



WASTE WISE WORDS

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Department of Environment



WASEESA CEREMONY

On Friday 11 November the WA Schools Environmental Education for Sustainability Awards (WASEESA) ceremony was hosted by Scitech at the Horizon theatre. The ceremony was a fantastic success with all winners present and surprised with their well deserved wins.

We were extremely impressed with the overall level of entries this year and the judges had a very difficult time deciding on winners. The winners were:

Calista Primary School with their nesting box project.

Albany Senior High School with their study of fish stocks in Princess Royal and Oyster Harbours.

Badgingarra Primary School with their Balga grass tree spear walking staff and another for being the 'Greenest School'

Students **Brameley Haran** from Coogee PS and **Mitchell Wilson** from East Hamersley PS for being Environmental Champions.

Perth College Kindergarten for being 'Young Green Stars'

Keith Brown from Coogee PS, **Jennifer Findlay** from Denmark HS and **John Cole** from Kinross College for being inspiring environmental educators.

Special commendations went to **Amaroo PS**, **Lancelin PS** and **Joanna Ward**, **Rujuta Jatu**, **Megan Bonner** and **Amar Kecanovic** from **Willeton SHS**.

The Waste Wise Team would like to congratulate all of the Waste Wise Schools who entered the awards. We are very proud of the wonderful work that our teachers, students and school communities are doing in regards to making a difference to our precious environment.



WASEESA morning tea

SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS AND WASTE WISE

Acknowledging that sometimes it's difficult to maintain the momentum in projects for a variety of reasons, **Waste Wise and Sustainable Schools** are looking to provide additional support next year to schools that might have taken on a waste minimisation project in the past, but have experienced a lessening of its effectiveness in recent times.

To participate in the **Sustainable Schools Initiative** in **2006**, with an initial focus on **additional support to implement effective whole school waste management**, please contact:

Howard Flinders
Project Manager,
Sustainable Schools Initiative
howard.flinders@det.wa.edu.au
Phone: 9264 4776

CASE STUDY SNIPPETS WOODVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Woodvale Primary School is an oasis of Waterwise gardens which are kept healthy with the help of some great Waste Wise products.

The year 4/5 teacher Mike Dowling is running a composting and worm farming program at the school.

Compost is created in both a tumbler and several upright bins located in the gardens around the school. Lunch scraps from each class, canteen scraps and scraps from home are broken down in the compost bin. Monitors from each class drop off scraps, wash, dry and return the containers. Food scraps are mixed with shredded newspaper, sawdust and green waste.

In a 10 day audit, the class calculated that the amount of food scraps diverted from landfill weighed in at an impressive 1.5 tonnes for the year. Maths and technology skills have been integrated by developing Excel tables and graphs for information posters. Recently a report on the calculations made from the worm farms and

compost was published in the school newsletter so that parents could see the benefits as well.

Woodvale PS has been very successful at obtaining donated items and selling worm products. It is estimated they have saved and made approximately \$1000 in the last year from these activities.



Mike and the compost bins

The following statistics have emerged from a survey conducted by Roy Morgan released as part of National Recycling Week.

? 99 per cent of Australians agree that recycling is important

? 94.7 per cent of households recycle to help the environment

? More than one in five Australians put their recyclables in a plastic bag before binning, causing problems at recycling centres

? Only 35 per cent of people surveyed were aware that aerosol steel cans could be recycled

? 42 per cent of households claim to either compost or worm farm at home

? 95.5 per cent of people know that office paper can be recycled, however only 11 percent is actually being sent for recycling

For more information, check out Planet Ark's website
www.planetark.com

Red Hill Environmental Education Centre

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) offers a unique waste education experience for schools located in its six member councils (Bassendean, Bayswater, Belmont, Kalamunda, Mundaring and Swan). The schools are being offered **free** tours of the Red Hill Environmental Education Centre and Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

By visiting the education centre, students will have a great opportunity to learn more about ways they can contribute towards a **SUSTAINABLE FUTURE** and successful **WASTE MANAGEMENT** through **REDUCING, RE-USING, RECYCLING** and **RECOVERING** resources from our waste.

Students learn about several aspects of sustainability by working in groups to complete a series of eight activities.

Topics covered include:

- Do you know your waste?
- Household hazardous waste
- Water savers

- Current life-cycle of waste
- Landfill management
- Introducing the R-Gang
- Shop smart
- Litter behaviour

A guided tour of the Red Hill Waste Management Facility is designed to help visitors gain an understanding of best practice landfill management. The tour incorporates all aspects of the life cycle of waste, from its collection, through to the rehabilitation of a landfill site back to natural bushland.

To find out more about visits to Red Hill or the other EMRC environmental education initiatives, please visit: www.emrc.org.au and click on the 'Schools and Students' tab.

Alternatively, for more information please contact:

Wayne Walters
Sustainability Education Officer
(08) 9424 2222
wayne.walters@emrc.org.au

THANK YOU

We would like to thank SITA Environmental Solutions for their support of the Waste Wise Schools Program again in 2005. We would also like to send a big thank you to all of the Waste Wise Schools who have taken on recycling or increased their recycling this year. With over 370 schools participating

in the program, we are making a big difference to the amount of waste going to landfill.



Congratulations on all of your waste wise achievements this year.

BUILD YOUR OWN RECYCLOSAURUS

Get your class to build a **RECYCLOSAURUS** dinosaur from reused materials and you could win! First prize is \$500 dollars worth of IKEA merchandise for your school, or you could win \$300 worth of Gecko Dollars to put towards a Barking Gecko performance or workshop of your choice!

Schools are invited to display their prehistoric creations at **Jackadder Lake Goes Jurassic, 10am – 4pm on Saturday 10th December 2005.**

Entries will be judged on the day with a focus on imagination, ingenuity, craft skills and effective use of **reused** materials.

Your **RECYCLOSAURUS** must be made mostly out of materials that have already had a life as something else, and that can be recycled after extinction. Get your class or group together and find a pre-loved resource that is free, abundant, recyclable and easily accessible

Invent a name for your recyclosaurus. Here are some to get your imaginations working:
Runhesawus – a smelly creature borne from old sneakers, sweat sox and gym gear
Tinselsaurus – a festive reptile constructed out of old Christmas decorations.

Write a scientific description including name, genus, distinguishing features, habitat, diet and owner details including the group representative name and contact phone number. (This information **MUST** be included in order to be a valid entry)

A representative **MUST** be present on the day at 2.45pm to introduce your **RECYCLOSAURUS** and possibly claim a



prize for your school.

For more information or to receive a pack please contact Bronwyn at Barking Gecko on 9388 02611 or bronwyn@barkinggecko.com.au

CHRISTMAS IDEAS

You will find enclosed with this edition of Waste Wise Words an excellent brochure from **WA Collaboration** full of ideas for a more sustainable Christmas.

Challis ECEC has been kind enough to share some great Christmas craft ideas with us. These include:

- Newspaper dolls
- Playdough in margarine and take-away containers
- Recycled paper and envelopes from old calendars
- Decorated glass jars
- Cards made of old cardboard file dividers
- Pin cushions made from spraycan lids with wadding and steel wool inside (so that the pins don't go rusty). Cover the wadding and glue a piece of lace around the top.

IS YOUR NEWSLETTER WASTE WISE?

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please let us know by sending an email to wastewise@environment.wa.gov.au

NEW LOOK WASTE WISE SCHOOLS VAN

Contact Us.

Waste Wise Schools

We have new office phone numbers.

Kelsie: 6364 6456
Vanessa: 6364 6467
James: 6364 6462

Department of
Environment reception:
6364 6500

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



The NEW *Waste Wise Schools Van* is a FREE service that provides interactive and educational incursions for "Participating" Waste Wise Schools around Western Australian. The van is also available for use at community events, fairs and festivals.

The WWS Van aims to educate the community on the benefits to the environment of:

- **waste minimisation**
- **composting**
- **worm farming**
- **3 Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle);** and
- **Shop Smart (shopping techniques to avoid and reduce waste at the point of purchase).**

The interactive presentations are tailored to all age groups and abilities with a focus on encouraging attitudinal and behavioural change towards waste.

In term four, the WWS Van has so far visited almost 30 different primary and secondary schools. Coordinator of the WWS Van, James Milne has conducted interactive presentations with the students, helped students set up composting and worm farms and had fun sorting out schools' rubbish as part of a **waste audit**.

James has also been a special guest at a number of assemblies where the outstanding work of the following schools has been recognised by becoming **Participating Waste Wise Schools**:

- Beelihar PS
- Belmay PS
- Campbell PS
- Challis ECEC
- Currumbine PS
- East Beechboro PS
- Lorretto Nedlands
- North Woodvale PS
- Parkerville PS
- Roleystone PS
- Rostrata PS

Schools eligible to receive a visit from the WWS Van must have had a staff representative attend both the full-day and half-day Waste Wise Schools PD workshops and completed the required activities.

To arrange a visit from the Waste Wise Schools Van, please contact James on 6364 6462 or james.milne@environment.wa.gov.au.

WasteNet Website Relaunched

The WasteNet Website has been rebuilt and relaunched and will continue to provide diverse and up-to-date information about waste and recycling issues in Australia.

The site provides comprehensive background information on waste problems and treatment, news and analysis on key waste issues for Local Governments in WA as well as details of events and a monthly newsletter.

Visit the site at www.wastenet.net.au



WE HAVE MOVED!!

Please send all mail to this new address

Waste Wise Schools Program
PO Box K822,
Perth WA 6842

We are now at :

The Atrium
Level 4,
168 St Georges Terrace
Perth

New phone numbers:

Kelsie: 6364 6456
Vanessa: 6364 6467
James: 6364 6462
Fax: 6364 6513

Email addresses are the same.