

# INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 85

January 2006

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## OUTCOMES OF WARR

On Monday the 28th of November 2005, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council held a Workshop for Local Government on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bill (the WARR Bill). Outcomes from this Workshop will shortly be made available on the WasteNet website ([www.wastenet.net.au](http://www.wastenet.net.au)). An email bulletin will be sent out to advise when the document

is available. The Outcomes Paper will be useful to guide ongoing Local Government scrutiny of the development of the WARR Bill.

Some of the hot topics for Local Government in the Bill are:

- The proposal for waste management plans. The value of which remains unclear and which may prove to be unworkably

prescriptive; and

- The Board's new structure – which is hoped will provide for improved levels of expertise and capacity.

If you would like to subscribe to the email bulletin list please send an email with the word 'subscribe' in the subject line to [enquiries@wastenet.net.au](mailto:enquiries@wastenet.net.au)

## WHEN THE LEVY BREAKS

The Waste Management Board has released a *Discussion Paper on the Landfill Levy and the Programs it Funds* concerning a proposal to increase the Landfill Levy. For Local Government, key issues to respond to include:

- The appropriate rationale for setting/ changing the Levy;

- Whether the proposed increase will be enough to cover the new and existing schemes proposed to be funded through the Levy; and
- The approach taken to increasing the Levy over time.

Some analysis and suggestions on this issue, as well as copies of the Discussion Paper can be accessed through the WasteNet Website [www.wastenet.net.au/issues/landfilllevy/](http://www.wastenet.net.au/issues/landfilllevy/)

Responses are called for by **Friday the 3rd of March 2006.**



## ZERO WASTE INCENTIVES

The Waste Management Board has also released a paper entitled *A Discussion Paper on Re-investing Landfill Levy Funds in Zero Waste Incentive Schemes*.

The Paper proposes a range of schemes to be funded through the Landfill Levy. The proposed schemes will affect Local Government since they may result in

increased or decreased funding for Council programs to reduce waste or increase recovery.

One section of particular interest to Local Government, covers Waste Management Plans and the Discussion Paper gives some indications about the Board's intentions for these instruments.

Responses are called for by

**Friday the 3rd of March 2006.**



The Discussion Paper is available on the Board's website at [www.zerowastewa.com.au/communication/news/levypapers](http://www.zerowastewa.com.au/communication/news/levypapers)

## SAG – IN THE BAG

A Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) is being established to advise the Minister for the Environment on best practice container deposit systems for WA.

The Western Australian Local Government Association has been invited to appoint a representative to the SAG.

The Association is seeking nominations from interested Elected Members or Local

Government Officers to take on this representative role.

Suitable nominees should have a broad knowledge of waste management related issues and be capable of considering a range of dimensions to the question of what will be the best type of container deposit system for Western Australia.

The nomination forms are available from the Association's website, please visit

[www.walga.asn.au](http://www.walga.asn.au) and click on Committee Vacancies.

For more information please contact Bernard Ryan on 9213 2037 or email [bryan@walga.asn.au](mailto:bryan@walga.asn.au)

Nominations are due by **COB on Friday the 27th of January 2006.**



In 500 B.C. the City of Athens organised the first municipal dump in the Western World. Citizens were required to dispose of their waste at least one mile from the city walls.



(Source: [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/timeline](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/timeline))

## EXPANDING WASTE

The South East Metropolitan Regional Council's (SEMRC) Feasibility Study into the establishment of a Resource Recovery Facility servicing the region is set to expand to include Serpentine-Jarrahdale, Mandurah and Murray.

The Study is identifying preferred technologies, possible sites and financial arrangements for a resource recovery facility to process

household waste generated in the region.

Following approaches from the additional Councils, the SEMRC has agreed to extend the study and take on new partners in developing a long-term strategic approach to household waste management.

The Study commenced in late July 2005 and is currently finalising site selection criteria

and technology criteria, in partnership with the Community Reference Group established by the SEMRC.



For more information, visit [www.semrc.wa.gov.au/news.htm](http://www.semrc.wa.gov.au/news.htm)

## NPC FUNDING—CALL TO ACTION

Councils are invited to submit Expressions of Interest for projects (directly related to the recovery of used packaging materials) to be funded under the National Packaging Covenant. All Councils in WA are able to apply as the Western Australian Local

Government Association has signed on behalf of all members.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the first funding round is **Wednesday the 1st of February 2006.**

For more information and to download an EOI, visit [www.wastenet.net.au/programs/npc](http://www.wastenet.net.au/programs/npc)

If you have any queries, please contact Bernard Ryan on 9213 2037.

## JOIN IN THE FELLOWSHIP

The John Curtin Institute of Public Policy has advised that it will have a Local Government Fellowship available through its Public Sector Fellowship Program next year.

The Program brings Fellows from the WA public sector to the Institute for a semester to undertake a research project

for which Curtin provides the research facilities and supervision.

Sponsorship by Curtin, the Institute of Public Administration and the Local Government Managers



Association (WA) will allow the Fellow to be paid their full salary while studying.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has been invited to identify potential Fellows and possible topics.

For more information, visit [www.jcipp.curtin.edu.au/research/psfp.html](http://www.jcipp.curtin.edu.au/research/psfp.html)

## POSITIVE POLITICIAN

Recently, Dr Dennis Jensen MP, Federal Member for Tangney, visited the Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC) in Canning Vale.

Dr Jensen made many positive comments about the scale of operations at the RRRC. For more information, visit [www.smrc.com.au](http://www.smrc.com.au)

(Source: SMRC CEO Newsletter, Issue 6 November/December 2005)

## GET YOUR RRRS IN

Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) application



forms for Period 15 are due by **4pm on Monday the 30th of January 2006**.

They are to be returned to

the address on the application form. If you have any queries, please contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063.

## FUNDING LUBRICATION

The Australian Federal Government has commenced a new round of funding for Councils and other organisations that wish to implement used oil collection and recycling initiatives under its *Product Stewardship for Oil Transitional Assistance Grants Programme*.

This is an opportunity for Councils who missed out on the Used Oil Program administered by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council. In order to facilitate the process for these

Councils, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will provide (on request):

- Access to costing;
- Letters of support for the Council's applications (to assist with demonstrating the need for the infrastructure); and
- Consistency with existing infrastructure for educational purposes and access to promotional information we have (in electronic format).

The closing date for applications is **COB on Friday the 3rd of February 2006**.

For more information and to download an application form, visit [www.oilrecycling.gov.au](http://www.oilrecycling.gov.au) and click on Funding & Grants, then select Administrative Guidelines.

If your Local Government applied to the Used Oil Program administered by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council, but was unsuccessful due to a lack of funds, please contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email [rbrown@walga.asn.au](mailto:rbrown@walga.asn.au) for provision of the above information.

## IT'S SO EASY BUYING GREEN

The Western Australia Local Government Association will host the third National Buying Green Conference at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre on **Thursday the 25th and Friday 26th of May 2006**. The Conference will show how environmental sustainability considerations can easily be woven into purchasing decision making processes.

The Conference will feature high profile national and international speakers, case studies, practical hints and information and will showcase the latest in recycled-content, greenhouse friendly and environmentally friendly products and services.

For more information please visit [www.walga.asn.au](http://www.walga.asn.au) or if you are interested in presenting a paper at the

Conference or have any suggestions on topics and speakers, please contact Conference Chair, Peter Hoare on 9213 2013 or email [buygreen06@walga.asn.au](mailto:buygreen06@walga.asn.au)



(Source: [www.japanfs.org](http://www.japanfs.org))

## WARR CORRECTION

The following correction applies to the *WARR Declared!!* article in the

December 2005 *Information Bulletin*.

- ◆ Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) to report to

the Minister through the Waste Authority (separate Litter Act remains).

## WASTE TAKES TO THE AIR WAVES

A four part series is being broadcast by the ABC titled *World Without Waste*. The programmes cover Japan, China, the Philippines and the USA in order to explore international drivers for a goal of 'zero waste'. For more information about the broadcasts (and the transcripts/audio) visit [www.abc.net.au/rn/features/worldwaste/default.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/rn/features/worldwaste/default.htm)

Due to falling consumption and uneconomic operations, New Zealand recently ceased producing milk in glass bottles.

The bottles are being replaced with 600ml Tetra Pak cartons.



(Source: [cansmart.org/news](http://cansmart.org/news))

## BOOMERANG DEFENDS CDLWA

The Boomerang Alliance have issued a response to statements made by the Packaging Council of Australia (PCA) related to WA's decision to phase in a container deposit system. According to the Boomerang Alliance the PCA sought to discredit container deposit legislation. For more information, visit [www.envict.org.au/file/PCAResponseCDL.pdf](http://www.envict.org.au/file/PCAResponseCDL.pdf)



## ORGANICS CAUSE A ROWA

Recycled Organics WA (ROWA) is developing a position paper for the recycled organics industry to help determine policy. It plans to circulate the draft early this year. ROWA can be contacted through the Waste Management Association of Australia by visiting [www.wmaa.asn.au](http://www.wmaa.asn.au)

establishment has garnered participation from a wide range of stakeholders and progress is rapidly being made." Membership of ROWA is open to industry, government and community. (Source: Inside Waste, Issue 10)

## ON A PROMISE

The Intelligent Manufacturing Systems (IMS) Association says Australians will benefit from federal funding to Australian industries to investigate improved product management systems and will see manufacturers take greater environmental responsibility for products after purchase. The IMS' *Product Embedded Information System for Service and End of Life* (PROMISE) Project intends to integrate the manufacturing to recycling stages of a product's life. blends and uses of engineering plastics. A database, which will be accessible via the Internet, will also be developed so that recyclers and manufacturers can benefit from the Project.

The Project has received \$470,000 to develop technology to blend engineering plastics found in technological products and vehicles; and new For more information, visit [www.crcimst.com.au](http://www.crcimst.com.au) and click Research Programs, then Program 3.

## VITAMINS TAKE A DUMP

A vitamin pill package with a red flashing light – aimed at grabbing the attention of shoppers – has been awarded the 2005 annual DUMP Award for damaging and useless materials in packaging. which could be hazardous when dumped in landfill. The judges also criticised emerging trends in over packaging. One example was supermarkets which over packaged fruit and vegetables with unrecyclable wrapping. An Encouraging Development in Packaging Award was also given to Go Pet Heartworm and Allworm tablets. These winners of a 2004 DUMP Award for excessive packaging have reduced the amount used by 40%.

Judged by an expert panel, the Gold DUMP award went to Myadec A-Z Guard multi-vitamin that was singled out for its red light and batteries, Another award winner was Pringles, for Poor Design for Recycling. For more information, visit [www.envict.org.au](http://www.envict.org.au)

## EDUCATION REDUCES WASTE

In June 2004, Cowra Shire Council in NSW received funding from the Environmental Protection Authority as part of their *Our Environment; It's a Living Thing Program*.

The funding was to be used

to develop an education campaign to increase awareness and use of recycling opportunities within the Cowra Shire. At the end of the first year of the Program second-hand shop sales have increased by 69%, recycling has increased by 10% and

there has also been a decrease in waste collected.

For more information, visit [www.cowra.nsw.gov.au/environment](http://www.cowra.nsw.gov.au/environment)

(Source: cansmart.org/news)

## KIWIS ARE GOOD RECYCLERS

The Ministry for the Environment report entitled *Waste Management in New Zealand – A Decade of Progress*, says that more than 95% of New Zealanders now have access to recycling facilities and that they are

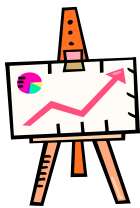
recycling more waste than ever before.

The Report shows that 77% of Councils now provide kerbside recycling for glass, paper and plastics, compared to only 10% in 1994.

The Report can be downloaded at [www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/waste](http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/waste)

(Source: RRF-WINS#52 31/12/2005)

## HOUSEHOLDS CONSUMED



The European Environment Agency (EEA) has published a report titled *Household Consumption*

and the Environment which explores trends in sustainable consumption and production. The Report analyses the environmental effects of household consumption in Europe.

To access the Report, visit [http://reports.eea.eu.int/eea\\_report\\_2005\\_11/en](http://reports.eea.eu.int/eea_report_2005_11/en)

(Source: RRF WINS #01-2006-January 06, 2006)

## TSUNAMI TRASH

A year after the tsunami hit, there is enough trash just in Banda Aceh to make a three-story-high pile covering 30 football fields.

In Sri Lanka, some 9 million cubic metres of waste was dumped mostly in lagoons and environmentally sensitive waterways. Some of the waste

is laced with oil, asbestos and hazardous waste.

(Source: [www.thestar.com.my](http://www.thestar.com.my) 27 December 2005)



(Source: RRF-WINS # 51 20/12/2005)

## GLASS BRICKS

A multimedia CD called *Bottles to Bricks* is being launched in the UK in February.

The CD gives an overview of the practical and technical benefits of using glass as a

fluxing agent. Bronnie Allen, Materials Development Manager (Glass) at WRAP, said "This CD has been designed to present the benefits of recycled glass in brick manufacture and the practical solutions to

implementing the use of this 100 per cent recycled material."

The information is available for download from [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

## NAPPY GAME

In order to promote reusable nappies, the Real Nappy Campaign has designed an internet game. The online game features a cartoon baby catching nappies.



To play the highly addictive game and beat our rather pathetic score of 358, visit [www.realnappycampaign.com/really\\_nippy.html](http://www.realnappycampaign.com/really_nippy.html)

## MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Next Meeting

Date : 22 March 2006

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Local Government House

Check out the WA Local Government  
Association Website at [www.walga.asn.au](http://www.walga.asn.au)



Visit WasteNet [www.wastenet.net.au](http://www.wastenet.net.au)

### CONTACT DETAILS

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15 Altona Street,  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

#### Postal Address:

PO Box 1544,  
WEST PERTH WA 6872

## 2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 28–31 March 2006 **Waste 2006**  
Coffs Harbour, NSW  
For more information visit [www.impactenviro.com.au/waste2006/](http://www.impactenviro.com.au/waste2006/)
- 9–11 May 2006 **Enviro 06**  
Melbourne Exhibition & Conference Centre  
For more information visit [www.enviroaust.net](http://www.enviroaust.net)
- 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](mailto:buygreen06@walga.asn.au)
- 31 May–2 June 2006 **Towards Zero Waste: Achieving Practical Solutions**  
Stamford Grand Glenelg, South Australia  
For more information visit [www.wmaa.asn.au](http://www.wmaa.asn.au)
- 18–22 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](http://www.wasteandrecycle.com.au)

## 2006 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 27 January 2006 **Container Deposit Systems—Stakeholder Advisory Group**  
Nominations for Local Government Representative  
Download Nominations from [www.walga.asn.au](http://www.walga.asn.au) or for more information contact Bernard Ryan on 9213 2037.
- 30 January 2006 **RRRS Period 15 Applications Due**  
Return address given on forms  
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063
- 1 February 2006 **National Packaging Covenant Expressions of Interest**  
Round 1 Expressions of Interest for Funding  
For more information visit [www.wastenet.net.au/programs/npc](http://www.wastenet.net.au/programs/npc)
- 3 February 2006 **Oil Recycling Funding**  
Federal Government's Product Stewardship for Oil Program  
For more information visit [www.oilrecycling.gov.au](http://www.oilrecycling.gov.au)
- 8 February 2006 **Productivity Commission Issues Paper on Waste Generation**  
For more information visit [www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au)
- 26 February 2006 **Used Tyre Strategy for Western Australia**  
For more information visit [www.wastenet.net.au/issues/tyres](http://www.wastenet.net.au/issues/tyres)
- 3 March 2006 **Discussion Paper on the Landfill Levy and the Programs it Funds**  
For more information visit [www.wastenet.net.au/issues/landfilllevy](http://www.wastenet.net.au/issues/landfilllevy)
- 3 March 2006 **Discussion Paper on Re-Investing Landfill Levy Funds In Zero Waste Incentive Schemes**  
For more information visit [www.wastenet.net.au/issues/landfilllevy](http://www.wastenet.net.au/issues/landfilllevy)



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
*Working for the Environment's Sights*

## 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.

