

## **Waste Education update**

### **Wellington Regional Group November 2015**

Margaret Macindoe– Regional Waste Education Coordinator

Darran Plumb moved to Darwin in December. Due to the expiry of the MOU in June, the position was not advertised until all councils had committed to funding the positions again. The MOU signatories were completed on 31 July 2015 and the position was advertised until 28 August 2015. Interviews were held on 16 September 2015 and the position was offered to Emma Thomas. Emma starts in the position on 30 November 2015.

The Waste Education Officer has been involved in the following activities over the past 10 months:

- Waste and Recycling Conference. September 2015. Margaret presented a paper at this year's conference. The paper, titled "Is talking Rubbish a Waste of Money?" outlined the many aspects of waste management and highlighted that waste collection is only one aspect of waste management. Councils that contract out waste collection haven't contracted out waste management.

#### Schools & Waste Wise Schools Program

- Signed a MOU to continue the partnership with Waste Wise Schools Program. Delivering Waste Wise Schools message in the region.
- School waste audits to encourage schools to consider their bin configuration and habits.
- Presentations at Hope Christian College, Bunbury Primary School
- Staff meeting at Maidens Park Primary School, Bunbury Primary School
- Presented to Horticulture and Conservation & Land Management students at SWIT on the three bin systems and waste management.
- Presented introduction the waste management to each new migrant student class at SWIT
- Attended a high school teachers in-service training day on the new curriculum material – 'Message in a Bottle' on the impacts of plastic bottles. Presented by Waste Wise Schools

#### Community Consultation

- Conducted surveys and displays at Collie to inform Council on public perception regarding the introduction of the 3<sup>rd</sup> bin for organics
- Trained staff at Shire of Collie regarding the 3 bin system, frequently asked questions and ways to address community concerns
- Three bin displays at Balingup and Kirup when bins introduced to these areas
- Assisted in the development of a household waste management survey for Shire of Capel

#### Waste Management at Events

- Implemented KABC grant for waste management at events in the region.

- Presentations to events committees regarding waste management and 3-bins at events
- Provided bin toppers and waste management advice for the following events: City of Bunbury Australia Day 2015, Bunbury Show, Balingup Small Farm Field Day, Dardanup Bull & Barrel Festival to implement 3-bin systems at events.
- Discussed waste management options and feasibility of 3-bins at events with event organisers as part of KABC grant. Wrote Waste Management Plans for the following events: Qube Truck Pull, Australia Day, Bunbury Show, Balingup Small Farm Field Day.
- Completed a waste audit for Australia Day Silver Chain Breakfast, Australia Day, Bunbury Show, Balingup Small Farm Field Day.
- Wrote waste management plan for Bunbury Christmas Parade
- Presented at regional events information day on waste management at events
- Events trailer sent to Wave Rock Festival

#### Tours & Talks

- Tours of compost facility for home schooling group, SWIT Horticulture and Conservation & Land Management students, Lake Macquarie Council, Waste Authority, COB Community Environmental Reference Group
- Tours of Waste Management facility for home schooling group, Newton Moore Ed Support Centre
- Presentations to Collie CWA group, COB Community Environmental Reference Group, Bunbury Rotary Club

#### Workshops & Submissions

- Attended the following: Waste Census workshop, TV & Computer Stewardship workshop, Organic Exposure workshop (WMAA), Pallet workshop, Bibs and Bobs workshop, KABC Litter workshop
- Contributed to submissions for National TV & Computer stewardship, DER Environmental Standards for Composting
- Working with COB Environmental Officers to organise an Environmental Forum on Waste during Recycling Week 2015 (9-15 November)
- Contributed to the "Waste Authority Communications Guidelines: Communicating effectively for improved recycling and waste minimisation"

#### Business Waste Management

- Provided advice to staff at SWIT regarding implementing the 3-bin system across the campus.
- Conducted waste audits on bins at SWIT to determine waste streams. Wrote report & recommendations on the introduction of the 3 bin system and appropriate disposal methods for the main waste types
- Provided advice to young entrepreneur at Woolworths Dalyellup on waste management options, particularly for organic waste.
- Met with WA Police Service to understand the waste management improvements they implemented within the business (winners of 2014 Infinity Awards- Government category)

## Loose Parts Play

- Presented at Healthy Schools Loose Parts Play Teacher Training workshops in Dalyellup and Balingup. Worked with the Healthy Schools SW coordinator (WA Country Health) to provide 'loose parts play' materials for schools to re-use.
- Presented at Collie in-service professional development training for teachers, support staff and childcare workers on the benefits of Loose Parts Play.
- Provision of Loose Parts play materials for school holiday programs with Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup in Donnybrook and Balingup; Shire of Capel in Dalyellup and Capel, Eaton Rec Centre and Life Without Barriers in Bunbury.
- Attended meetings with WA Country Health Service to progress Loose Parts Play in the SW
- Provision of materials and demonstration of Loose Parts Play at Balingup Primary School, Fairview Primary School, Amaroo Primary School, Eaton/Millbridge Spring Fiesta, Geographe Ed Support Centre, Donnybrook Primary School and Collie Family Day.
- In a partnership with WA Country Health made a submission to the Infinity Awards for the work with Loose Parts Play in the region.
- Developed a Loose Parts Play logo

## General

- Attended WA Waste Educators meetings
- Provided advice to the City of Stirling, Shire of Noosa, Lake Macquarie City Council, City of Swan on the introduction of the 3-bin system
- Developed material for BHRC website
- Assisting to Master Builders Assn compile the SW supplement for C&D waste disposal
- Interviewed for Waste Education Officer
- Wellington Waste group meeting
- Bin tagging & contamination management info shared with WALGA
- Moving office to old ticket office, Bunbury Bus Station

## Future Activities for November 2015

- COB Environmental Forum on Waste (14/11/15)
- Presentations at Riverlinks Childcare centre
- Display on 3-bin system at Collie Show
- Loose Parts Play at Donnybrook Gourmet Food & Wine Festival

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