



WASTE WISE WORDS

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The Western Australian Schools Environmental Education for Sustainability Awards (WASEESA)

The WA Schools Environmental Education for Sustainability Awards have been developed to recognise the excellent environmental education programs in WA schools.

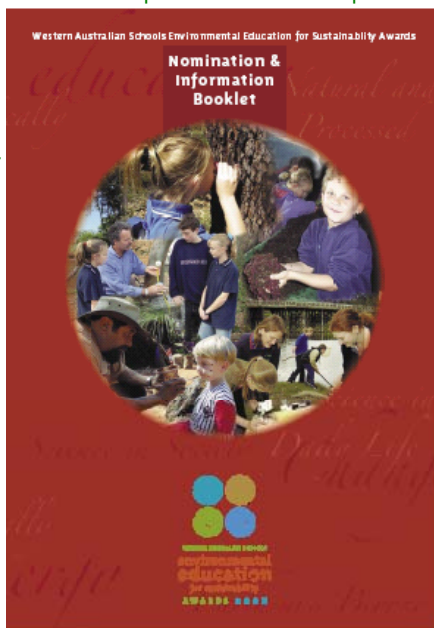
These awards provide an opportunity for individuals, schools and organisations to highlight their commitment to the environment and the community.

Nominations for the awards will be submitted in portfolio form to enable students of all levels to write their own nominations, as well as teachers.

Cash prizes up to the value of \$2000 will be presented to the winners of each of the nine award categories.

There is also the potential for media coverage and other promotional opportunities.

Nominations for WASEESA 2005 are open to schools in Western Australia and education providers and home tutors working in isolated and distance education programs.



For more information about the awards, or a booklet, go to <http://community.environment.wa.gov.au>, or call Joey on 9278 0679.

Registration is essential and is the first step in nominating. To register your interest, send in the registration form at the back of the booklet to Joey King by 1 July 2005. You will then be sent a portfolio and any other relevant information.

Nomination portfolios must be returned to Joey by 5.00pm Friday 23 September 2005.

WASTE WISE FEEDBACK FORMS

Thank you to all the schools who returned feedback forms to us. We have spent a lot of time collating the information we received in order to evaluate the success of the program and to assess how we can provide a higher level of support to our Waste Wise Schools.

Our findings overall were very encouraging, 100% of Waste Wise Schools surveyed are recycling in one way or another. 67% are involved in Worm Farming and 38% are composting.

The data we received also showed that 36% of the schools had a policy on waste minimisation and 44% had incorporated waste topics into the curriculum.

The feedback also allowed insight into other Waste Wise and environmental education projects. Some examples are; Clean Up Australia Day, school chickens visits to landfills and/or MRF's, energy monitoring, school nurseries and designing environmental web sites.

Congratulations go to Yanchep DHS who were the lucky school drawn out to win the major prize of a \$150.00 book voucher. Congratulations to the schools who won consolation prizes. We hope all our Waste Wise Schools keep up the good work and remember you are making a difference! Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need assistance in some way.

CASE STUDY SNIPPETS

NORTH MANDURAH EDUCATION SUPPORT CENTRE

The Education Support Centre at North Mandurah Primary School is responsible for collecting and sorting the reuse paper from the whole school. The paper is used to make 'have-a-go' pads for each class.



Collecting Paper

This process integrates well with the development of speaking skills as students are required

to use appropriate manners and etiquette when entering classrooms and asking if the class has any reuse paper. Once the paper has been collected, the students record how many pads each class needs.

After collection, the students sort the

paper into that which can be reused and the rest is recycled. The reuse paper is torn using metal rulers into A5 size and stacked up to be stapled and made into pads.



Tearing Paper

The paper selected for recycling is shredded and fed to the worms along with vitamised canteen food scraps. The extra shredded paper is taken to a local store for packing. The store owner has also requested phone pads made by the students half A5 size to give away to customers.



Sorting Paper



Feeding the Worms

Plastic Bag Facts

'Australians dump 4000 recyclable plastic bags into landfill every minute, or 230,000 ever hour.'

'Just 8.7 check-out bags contain enough embodied petroleum energy to drive a car 1km.'

'Non-biodegradable plastic bags can last in the environment for up to 1,000 years.'

'An estimated 6.67 billion or 36,700 tonnes of plastic bags are disposed of in landfill sites throughout Australia each year.'

*Waste and Recycling
Volume 208, Issues in
Society*

PAINTBACK PROGRAM



Ever wondered what to do with all that unused paint sitting in the back shed?

If you live in the City of Wanneroo or City of Jondalup you can now take your unused or unwanted **water-based** paint to the Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) Waste Management Facility where it will be accepted for re-processing into recycled paint.

The Waste Management Board in association with Bunnings, Dulux, Sms Metal and the Mindarie Regional Council is

trialing the Paintback program - the first paint recycling program for Western Australia - at the MRC Tamala Park Waste Management Facility in Marmion Avenue, Mindarie.

Unused or unwanted **water-based** paint can be delivered to Tamala Park from 7.00am to 4.45pm Tuesday to Sunday where it will be checked for quality prior to being transported to Dulux's O'Connor facility for re-processing.

The recycled paint will be a fence finish in two colours 'doeskin' and 'ironbark'. And will be available for purchase from Bunnings northern stores in late August.

For further information contact Tamala Park on 9305 6942.

SITA ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS

As you may be aware, SITA Environmental Solutions are the major sponsor of the Waste Wise Schools Program.

We would like to take this opportunity to recognise SITA's ongoing commitment to the Waste Wise program and to reducing waste to landfill from WA schools, through their recycling services. Without SITA's financial support, the program could not continue to function at its current level.

Over 150 WA schools are currently using SITA's recycling services in their efforts to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

If you are interested in expanding your school's recycling program, or would like to receive some more information about SITA's services, please contact their customer service team on 13 13 35.



And on a positive note....

'Australians are the world leaders in newspaper recycling.'

'In 1990, around 28% of newsprint used in Australia was collected for recycling. In 2002 almost 73% was collected for recycling with an additional 7% re-used around the home, making Australia's effective recycling rate about 80%.'

'If all these newspapers that we recycled were stacked on top of one another, this would almost reach the height of a 30 storey building!'

*Waste and Recycling
Volume 208, Issues in*

WASTE WISE YOUTH GRANTS

The Youth Grants are back! Due to the overwhelming response to the Youth Grants we have decided to offer grants of \$500 for the next financial year so that more schools can take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

To be eligible for a youth grant, a representative from your school needs to attend a half day follow up workshop and complete three of the following simple activities;

The Waste Breakdown (Survey 2 on page 17 of *The Waste Wise Way*),

Simple Waste Audit (for example Survey 3 on page 17 of *The Waste Wise Way*)

Waste Wise Policy (example on page 23 of *The Waste Wise Way*)

Waste Minimisation and Litter Reduction Planner (page 22 of *The Waste Wise Way*).

If you are unable to attend a Follow Up Workshop you can send us copies of the above activities along with a small report on Waste Wise achievements to date, any problems or difficulties you have experienced and what your school would like to achieve over the next 12 months. Once these activities are complete your school will be an official Participating Waste Wise School and will receive a school sign. You will then also be eligible to apply for a grant.

The following is a list of some of the schools and their proposed grant projects that have been approved this year;

Balingup Primary School

Aim to buy and install paper shredders and digital scales to recycle waste paper to be used for packaging of goods in the business community.

Bridgetown High School

Use the money to construct worm farms, bins to separate recycling and reuse items and to have an incursion from The Worm Shed.

Bungaree Primary School

Use money for a Worm Shed incursion, worm farms and worms. They also used the money for green house materials such as gloves, seedlings and potting mix to integrate with worm farming.

Greenmount Primary School

Used the money to purchase worms to be housed in old fridges, blenders to vitamix the worm food and a book on worms.

Oberthur Primary School

Used the money to purchase compost tumblers and worms and also a shed to provide security for equipment.

Pinjarra Primary School

Used the money to purchase the equipment to set up a recycling, reuse shed; including the shed itself, shelves and storage crates.

For more details, contact Kelsie on 9278 0676.



Bungaree students caring for their worms.

Contact Us.

Waste Wise Schools

Department of Environment
Level 2, 123 Adelaide Terrace
East Perth
Western Australia 6004

Phone: (08) 9278 0642
Fax: (08) 9278 0639
Email: kelsie.prabawa@environment.wa.gov.au

Check out our website:
www.wastewise.wa.gov.au



UPCOMING WASTE WISE WORKSHOPS AND TRAILER TOURS

Our last half day follow up workshop was held at Weld Square PS in Morley. Teachers that attended this workshop found it to be most beneficial and inspiring to see the great work that Weld Square is doing. As a result of this, we will continue to hold half day follow up workshops at Waste Wise Schools. Don't forget, once you have attended a follow up, your school is eligible for a \$500 Waste Wise Youth Grant.

Full Day Workshops

Wed 27th July Naragebup Environ Centre - For ECU Busselton Students

Sat 20th Aug Kalgoorlie

Thur 8th Sep ETC Murdoch Uni

Half Day Follow Up

Fri 26th Aug Waste Wise School, Southern Suburbs

Fri 16th Sep Waste Wise School, Eastern Suburbs (venues TBA)

NEW WASTE WISE PD!!!

We are planning to hold some half day workshop on various topics in an effort to offer teachers more PD choices. The topic for term 3 will be "Recycling - How does it work at school and beyond"

There will be guest speakers, a tour of a recycling facility (MRF), hands on activities and ideas on how and why recycling can be implemented/expanded at your school and in your community. This is a great opportunity to learn a bit more about the processes involved in recycling and how it can be used to make money for your school.

Wed 12th Aug 12.30-3.30pm
At RRRC (Recycling Facility) in Canning Vale.

Teachers, parents and administration staff are all welcome!

Please register your interest with Kelsie or Vanessa on 9278 0642.

PARTICIPATING WASTE WISE SCHOOLS SIGN

We are currently trying to catch up with all our Waste Wise schools who have sent a teacher to a half day follow up, or who have completed the follow up activities and who have not received their Participating School sign. If this is the case for your school please contact Vanessa on 9278 0642 so we can present your school with a sign.



GREENMOUNT AND MIDALIA STEEL



Greenmount Primary Waste Wise teacher Jennie Collins organised almost \$2000 worth of galvanised steel to be donated from Midalia Steel. The steel will be used to build a cage to safely house the schools worm farms. Why don't you ask around and see who will donate money or equipment for your Waste Wise Projects?



The Boy's stack the steel away

IS YOUR NEWSLETTER WASTE WISE?

We are sure you dislike having piles of paper in your pigeon holes as much as we dislike sending reams of it out! If you currently receive this newsletter in hard copy but have access to email and would rather we sent it electronically please let us know. You can call Vanessa on 9278 0642