



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 89

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## FINALLY LEVY-TATION ACHIEVED

Environment Minister, Mark McGowan announced the Landfill Levy, which has not increased since 1998, will be raised to \$6 per tonne for biodegradable waste and \$3 per cubic metre for inert waste. He also announced that a mechanism would be introduced to incrementally increase the Levy each year to a total of \$9 per tonne for biodegradable waste and \$9 per cubic metre for inert waste by 2010.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has expressed conditional support for the increase,

based on the amount of the levy being capped for the next two years and any further increases being justified by evidence of a reduction in waste landfilled. MWAC Chair Cr Bruce Stevenson said "in addition to increasing the Levy, the Minister had committed to establishing a statutory waste authority to oversee the expenditure of the additional funds raised."

The Minister indicated that additional funds raised would

be used to establishment:  
◆ new programs to improve recycling facilities and incentives for the

construction industry;

- ◆ a business and industry program to minimise waste at the front end of production and to maximise recyclables used in manufacturing;
- ◆ a large-scale organics program to recycle more green and food waste into compost products; and
- ◆ a local government program to improve kerbside recycling.

For more information visit [www.walga.asn.au](http://www.walga.asn.au) or [www.ministers.wa.gov.au/mcgowan/](http://www.ministers.wa.gov.au/mcgowan/)

## TIME FOR 'FIDDLING' OVER

The call for papers, for the Waste & Recycle 2006 Conference *Crisis? What Crisis? Are we fiddling while Rome burns?*, has closed

and the Conference Committee is putting the final touches to what will be the most interactive conference to date. Waste & Recycle is

from **Tuesday 19 to Friday 22 September 2006**. For more information visit [www.wasteandrecycle.com.au](http://www.wasteandrecycle.com.au)

## REJECTED GLASS CUTS CONFIDENCE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has conducted a survey of glass collection agencies in WA.

This survey found there had been a significant increase in seemingly unsubstantiated rejections of glass loads recently, leading to insecurity in the market.

Three of the collection agencies have since had their process reviewed by O-I Asia Pacific, who now acknowledges the high quality of the agencies' final product and have cancelled all fines for rejected loads.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council now intends to seek the intervention of the Environment Minister to ensure the quick unequivocal

written clarification of the glass acceptance/rejection process for Western Australia and to initiate rapid acceleration of development of alternative markets for recycled glass.

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

## MWAC'S NEW EXHIBITS

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council would like to welcome two new staff Ms Megan Graham as MWAC Policy Coordinator and Ms Shelley Inglis as MWAC Waste Management Officer.

Megan's background will well equip her for the Municipal Waste Advisory Council, having worked at a zoo in the UK as head of education and as a lecturer at a post-secondary college. Both these roles required skills such as being able to communicate with a diverse range of people and

working as part of a team to meet goals.

Megan has also worked for CALM as both a training and field officer, her work included being a disease interpreter and mapping and producing management plans for controlling Jarrah dieback.

Megan has recently taken up archery. One of her ambitions is to walk the Bibbulmun Track.

Shelley is a recent graduate, she has just completed a four year double degree of Bachelor of Science/ Bachelor of Arts

majoring in Resource and Environmental Studies and Biology at the University of Wollongong. She also studied Law for 6 months at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands on an exchange program.

She has lived in Wollongong for the past few years, but comes from the small coastal town of Ulladulla in NSW. Although only a Perth resident for 2 months Shelley is enjoying the lifestyle but doesn't think much of the beaches.

A Japanese waste disposal company found 31 million Yen (approximately \$350,000) in a consignment of industrial waste. A staff member found the money when he was manually separating rubbish. So far no one has successfully claimed the money.



(Source: *The West Australian*, 6 May 2006)

## COMMUNITY GETS LUCKY

Two projects based in the City of Armadale have received funding from the Waste Management Board's Community Grants Scheme.

The lucky recipients were:

- ◆ Junkbusters Inc, who plan to use the grant to outfit a

workshop to repair reusable items salvaged; and

- ◆ Pioneer Village Primary School, who are going to implement a food waste recycling project with the grant.

For more information on the Community Grants Scheme visit <http://zerowastewa.com.au/>

For more information the SEMRC contact Sarah Muirhead on 9391 6033 or visit [www.semrc.wa.gov.au](http://www.semrc.wa.gov.au)

## HYDE SEEKS CDL COMMITMENT

John Hyde, Member of the Legislative Assembly (Perth), raised the issue of container deposit legislation in Parliament on Thursday 4th May 2006. He raised the Grievance with the Minister for the Environment regarding the benefits of container deposit legislation (CDL).

Mr Hyde spoke of the many benefits of CDL including the reduction in litter, increased opportunity for revenue by groups such as the Scouts and increased recycling.

Mr Hyde also highlighted the keenness of the beverage industry to avoid CDL.

The full text of Mr Hyde's speech is available in the Hansard from [www.parliament.wa.gov.au/index.htm](http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/index.htm)

The Stakeholder Advisory Group also intends to hold a workshop at the Waste & Recycle Conference to discuss CDL.

The Minister for Environment, Hon. Mark McGowan in his opening statement in the *Litter Prevention Strategy for Western*

*Australia* highlighted the recent announcement of the development of a best practice container deposit system for WA and stated "container deposits, small refundable fees on items such as drink cans and bottles, are an effective litter prevention tool."

For more information on the Strategy visit <http://litter.environment.wa.gov.au/taskforce>

## BAGGING IT IN MOSMAN PARK



WESTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

A survey of plastic bag use in Mosman Park (conducted by

Earth Carers) found that single use plastic shopping bag use was nearly 6 times higher than that of reusable shopping bags.

For more information contact Anthea Paino on 9286 5025 or email

[anthea@townofmosmanpark.wa.gov.au](mailto:anthea@townofmosmanpark.wa.gov.au)

## COMMISSION GIVES TICK TO TOSSERS

The Productivity Commission has released its *Waste Management* draft report for public comment.

The draft Report while mentioning the waste management hierarchy does not address whether it considers avoidance to be possible.

The Report primarily focuses on the costs and benefits of disposal options and recycling and their place in government policy. The report also criticises local governments role in waste management and does not support extended producer responsibility (EPR).

Comments on the draft Report are due by **Friday 7 July 2006**. With public hearings from Monday 17 July 2006. To view the draft Report visit [www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au)

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be producing a submission.

## CHARITY BIN BAN

The City of Stirling has taken action with regard to charity bin placement on roads, reserves and other public land under the control of the Council. This is in response to illegal dumping, stealing and vandalism as well as the knowledge that a Local Government can not avoid or transfer its public liability for incidents/accidents in public places.

The City wrote to all charities with clothing bins which would be affected.



Although the charities were reluctant to reduce the number of bins, they attended a meeting where the City outlined its concerns and plan for the future. An email survey of all Local Governments in the metro area (conducted by the City) indicated that some councils had applied controls to charity bin placement due to ongoing problems, of which the risk to public liability has been the major concern. The City's waste operations division have long held that there must be more effective and less risky means of recovering used clothing and household goods.

Work done internationally and interstate indicates that

there are synergies to be gained when Local Governments cooperate with charities to recover used clothing and household goods through verge collections and Transfer Stations. The City aims to cooperate with charities to find new ways of collecting clothing and other reusable household goods. To achieve this aim the City has been trialing various methods of cooperative collection with Anglicare (the only charity who has shown interest in collecting material). Anglicare confirmed that cooperative collections, in association with the City's verge side collection, produced up to 70% of its turnover.

The UK's first display of peat-free compost art, depicting a giant flower pot in bloom, was created to mark Compost Aware Week 2006 at Kew Gardens.



(Source: [www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com))

## OLD TIMER GOES SOUTH



His expertise was greatly appreciated. At a national level he has been involved with the National Packaging Covenant Council. Allan has worked for the Shire of Dardanup since 1991 and has seen the Shire grow from a population of 4,000 to 10,000.

the input of Allan Mortimer, who is retiring from local government after 41 years service (in Australia and the UK). Allan will not be retiring entirely however as he makes the transition to consultant.

Allan was a member of MWAC for many years and

Among Allan's many achievements at the Shire are taking the lead in pushing for a Regional Waste site for the Shire. With Allan's persistence the many old landfill sites scattered across the Shire

have been progressively closed and waste directed to the new landfill site. Allan has undergone his own personal transformation over the years. With his health compromised by diabetes, Allan gave up many culinary and liquid luxuries and began on the road to recovery. Allan is now the poster boy for diabetes awareness, walking at least 12Km each day and regularly volunteering as a guest speaker for diabetes support groups.

## RIP YOUR EOI'S OUT

Funding from the National Packaging Covenant is available to NPC Signatories and Local Governments in WA. The funding is for projects to improve the recovery and recycling of packaging materials in WA.

Priority areas include:

- ◆ improving kerbside recovery of glass, cardboard and plastic;
- ◆ best practice collection and

- processing to improve quality of recyclables;
- ◆ improved Materials Recovery Facility efficiency of recovered materials;
- ◆ improved litter management;
- ◆ public place and events recycling;
- ◆ sustainable alternative markets for recycling;
- ◆ waste minimisation through improved packaging design; and

- ◆ increased 'away from home' recycling collection systems.

Expression of interest are sought by



**COB Friday 2 June 2006**

For more information please contact Jenny Campbell on 6364 7009 or email [jenny.campbell@environment.wa.gov.au](mailto:jenny.campbell@environment.wa.gov.au)

Research by Global Market Insite Inc showed that 89% of Australians said they regularly recycle cardboard, plastic and glass. This compares to an average of 68% of people from countries including the USA, UK, Germany, France, China.



(Source: [www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200604/s1621569.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200604/s1621569.htm))

## WHO, WHAT AND WHY OF LITTER WA

The WA Litter Prevention Taskforce of the Keep Australia Beautiful Council (WA) has released its *Litter Prevention Strategy for Western Australia*. The Strategy includes information on who, what,

where, when, why and how people litter.

Within the Strategy is also a framework for litter and illegal dumping prevention and management.

The formulation of the Strategy has included public consultation.

For more information visit <http://litter.environment.wa.gov.au/taskforce>

## AWARDING TIMES

Nominations are now open for the Western Australian Environment Awards 2006. The Awards recognise environmental management and conservation by business, industry, government,

community groups and individuals.

A previous winner was Pot Recyclers, who collect plastic pots from participating gardening centres which are then shredded ready to be

manufactured into new plastic pots ([www.potrecyclers.com](http://www.potrecyclers.com))

For more information on the Awards visit [www.environment.wa.gov.au](http://www.environment.wa.gov.au)

## HEAD'S UP FROM INDUSTRY

Coinciding with the inclusion of Australia into this years FIFA soccer world cup, Coca-Cola Amatil has launched a limited edition 600ml gold PET bottle.



These non standard bottles may present an issue to recyclers. Industry has several suggestions however:

- ◆ sort the gold bottle into the mixed plastics stream; or
- ◆ if there is no plastics stream, integrate the

bottles into the green PET stream.

More information on recycling the bottles can be obtained from Damien Woolford via email [damien@impactrecycling.com](mailto:damien@impactrecycling.com)

## BUDGET ALL OILY

In the Federal Budget 2006-07, \$30.1 million will be allocated to the Federal Oil Recycling Programme.

recyclers to adjust to the Federal Government Fuel Exercise Reform.

Senator Ian Campbell said "The temporary support will ensure that industry has sufficient time to adjust to the new excise

arrangements. Recyclers will receive this assistance through the existing benefit arrangements."

For more information visit [www.deh.gov.au](http://www.deh.gov.au)

## EVOLUTION OF BINS

### Bio Binz

The *New Inventors* recently featured Peter Wadewitz, inventor of the BiobiN. The bin is a large composting vessel with an aeration system, holding up to 10 cubic metres of mater. Material from commercial premises can be composted onsite in these bins, then be added to other organic matter to produce soil conditioner.

For more information visit [www.BiobiN.net](http://www.BiobiN.net) (Source: [www.abc.net.au/newinventors/](http://www.abc.net.au/newinventors/))

### Bins Shining Light

Solar powered compaction bins are the latest innovation in public litter management. The bins, called Big Belly Bins, offer up to eight times the volume storage of standard bins. A solar panel on the top of the bin charges a battery

which allows for the monitoring of the amount of waste in the bin and the compaction of that waste once it reaches a certain level. For more information contact Mike Parker on 0419 000 091 or email [michael.parker@alliedgroup.com.au](mailto:michael.parker@alliedgroup.com.au)

(Source: *Inside Waste*, Issue 12 April / May 2006 [www.wme.com.au/insidewaste](http://www.wme.com.au/insidewaste))

## VICTORIANS TALK ABOUT DUMPING

The Victorian Litter Action Alliance and EPA Victoria are hosting a one-day forum focusing on illegal dumping on Monday 5, Wednesday 7 or Friday 9 of June 2006. The forum is directed at

anyone involved in managing or communicating the issue of illegal dumping. Its purpose is to promote effective programs to reduce illegal dumping and includes two skills-based workshops covering education

and investigation and enforcement.

For more information visit [www.litter.vic.gov.au](http://www.litter.vic.gov.au)

## TIP SHOPS TURNOVER

Tip shops have the potential to substantially decrease the waste to landfill. Ecohouse, a tip shop in NSW, diverts recyclable and reusable material from landfill with a resultant 20% reduction in waste to landfill. The Waste

Management Association of Australia (WMAA) is holding a conference dedicated to Transfer Stations.

This event will run from the 9 to 11 of August 2006.

For more information visit

[www.transferstations.com.au](http://www.transferstations.com.au)

(Source: *Inside Waste*, Issue 12 April / May 2006 [www.wme.com.au/insidewaste](http://www.wme.com.au/insidewaste))

## THE BIG WRAP

The UK-based Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) have released an international review of 55 'state-of-the-art' life cycle analysis (LCA) for key recycling materials.

*Recycling: an international review of the life cycle comparisons for key materials in the UK recycling sector.*



The Report is titled *Environmental Benefits of*

The results examine each

material separately and in general demonstrate recycling offers more environmental benefits and lower environmental impacts, including CO<sub>2</sub> reductions, than other waste management options. The report is available from [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

## AMERICANS FULL OF RUBBISH?

Biocycle Magazine has conducted its 15<sup>th</sup> National *State of Garbage In America Report*. The Report found that America recycles only 28.5 percent of their waste,

64 percent still goes to land fill, while 7.4 percent is incinerated. The survey was of municipal solid waste for the 2004 calendar year.

For more information visit [www.jgpress.com/archives/\\_free/000848.html](http://www.jgpress.com/archives/_free/000848.html)

(Source: Biocycle Alert, April 2006)

Staff at Taiwan's Livestock Research Institute have an idea that is environmentally friendly and will help with waste problems in Taiwan; flower pots made from livestock excrement and paper pulp.

These flower pots contain nutrients and decompose in 3-7 days.



For more information visit [www.tlri.gov.tw/English/index.asp](http://www.tlri.gov.tw/English/index.asp)

## MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Next Meeting

Date: 19 July 2006

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Town of Cambridge

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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## 2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 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)
- 9–11 August 2006 **Transfer Stations 2006**  
Novotel Twin Waters—Sunshine Coast, Queensland  
For more information visit [www.transferstations.com.au](http://www.transferstations.com.au)
- 13–15 September 2006 **ORBIT 2006 Conference**  
Weimar, Germany  
For more information visit [www.orbit2006.de/cms/](http://www.orbit2006.de/cms/)
- 15–17 September 2006 **Clean Up the World**  
Everywhere, Earth  
For more information visit [www.cleanuptheworld.org](http://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](http://www.wasteandrecycle.com.au)
- 2–4 October 2006 **ISWA Annual Congress**  
Copenhagen, Denmark  
For more information visit [www.iswa2006.org/home.htm](http://www.iswa2006.org/home.htm)
- 15–17 November 2006 **National Recycling Week**  
For more information visit [www.planetark.com](http://www.planetark.com)

## 2006 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 2 June 2006 **Contaminated Site NEPM Discussion Paper**  
For more information visit [www.ephc.gov.au](http://www.ephc.gov.au)
- 2 June 2006 **National Packaging Covenant Expressions of Interest**  
For more information contact Jenny Campbell on 6364 7009 or email [jenny.campbell@environment.wa.gov.au](mailto:jenny.campbell@environment.wa.gov.au)
- 7 July 2006 **Productivity Commission Waste Management Draft Report**  
For more information visit [www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au)
- 4 August 2006 **WA Environment Awards**  
For more information visit [www.environment.wa.gov.au](http://www.environment.wa.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.

