



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 91

July 2006

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Submission, but not Defeat MWAC's Submission to PC Inquiry	2
Well Oiled Transfer Stations Used Oil at Augusta- Margaret River	2
Dangerous Liaisons Regional Officer Liaison Scheme	2
Sharp Edge of Recycling Glass transportation problems	2
Neerabup Shortlist MRC Resource Recovery Facility	2
New Big DEC in Town Department of Environment and Conservation	3
Board Activities SWIS, building waste and organics	3
Local Councils Going Potty Pot-Recyclers growing	3
Hard Drive on Recycling E-waste Summit	3
An Offer of Engagement Comment on Guide for Engaging Communities	4
EPHC Hits Pressure Point Meeting on pressure points of urban living	4
Kitted Up Bags up for grabs	4
Chemically Enhanced Containers E-waste draft Guidelines released Chemical Discussion Paper	4
Kiwis not Sheepish about Levy Fees Proposal for waste levy in NZ	4
Japanese Vigilantes Recycling in Japan	5
USA, World Leader? USA Tops world in waste production	5
Chips: Not so Bad After All Tree-station in UK	5
Recycling Revs up in UK What's happening in recycling.	5

DARE TO DREAM

Municipal Waste Advisory Council is currently seeking nominations from 6 Serving Officers (4 metropolitan and 2 non-metropolitan). The term is for 1 year, starting in August 2006.

Nominations close **5pm Friday 28 July 2006**. Nominations should be emailed to nominations@walga.asn.au

Nomination forms can be downloaded from WA Local Government Association's Webpage www.walga.asn.au

For more information contact MWAC Executive Officer, Bernard Ryan on 9213 2037.

EARLY BIRD CATCHES CONFERENCE

Waste and Recycle 2006 Conference, *Crisis? What Crisis? Are we fiddling while Rome burns?*, registration forms will be available from the Waste & Recycle Website on **Monday 24th July**. The Conference runs from Tuesday 19 to Friday



22 September 2006 at The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle. Early Bird registration closes **Friday 25 August 2006**.

For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

GET YOUR RRRS TOGETHER

Application forms for Period 16 of the Resource and Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) have been distributed to all Local Governments and Regional Councils in Western Australia.

Please submit your applications by **4pm Monday 31 July 2006**.

Period 15 Report of the RRRS has been submitted to the Waste Management Board and is now with the Minister.

For more information please contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rrrs@walga.asn.au



DEPOSIT IDEAS HERE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) held a workshop for Local Government Officers and Elected Members to provide input into a draft Policy Statement on Container Deposit Schemes (CDS).

MWAC would like to thank all those who contributed.

The Policy Statement remains a work in progress and more consultation on the issue will be undertaken in the near future.

A forum on CDS will be held at the Waste and Recycle 2006 Conference.

For more information contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au

SUBMISSION, BUT NOT DEFEAT

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has produced a written submission on the *Draft Productivity Commission Inquiry into Waste Generation and Resource Efficiency*.

The Submission is available from the WasteNet website. provided a verbal presentation.

The Productivity Commission held a public hearing on the draft Report in Perth on the 17 of July at which MWAC also For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au

Australians recycle more newspapers than anyone else, according to the Publishers National Environment Bureau (PNEB). 75.4% of all newsprint in 2005 was recovered, up 3% from previous year and ahead of the United States' 69.9%.



(Source: The Age, 7 June 2006)

WELL OILED TRANSFER STATIONS

Margaret River's two upgraded Waste Transfer and Recycling Stations have won acclaim for their innovative design features. These comments were made by Mr Klaus Mueller (Chair of the South West Local Government Waste Management Advisory Council) while inspecting the local facilities with waste managers representing six other South West Shires.

At the Kudardup transfer station, as at the Shire's main Davis Road facility, is an oil recycling service. the Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

The Shire of Augusta Margaret River received three units of used oil collection infrastructure via the Used Oil Program administered by



Mr Mueller and Kudardup Transfer Station attendant Tom Gawith are shown with the collection tank.

For more information contact Jody Robb on 9757 6077.

DANGEROUS LIAISONS

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) has established the Officer Regional Liaison Scheme (ORLS).

a liaison and contact point with Councils in that region. The type of waste management issue which other ORLS will focus on is those of strategic importance to the region.

The Scheme requires Officers at Large on the Municipal Waste Advisory Council to choose (or be allocated) a non-metropolitan region and act as

This provides one way for the Councils to put non-metropolitan waste management issues on the Municipal Waste Advisory Council Agenda. Support for the initial contact process is provided by MWAC Staff. For more information visit www.wastenet.net.au/about/orls

SHARP EDGE OF RECYCLING

The Shire of Merredin has approximately 30 tonnes of glass desperately requiring transport to Perth but, due to the season, no available non-commercial way of shifting it.

problems with the economic viability of glass recycling in rural areas. him to urgently address these issues.

It highlights State-wide

MWAC has just sent a letter, co-signed by the major glass collection and processing agents of WA, to the Minister asking If you can provide assistance, please contact Len Welch at the Shire of Merredin on 9041 1611.

NEERABUP SHORTLIST

The Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) has now short-listed Total Energy Services Tasmania Pty Ltd and Worley Limited



to build, own and operate the first stage of the Resource Recovery Facility in the Neerabup Industrial Area. announce the successful bidder at its Council Meeting in early August.

The MRC is expected to For more information visit www.mrc.wa.gov.au

NEW BIG DEC IN TOWN

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), the Department of Conservation and Land Management has formally amalgamated of the Department of Environment and Conservation and Land Management has formally occurred. For more information on the structure of the new agency visit www.dec.wa.gov.au

BOARD ACTIVITIES

Big SWIS Cheese on Offer For more information visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au/ourwork/supportschemes/swis/> Report is available from www.zerowastewa.com.au

The 2006 round of funding for the Strategic Waste Initiatives Schemes (SWIS) is now open.

To apply, submit an Expression of Interest by **5pm Friday 4 August 2006**. The areas the Waste Management Board has identified as preferred project areas for 2006 are available from the Zero Waste website.

Building Better Policy The Waste Management Board recently appointed a consultant to carry out general background research into building product waste to support policy and programme development in this area.

Strategy For Organics The Board has released its *Draft Organics Strategy: Interim Standards for Organics Applied to Land*. Comments on the Strategy are due by **Monday 16 October 2006**.



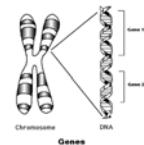
The report, *Background Research into Building and Product Waste: Consultants* For more information visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au>

LOCAL COUNCILS GOING POTTY

Pot Recyclers is a Welshpool-based company that collects, cleans and recycles discarded plant pots, ice-cream containers and products such as garden furniture.

polypropylene, or type 5 plastic, which is widely used in short-term packaging.

Perth. Pot Recyclers' initiative will be recognised with an award at the Global Plastics Environmental Convention.



It is the only company in Australia to recover and reprocess heavily polluting petrochemical-based

Councils diverting pots from landfill for Pot-Recyclers include Armadale, Mundaring, Cockburn, Rockingham, Mandurah, Westonia, Mt Marshall and now South

For more information contact potrecyclers@arach.net.au

(Source: January 2006 www.sciencewa.net.au)

(Source: *New Scientist*, 10 June 2006)

HARD DRIVE ON RECYCLING

After a national summit on e-waste, Federal Environment Minister the Honourable Ian Campbell has stated that a set of guidelines to establish a national recycling program for computer products has been agreed upon.

shared responsibility between governments, industry and other stakeholders with the cost of the scheme built into the original purchase price.

things are missing, for example, financial compensation for use of 'existing public infrastructure' such as local government facilities.



The industry-driven and regulated e-waste management scheme will have

Environment Victoria has welcomed the breakthrough in negotiations and commended the inclusion of historic and 'orphan' products as well as registration at the point of importation.

Currently local governments bear the cost for collecting and disposing of computer waste into landfill.

For more information visit www.deh.gov.au

They do however believe some



AN OFFER OF ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholders and the community are invited to participate in a review of the WA Department of Environment's industry guide on engaging communities. The *Interim Industry Guide to Community Involvement* was developed in 2003 to help industry work closely with community before seeking environmental approvals. It is open for public comment until **18 August 2006**. For more information visit www.environment.wa.gov.au

(Source: WME, 29 June 2006)

EPHC HITS PRESSURE POINT

Australian and New Zealand environment ministers and the Australian Local Government Association met in June to tackle environmental pressure points of urban living.

- ◆ resolution to phase out plastic bags by the end of 2008 reaffirmed;
- ◆ call for retailers to sign up to national packaging covenant;
- ◆ commitment to national action for reducing littered cigarette butts; and
- ◆ Finalisation of the application trigger for the Used Packaging Materials National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM).

Results included:

- ◆ waste management one of key issues for coming year;
- For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au

KITTED UP

Bag Smart will shortly be releasing a free kit to assist small retailers in reducing the number of bags they distribute to shoppers. The campaign coordinators, Enterprise in the Community, are particularly keen to invite Local Governments to make use of the kits as a means of starting up communications with local retailers to get them involved in community waste reduction programs. For more information visit www.bagsmart.com.au

CHEMICALLY ENHANCED CONTAINERS

E-Waste Contained

The Australian Council of Recyclers (ACOR) has released Draft Guidelines for Standard E-waste Containers for comment.

Its scope is limited to container specifications for reuse and recycling of small common electronic and

electrical items and does not address issues such as economics or practical implementation.

Guidelines can be emailed on request from mgraham@walga.asn.au

Chemical Enhancement
The National Industrial

Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) have released a discussion paper for comment on a range of proposals aimed at improving the regulation of chemicals in Australia.

For more information visit www.nicnas.gov.au

KIWIS NOT SHEEPISH ABOUT LEVY FEES

A draft proposal for the introduction of a waste levy in New Zealand has been prepared by a group of local Councils, waste disposal and recycling industry representatives.

It suggests a levy of:

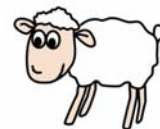
- ◆ \$10/ tonne in first year;
- ◆ \$20/tonne in second year;

- ◆ \$30/tonne in third year; and
- ◆ Increases after that, subject to approval.

Funds would go to a board who would then disburse the funds to Councils.

The funds would generally be capped on a population basis and after 3 years 50% of funds would go into a contestable

fund which would be accessed by Local Government, waste and recycling industries, business and community groups.



For more information visit www.wasteminz.org.nz

Growing mushrooms on tea waste may be new way to maintain their double-figure economic growth, experts in China claim.



(Source: RRF 21 May 2006)

JAPANESE VIGILANTES

In Yokohama, Japanese residents are required to sort their garbage into ten categories. To aid them, a 27 page booklet details instructions for the sorting of some 518 items. e.g. lipstick goes into burnables; lipstick tubes (empty ones) into 'small metals' or plastics.

Yokohama is trying to reduce the 80% of garbage incinerated by 30% over the next ten years.

The town of Kamikatsu has raised its 34 rubbish categories to 44.

They have halved the amount of incineration bound garbage and raised recycled waste to 80%. Now they plan upon eliminating all garbage by 2020.

To ensure residents do not stray from the recycling path there's the garbage guardians, an army of volunteers across

Japan. They search for offending rubbish placed out for collection with improper sorting and then leave notes of reprimand or even take the rubbish back to owners for resorting.

Bins have even been removed from parks in Yokohama to stop residents dumping unsorted refuse.

(Source: New York Times 12 May 2005)

USA, WORLD LEADER?

The US has topped the World in waste production, accounting for 25% of global waste in volume.

Germany also became the

first European country listed, coming in at 4th but creating just one third of US's amount of waste per capita.

Australia was not listed in top

ten of either highest or lowest waste producing nations (in volume).

(Source: Inside Waste, June/July 2006)

CHIPS: NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL!

The TreeStation - the first of its kind in the UK - has been designed by BioRegional to convert tree waste from parks, streets and woodlands in Croydon into woodchip.

Waste now taken to the

The woodchip is then used as fuel to power the nearby Slough Heat and Power Station.

TreeStation for chipping saves

the Council around £20,000 a year and at the same time utilises biomass as a renewable energy source.

(Source: RRF 9 June 2006)

RECYCLING REVS UP IN UK

Recycling Rules

Recycling produces the best net environmental outcome of all waste management options, according to an international review of life cycle assessments (LCA).

On behalf of UK's Waste and Resources Action Program the Technical University of Denmark and the Danish Topic Centre on Waste assessed several hundred studies.

More than 80% of the studies show recycling had better environmental impact than landfill and incineration.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk

(Source: WME, June 2006)

Get in on the Game



Big Recycle week in the UK has received a kick-start with England's soccer coach Sven Goran Eriksson promoting the campaign.

By coinciding with World Cup, it is hoped to bring the issue to forefront during this highly waste generating event.

(Source: WME June 2006)

Charging up Kerbside

The biggest ever kerbside household battery collection trial has been announced in the UK by the Waste and Resources Action Program.

The trials carried out by a partnership of non-profit organizations will cover 350,000 households in 2006. These collections form a larger effort to meet EU Directives asking for 25% of batteries by 2012.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk
(Source: www.wrap.org.uk)

Miraculous Mike, a pet hamster in Flintshire UK, has proved hamsters possibly do have two lives after passing through a shredding machine unscathed.



(The Daily Telegraph, London, 2 June)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 18 October 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

- 9–11 August 2006 **Transfer Stations 2006**
Novotel Twin Waters—Sunshine Coast, Queensland
For more information visit www.transferstations.com.au
- 28 August–
3 September 2006 **Keep Australia Beautiful Week**
For more information please visit www.kab.org.au/
- 12–14 September **The Recycling and Waste Management Exhibition**
Birmingham, England
For more information visit www.rwmexhibition.co.uk
- 14 September 2006 **Marketing the Impossible**
Seminar in UK to explore ways to market sustainable consumption
For more information visit <http://extra.shu.ac.uk/productlife/>
- 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
- 7–9 November 2006 **WasteMINZ**
New Zealand
For more information visit www.wasteminz.org.nz
- 15–17 November 2006 **National Recycling Week**
For more information visit www.planetark.com

2006 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 31 July 2006 **RRRS Period 16 Applications Due**
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au
- 4 August 2006 **SWIS Expression of Interest Due**
For more information visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au/ourwork/supportschemes/swis/>
- 18 August 2006 **WA DoE Industry Guide to Engaging Communities**
For more information visit www.environment.wa.gov.au
- 29 September 2006 **State of the Environment Report**
For more information visit www.soe.wa.gov.au
- 16 October 2006 **Draft Organics Strategy: Interim Standards for Organics Applied to Land**
For more information visit <http://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.

