit, which

will include items such as media release outlines which you can tailor to your circumstances, fact sheets, posters, caps, stickers and certificates. If you wish to participate please email barbara.butt@deh.gov.au

or phone Barbara Butt directly on (02) 6274 1679.

(Source: ALGA News 13 October 2006)



BOARD OF FASHION?

Old vinyl bill board skins are now being given a new life in fashion, by Haul, a company turning them into trendy bags,

wallets, laptop covers and more. The originality of each product is a huge selling point and the nature of PVC billboards makes

them quite tough. For more information visit www.haul.com.au (Source: Insidewaste August/September 2006)

WASTE FIGHTS DISEASE

The University of Warwick in the UK has found the use of organic waste composts can cut major plant diseases by up to 72% compared to using peat or soil alone.

The disease-fighting properties of composted organic waste come because

microbes within the material suppress plant diseases.

Replacing just 20% of the volume of soil or peat with compost made from organic waste can bring "major disease control benefits".

It was also found compost

made from paper waste provides "much the same disease suppressing effect" as compost made from greenwaste.

For more information visit www2.warwick.ac.uk or www.wrap.org.uk (Source: www.letsrecycle.com)

WASTE REDUCTION UK STYLE

In the UK, WRAP and the National Resource and Waste Forum (NRWF), have launched a toolkit aimed at providing local authorities with practical guidance for running successful waste prevention initiatives at the local level.

The toolkit focuses on specific, proven approaches

to waste prevention and incorporates tips, checklists and examples of best practice.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk

(Source: Enzine 28 September 2006)

Sainsbury supermarkets in the UK is to put 500 of its

products, including ready meals and organic produce, in compostable packaging as it seeks to reduce waste. The move would save 3,550 tonnes of plastic each year and reduce rubbish to landfill.

(Source: Reuters 8 September 2006)

A study has been conducted by the EPA in Denmark to identify and assess the chemical substances in sex toys. New to the market is Cyberskin, a skin like substance said to have originated from the space industry.

USED RUBBERS COPPING HEAT



Crumbed rubber and recycled aggregates could be used to produce pavements

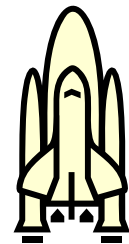
that help reduce heat absorption.

Using crumbed rubber and building aggregate not only puts recycled materials to better use but also reflects the heat rather than absorbing it.

It is more permeable which means less run off when it rains.

For more information visit www.edie.net/news

(Source: www.edie.net/news)



BENEFITS COME HOME TO ROOST

Subsidised chickens - used by a local authority in Flanders as a traditional but effective way to convert household food waste - were among the European examples of

positive incentives outlined by Francis Radermaker of the international network Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling (ACR+).

For more information visit www.edie.net/news

(Source: www.edie.net/news)



(Source: RRF: 15 September 2006)

A POO WORTH PAYING FOR

Yokohama City is to start composting animal excrement from the city zoo and selling it to citizens and farmers.

The project is expected to reduce the 10 million yen



(about U.S.\$87,000) spent in 2005 for incineration of about six hundred tons of animal wastes generated. With the reduction in disposal costs and the new sales revenue, this

project is expected to be profitable within five years after the completion of the facility, even after counting construction costs.

(Source: www.japanfs.org/db)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 13 December 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

CONTACT DETAILS

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2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 20 October 2006 **Workshop on Market Based Instruments to Assist in the Transition to 'Zero Waste' in WA.**
Conservation Council WA, West Perth
For more information phone Total Environment Centre (02) 9261 3566
- 25 October 2006 **Local Councils as Stewards of Sustainability??**
Conservation Council WA, West Perth
For more information phone Conservation Council WA (08) 9420 7266
- 25 October 2006 **National Packaging Covenant Information Session**
Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth
For more information email Reuben Gregor on (08) 6467 5391.
- 30 October–1 November 2006 **Bio Cycle Conference on Renewable Energy from Organics Recycling**
Minnesota, US
For more information visit www.jgpress.com/conferences1/
- 4 November 2006 **International Day of Action on Climate Change: Walk Against Warming**
Perth, Russel Square 12:30pm
For more information visit www.walkagainstawarming.org
- 7–9 November 2006 **WasteMINZ**
New Zealand
For more information visit www.wasteminz.org.nz
- 13-15 November 2006 **NSW Waste Management Conference & Expo 2006**
Sydney
For more information visit www.nswwasteconference.com.au
- 15–17 November 2006 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com
- 14-17 November 2006 **World Recycling Forum**
China
For more information visit <http://tinyurl.com/zq4nc>
- 15-17 November 2006 **Tissue World Asia 2006**
Shanghai, China
For more information visit www.tissueworld.com/asia

2006 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 27 November 2006 **Draft Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bill 2006 and Draft Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (Landfill Levy) Bill 2006**
For more information visit www.dec.wa.gov.au
- 27 December 2006 **Comments on Investigation into the Environment, Social and Economic Impacts of a Potential Banning of Used Tyres to Landfill and of Mandatory Recycling of Used Tyres**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Setting the Environment Right"

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.

