



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

MWAC Information Bulletin

ISSUE 159 MARCH 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OAG WANTS YOU VACANCY ON THE OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP	2
HALLS CREEK SHIRE INVESTIGATES CHARGES FOR COMMERCIAL WASTE	2
CHARGE! CHARGING MECHANISMS FOR WASTE	2
WHO LIKES STEWARDSHIP? PROPOSED MODEL OUT FOR COMMENT	2
COMMENT TIME: E- WASTE STANDARDS DRAFT A&NZ STANDARD OUT FOR COMMENT	3
PREDICTIONS ARE IN FIGURES FOR CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2012	3
FLURO CYCLING UPDATE ON FLUROCYCLE PROGRAM	3
ENERNOC SAVING MONEY ON ENERGY	3
VICTORIAN DOLLARS FLOW STATE FUNDING FOR WASTE	4
CHOKING ON COKE UPDATE ON THE NT CDS	4
KERBING DUMPING NSW SHIRE LOOKS AT ALTERNATIVES TO BULK COLLECTIONS	4
SLUDGE CLEAN UP CLEAN UP AFTER OIL FIRE	5
UNPRINTERS REUSING PAPER	5
GIANT CHESS RECYCLING CHALLENGE	5
EVERY CAN COUNTS UK CAN RECYCLING INITIATIVE	5

WE HAVE A STRATEGY!

It is with great excitement that we welcome the release of the *Western Australian Waste Strategy "Creating the Right Environment"*. This Strategy will guide waste management and recycling initiatives in WA until 2020.

The strategy has five key themes aimed at reducing waste to landfill. These are:

- Initiate and maintain long-term planning for waste and recycling processing, and enable access to suitably located land with buffers sufficient to cater for the State's waste management needs;
- Enhance regulatory services to ensure consistent performance is achieved at landfills, transfer stations and processing facilities;
- Develop best practice incentive guidelines, measures and reporting frameworks and promote their adoption;
- Use existing economic instruments to

support the financial viability of actions that divert waste from landfill and recover it as a resource; and

- Communicate messages for behavior change and promote its adoption, and acknowledge the success of individuals and organisations that act in accordance with the aims and principles in the Strategy and assist in its implementation.

Municipal Solid Waste Recovery Targets have been set at 50% by 2015 and 65% by 2020 (metro area) and 30% by 2015 and 50% by 2020 (regional centres).

There are statewide targets for both the Commercial & Industrial (55% by 2015 and 70% by 2020) and Construction & Demolition sectors (60% by 2015 and 75% by 2020).

For more information, or a copy of the Strategy, visit www.zerowaste.wa.gov.au

CDS CDS CDS

The COAG Standing Council on Environment and Water recently released a Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (RIS), investigating national solutions to reduce packaging waste.

The introduction of a Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) was one of the proposed solutions. MWAC, on behalf of WALGA, developed a Submission outlining Local Governments response to the RIS, with particular emphasis on the preference for the introduction of a CDS.

Local Government in WA has been consistent in its support for a Container Deposit System

(CDS). At the recent WALGA Annual General Meeting (August 2011), Local Governments again voted to support the immediate introduction of a CDS in WA.

In addition to the Submission on the RIS, WALGA is establishing a Policy Forum to foster support for the introduction of a CDS nationally, or if that fails, in WA. The Policy Forum is scheduled to meet mid-April 2012.

For further information on the RIS Submission or on the proposed advocacy on CDS, please contact Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au

COMMIT TO THE CONFERENCE

The theme for the 2012 Waste & Recycle Conference is *Great Expectations: Fostering an Environment for Commitment*.

Speakers are currently being sought for the Conference. If you would like to present, please complete the Abstract Template (available from the WasteNet Website) and email it to Rebecca Pereira at Keynote Conference rebecca@keynotewa.com

Abstract templates need to be completed and returned to Keynote Conferences by **COB Monday 30 April**.

For more information visit the Waste & Recycle Conference Website www.wasteandrecycle.com.au



WALGA
www.walga.asn.au

OAG WANTS YOU

The Officers Advisory Group (OAG) would like to thank Mr Allan Moulton for the contribution he has made to the OAG over the last few months while working at the City of Busselton.

There is now a vacancy for a non-metropolitan Local Government Officer on the

OAG. Application Forms are available at www.wastenet.net.au.

All those interested in applying for the position, contact Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling on 9213 2063 or at rbrown@walga.asn.au

HALLS CREEK



The Shire of Halls Creek has carried out an investigation into how the Shire charges for non-domestic refuse collections. Historically, commercial and domestic refuse charges were billed via the annual rates notices. Although this worked well for the domestic collections, it has not worked for the commercial collections.

Some businesses within the Shire are putting out 5/6 times the bins they actually pay for (e.g. a business pays for three bins on their rates statement but the Shire is billed for 14 bins that are collected by the contractor).

Commercial businesses will receive letters advising that for the rest of the year, they will receive separate bills for any bins collected above the number they have paid for through the rates. Suggested alternatives include:

- The Shire ceases to be involved in commercial waste collections. Commercial businesses would have to arrange for alternative methods of disposal; or
- The Shire continues to contract for the collection of nondomestic refuse, with commercial users billed monthly.

(Halls Creek Herald, 20 March 2012)

The Waste Authority's Community Grants Scheme is now open.

Applications must be received by **5pm Friday 27 April**.

(For more information, visit www.zerowaste.wa.gov.au)

CHARGE!



As it is budget time again, it is worth clarifying the charging mechanisms for waste under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 (WARR Act). There are two areas that Local Governments can use, S66 or S67.

S66 provides for 'an annual rate for the purpose of providing for the proper performance of all or any of the waste services it provides'. Waste service is defined under S3 of the WARR Act as:

- a) The collection, transport, storage, treatment, processing, sorting, recycling or disposal of waste; or
- b) The provision of receptacles for the temporary deposit of waste; or

- c) The provision and management of waste facilities, machinery for the disposal of waste and processes for dealing with waste.

S67 is used to impose a charge on properties that are provided with a waste collection service. This section also references the term 'waste service' (some Local Governments have used S67 to raise a levy for 'waste services' as defined under S3). WALGA recommends that S67 is only used when Local Governments provide a receptacle and a regular waste collection service.

For more information contact James McGovern, Manager Governance on 9213 2093 or at JMcGovern@walga.asn.au.

WHO LIKES STEWARDSHIP?

A Consultation Paper on the Proposed Model for Voluntary Product Stewardship Arrangements under the Product Stewardship Act 2011 was available for public comment until Tuesday, 27 March.

behalf of Local Governments. The Submission is available at www.wastenet.net.au

For more information on the Consultation Paper, visit www.environment.gov.au/settlements/waste/product-stewardship/index.html

MWAC has developed a Submission on

www.wastenet.net.au

COMMENT TIME: E-WASTE STANDARDS

The International Organisation for Standardisation has released the draft Australian and New Zealand Standard for the *Collection, Storage, Transport and Treatment of Used Electrical and Electronic Equipment* for a nine-week public comment period.

The release of the Draft Standard is an important step in establishing the National TV and Computers Recycling Scheme. This Scheme is scheduled to begin rolling out from July this year.

The comment period closes **Tuesday, 15 May.**

MWAC will be developing a Submission on behalf of Local Government.



The Draft Standard is available at www.standards.org.au/Pages/default.aspx (you will need to register as a site user to access the document).

PREDICTIONS ARE IN

Clean Up Australia Day 2012 has been and gone, with many volunteers donning gloves at collection points across Australia.

Keep Australia Beautiful have released the preliminary results on the Clean Up. To date it appears that there were a total of 7363 registered sites across Australia, with 591,400

volunteers, and some 16,199 tonnes of rubbish collected. In Western Australia, it is estimated that 34,800 people took part in the clean up, bagging some 1,157 tonnes.

(Source: www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au and www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au)

FLURO CYCLING



FluroCycle

FluroCycle is a national scheme that aims to increase the recycling of lamps that contain mercury and reduce the amount of mercury entering the environment.

This fluorescent lighting Recycling Scheme is voluntary, and is designed to promote best practice and safe handling with the scope to becoming a voluntary product stewardship scheme. Businesses, Local Government and

other organisations can join as Signatories. The scheme gives public recognition to Signatories for their commitment to recycling.

There are no costs to becoming a signatory which is possible through an online application.

For more information, visit www.flurocycle.org.au or call Rowan Latham, MWAC Program Coordinator on 9213 2062 or email rlatham@walga.asn.au

ENERNOC

The WALGA preferred supplier EnerNOC, is offering an investment-free program to Local Governments that will provide partial reimbursement of energy intensive Local Government facility's electricity bill next summer.

If your Local Government has facilities with energy-intensive machinery on-site (e.g. balers, shredders, compactors) and an energy bill in excess of \$6000 month it could be eligible for the funding.

EnerNOC's environmentally-friendly demand response program provides ongoing cash

incentives and live energy management software to facilities that have operational flexibility a few hours out of the year to relieve stress on our regional electricity grid.

For more information, visit www.enernoc.com.au or contact Mike Altman on 0487 653494 or email maltman@enernoc.com



Senator Don Farrell has announced the accreditation of the Australia and New Zealand Recycling Platform (ANZRP) as the second organisation able to deliver services under the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.

(Source: www.environment.gov.au/settlements/waste/ewaste/index.html)

www.wastenet.net.au

VICTORIAN DOLLARS FLOW

The Victoria Government has announced it is investing \$5.5 million into waste.

Victorian Environment and Climate Change Minister, Ryan Smith has said Local Governments will be able to build infrastructure to better recover organic wastes, turning them into compost, fertilisers and fuels.

Sustainability Victoria has partnered with Regional Waste Management Groups (RWMG), and regional and rural Local Governments providing support for odour reducing composting facilities; kerbside collection systems; and field trials for end-products of organic waste recovery.

Localised projects for RWMGs will receive additional support from the Government including a *Building Victoria's Organics Recovery package* (designed to support organic waste collection systems) and a *Regional waste management group support package*. This package will support the implementation of waste management programs to benefit local municipalities.

Priority waste projects in regional Victoria will receive a further \$3 million from the state government over the next two years as determined by RWMGs.

(Source: www.governmentnews.com.au)

Are you interested in joining the Compost Revolution?

Local Governments are able to sign up to provide information on waste education and action to their communities.

(Source: <http://compostrevolution.com.au>)

CHOKING ON COKE

The Northern Territory Container Deposit Scheme is experiencing some teething problems. Some of the cash for containers collection depots in the Northern Territory may have to close, with the recycling co-ordination centres associated with Coca Cola Amatil and Lion Nathan refusing to accept all of the collected cans and bottles.

Under the terms of the law covering the deposit scheme in the Territory, people who return approved containers to collection depots receive 10 cents per container. The co-ordination centres then pay the collection depots 10 cents per container plus a reasonable handling fee. How much that fee should be is at the centre of the strife.

Two days of mediation talks overseen by former Territory administrator Tom Pauling have failed to resolve what that the fee should be.

Territory collectors are already paid a lesser return than those involved in the long-established recycling scheme in South Australia.

Former Australian of the year and Clean Up Australia campaigner Ian Kiernan has called on people supportive of the Scheme in the Northern Territory, not to buy the products of companies involved until this issue is resolved.

(Source: www.abc.net.au)

KERBING DUMPING

Kerbside hard rubbish collections in Byron Shire (NSW) may be stopped in favour of a proposal that would allow residents to take rubbish to the landfill for free.

The current kerbside collection service has been popular with the community but a council report found the scale of illegal dumping was a "source of distress" for many residents in 2011. It is felt that the collections encouraged a culture of dumping and scavenging.

The cost of hiring a contractor for kerbside collections in 2011 was \$99,091.30, while the

cost of cleaning up piles of illegally dumped waste was \$25,500.

The Council will vote on four possible options for disposing of hard rubbish at the next ordinary meeting.

Mr Warner's report recommends councillors back a new option, which would allow residents to dispose of one cubic metre of bulky waste and one cubic metre of metal waste at the landfill for free.

(Source: www.northernstar.com.au)

SLUDGE CLEAN UP

A clean up is now underway in the northern suburbs of Adelaide, after a fire at a waste oil facility was extinguished on Tuesday, 13 March.

The fire was so intense, that cars parked on the street outside the depot were severely burnt. A firefighter also suffered burns to his hands.

Fire investigators and police will wait until the site has cooled before



they enter and investigate the cause of the blaze.

Metropolitan Fire Service district officer Rainer Kiessling has said that measures such as pumping out sludge and creating temporary dam walls around drains were being taken to stop the toxic sludge entering waterways close to the site. Unfortunately, these efforts have been hampered by wet weather.

(Source: www.abc.net.au)

UNPRINTERS

Cambridge University has completed successful trials with a laser 'unprinter', that is capable of removing toner from paper, leaving it fit for reuse rather than being sent away for recycling.

The results of testing show that toner-print can be removed effectively without causing significant damage. A total of 10 laser setups were tested in the study.

After the paper was exposed to the laser, the samples were then analysed under a scanning electron microscope and subjected to colour, mechanical and chemical analyses.

It is hoped that 'unprinters' could become a common addition to offices in the future.

For more information, visit www.waste-management-world.com

Nestlé has become the first major confectioner to achieve 100% recyclability in its entire Easter egg packaging range across the UK and Ireland.

(Source: RRF WINS #11-2012 - March 23, 2012)

GIANT CHESS



An event titled 'Replay' was recently held in Ireland by the ReMake Sustainable Design Network. This event challenged 30 designers to construct a giant chess set over six hours which was then made available for public use.

A manufacturer based in Antrim, initially sparked the idea for the event in order to find a use for their factory offcuts that could not

be recycled conventionally. ReMake Sustainable Design Network is a community of Irish based designers. They aim to promote sustainable design practices by working with recycled materials.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/remakedesignnetwork

(Source: RRF WINS #09-2012)

EVERY CAN COUNTS

A UK can recycling program, *Every Can Counts*, has helped to collect approximately 51 million used beverage containers (774 tonnes of aluminium and steel) from workplaces and away from home locations in 2011.

The program is funded by a partnership comprising of UK and European drink can manufacturers, and the aluminium and steel packaging and recycling industries.

According to *Every Can Counts*, around 30% of the 9.5 billion cans sold every year in the UK are consumed outside the home. As a result, they do not get recycled through Local Government waste collections.



For more information, visit www.waste-management-world.com

www.wastenet.net.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

A valuable resource for anyone interested
in waste in Western Australia



www.wastenet.net.au

CONTACT DETAILS

Manager, Waste & Recycling
Ms Rebecca Brown
Tel: 08 9213 2063
Email: rbrown@walga.asn.au

MWAC Program Coordinator
Mr Rowan Latham
Tel: 08 9213 2062
Email: rlatham@walga.asn.au

MWAC Policy Coordinator
Ms Erin Fuery
Tel: 08 9213 2086
Email: efuery@walga.asn.au

Waste Management Officer
Ms Heather Squire
Tel: 08 9213 2069
Email: hsquire@walga.asn.au

Office:
Local Government House
15 Altona Street,
WEST PERTH WA 6005
Postal Address:
PO Box 1544,
WEST PERTH WA 6872

2012 EVENTS CALENDAR

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 31 March | Earth Hour 2012
For more information, visit www.earthhour.org |
| 30 April - 2 May | Waste Expo 2012
Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada
For more information, visit www.wasteexpo.com |
| 1-3 May | Waste 2012
Opal Cove Resort, Korora Bay, north of the Coffs Harbour CBD.
For more information, visit www.impactenviro.com.au/waste2012 |
| 14-15 May | Local Government Training Course—Illegal Dumping
For more information, contact Jennie Anderton KAB on 6467 5130 or email jennie.anderton@dec.wa.gov.au |
| 4-6 July | 6th International Conference on Waste Management and the Environment
New Forest, UK
For more information, visit www.wessex.ac.uk |
| 24-26 July | Enviro 2012
Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide
For more information, visit www.enviroconvention.com.au |
| 11-14 September | Waste & Recycle Conference 2012
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, WA
For more information, visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au |
| 17-19 October | Waste MINZ 2012
Hamilton, New Zealand
For more information, visit wasteminz.org.nz/events_new.htm |

2012 SUBMISSIONS CALENDAR

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 30 March | Submission Deadline for the Packaging Impacts Consultation RIS
For more information, visit www.ephc.gov.au |
| 27 April | Applications Close for the Waste Authority's Community Grants Scheme
For more information, visit www.zerowaste.wa.gov.au |
| 30 April | Waste & Recycle Conference 2012 Call for Papers Closes
For more information, visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au |
| 15 May | Draft Australian and New Zealand Standard for the Collection, Storage, Transport and Treatment of Used Electrical and Electronic Equipment Out for Comment
For more information, visit www.standards.org.au/Pages/default.aspx |
| 17 May | Western Australian 2012 Sustainable Cities Awards
For more information, visit www.kabc.wa.gov.au |

WHAT IS MWAC?

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.



WALGA

www.walga.asn.au

