

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH EAST WASTE FORUM

December 2003



Newsletter Enquires To:

Bernadette Thomas

Co-ordinator

p: 6687 7066

e: newfeducation@hotmail.com.au

2003 IN REVIEW

2003 has been another productive year for the NEWF and member councils. Once again a wide variety of projects have been planned and implemented and the NEWF has achieved much through the collaborative approach to waste management. The highlights include:

NEWF Review:

- ❑ A review of the Structure, Strategy, Operations and Service Delivery of the NEWF, via a questionnaire and workshop.
- ❑ Heather Cook, former NEWF Co-ordinator leaves to take up a position in Antarctica.

Organics:

- ❑ RNSW funding for two Regional Organics Management Plans – one in the north and one in the Clarence
- ❑ Report on the organic waste management and processing across the region.

Education, Training and Promotion:

- ❑ Recycling Information and Smart Shopping Displays developed
- ❑ Landfill Open Days at Lismore, Richmond Valley, Maclean and Grafton landfills
- ❑ Reuse Directory developed and on the internet – with approximately 200 businesses across the region listed
- ❑ A-Z of Waste – first stage of the information sheets complete
- ❑ Newspaper advertisements for National Recycling Week
- ❑ Hazardous Waste Stores Training for waste operations staff
- ❑ Landfill and Transfer Station Operator Training
- ❑ Waste as Art Workshops held in Byron and Yamba
- ❑ Calico bags produced and distributed by councils
- ❑ Presentation to Sustainable Industries Expo – part of the Herb Festival in Lismore

NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE

PO Box 340

LENNOX HEAD NSW 2478

newfeducation@hotmail.com

www.northeastwasteforum.org.au

- Reports:
- ❑ Disposal Options for the four northern NEWF councils.
 - ❑ A study of Waste Costs and Charges and implications for NEWF councils.
- Collaborative Projects:
- ❑ Sharp Safe Program with Northern Rivers Area Health Service

- Hazardous Waste:
- ❑ Development of two regional hazardous waste stores – in Grafton and Lismore.
 - ❑ Household Hazardous Waste Collections in conjunction with Midwaste
 - ❑ Funding from RNSW to assist with the establishment of the hazardous waste stores
 - ❑ Presentation to WasteQ Conference in Coolangatta – Queensland WMAA Conference about the Hazardous Waste Stores project
- Networks:
- ❑ WMAA Waste Education Working Group
 - ❑ WMAA North Coast Branch
 - ❑ North Coast Environmental Education Network

- Highlights from NEWF Councils**
- Byron Shire Council** has adopted a new Integrated Waste Management Strategy and Plan and reopened the Myocum Landfill as part of a 3-year remediation and closure plan.
- Maclean Shire Council** has a new trommel at the Waste Transfer Station allowing more efficient sorting and bailing of paper and cardboard.
- Ballina Shire Council** have started an Integrated Waste Management Strategy, employed a new Services Manager (Gordon Fraser-Quick) and have called tenders for three new side lift garbage trucks.
- The **Clarence Valley Councils** have achieved a 40% reduction in waste to landfill since the start of the three bin collection system in July 2002.

- Need more information????**
Don't forget you can find out all the news from the NEWF through:
- ❑ The monthly newsletter
 - ❑ The website at www.northeastwasteforum.org.au
 - ❑ The reuse directory website at www.reusedirectory.com
- NEWF meetings are held bi-monthly, and hosted on a rotating roster by all NEWF councils.
- Merry Christmas!

NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE

PO Box 340
LENNOX HEAD NSW 2478
newfeducation@hotmail.com
www.northeastwasteforum.org.au