

# NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH EAST WASTE FORUM

November 2002



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## Waste Wise Christmas Tips

Christmas is traditionally a time when, as part of the celebrations, we let our guard down on the amount of waste we create. To help you through this high waste time, the NEWF has devised a list of things to do to keep waste to a minimum this Christmas season:

- ❖ Buy gifts from second hand stores/revolve centres
  - ❖ Buy wrapping made from recycled paper and that can be recycled
  - ❖ Wrap gifts in useful items like tea towels
  - ❖ Consider giving a worm farm or compost bin - it will reduce waste and be great for the garden
- Buy food and drink items in bulk - there'll be less packaging to dispose of at the end

- ❖ Buy goods that will last a long time - or consider giving a voucher to a movie, water slide, concert.....
- ❖ Before purchasing ask yourself 'Do I need to buy this? Will this be used?'
- ❖ Avoid buying disposable items - remember when it comes to cleaning up, many hands make light work!
- ❖ Consider giving a gift made from second hand materials - art works, toys...
- ❖ Make a donation to a charitable organisation instead of a gift
- ❖ When buying food, make a list and buy only what you need - you'll have less to dispose of after the feasting is over
- ❖ Don't forget to avoid, reuse, recycle

## NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE

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### **NEWF 3 year sponsorship complete**

The NEWF application for 3 year sponsorship from Resource NSW is now complete and has been sent in for approval. The NEWF has applied for \$1.65 million over 3 years. This is matched by the financial and in-kind contributions made by councils over the same period. Watch this space for further updates.

### **Lismore Wins Local Government Award for Education Campaign**

Lismore City Council's waste team are the happy recipients of the LGSA 'Excellence In The Environment' award (Waste Management Category), for the education campaign 'Do The Right Bin' (coinciding with the launch of the worm farm). Kieran Wade, Libby Kelly and Lesley Trott collected the award for winners of 'Division B' at an award ceremony in Sydney on Thursday 14 November 2002.

The icing on the cake was the announcement on the night that Lismore (jointly with Warringah Council) took out the overall waste management award for the state of NSW.

Well done!

### **National Recycling Week wrap-up**

As in previous years the NEWF promoted National Recycling Week on the North Coast. National Recycling Week is run annually by planet ark – a non government environment organisation – with support from industry, local government and the community.

This year the NEWF ran a 'recycle right' competition, with councils conducting random checks of recycling bins and drop off centres. Prizes were awarded to residents who were found to have been recycling correctly. Council staff selected three lucky residents from each council. In addition, the Byron Shire Echo, Byron News, Northern Rivers Echo and the Northern Star all supported the week with a one-two page 'expose' full of recycling tips, advertisements and advice on how to 'recycle right' and 'buy right'. Smaller publications ran similar news stories. Thanks to council staff who assisted in promoting National Recycling Week on the North Coast

### **Student Intern joins NEWF**

Samala Hogg, a third year Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Resource Management) student at Southern Cross University has joined the NEWF for the summer break to work on the development of the Reuse Directory. Samala will gain valuable work experience during her time with the NEWF, with the Internship counting towards the completion of her degree.

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