

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH EAST WASTE FORUM

April 2004



Newsletter Enquires To:

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Co-ordinator

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Construction & Demolition and Commercial & Industrial Data Collection Projects

Two data collection projects will soon begin across the NEWF region aimed at gathering baseline on the current status on these two waste types. Data will be collected about the types and quantities of C&D and C&I waste produced in the region, establish what types make up the

highest proportion of these waste streams and determine who is producing the waste. Both projects are part of two larger projects identified in the NEWF Regional Waste Plan and will be the first time significant work has been completed in this area by the NEWF. The area covered by the NEWF is one of the most rapidly growing regions in Australia, with increasing amounts of waste produced from construction and expanding business. A focus on C&D and C&I will potentially bring large gains by looking at ways of avoiding the generation of this waste or using the resource. Gathering this data will allow the NEWF to determine how best to focus its efforts in these areas.

Project Development 2004/2005

NEWF member councils have begun the process of submitting potential projects for the 2004/2005 financial year. In a change from previous years, a pro forma has been developed to ensure a more consistent submission and selection process is followed.

Councils have been asked to outline the details for each project submitted, including outcomes, diversion rates, timeframe, budget, evaluation, and how the project meets the NSW Waste Strategy outcomes and the Local Government Action Plan targets.

The NEWF Executive Committee will meet with the Manager - Regional Programs, from the Department of Environment and Conservation to discuss the projects before the final selection takes place at the April NEWF meeting at Maclean.

NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE

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Next NEWF Meetings

Friday April 30 2004
9.30am - 1.00pm
Clarence Valley Council
Maclean Office
River Street, Maclean

Friday June 11 2004
9.30am - 12.30pm
Byron Shire Council
Station Street, Mullumbimby

New Education Co-ordinator

Interviews for an Education Co-ordinator were held on March 22 by the Executive Committee. Linda Tohver will begin work on 17 of May 2004. She has recently been working for the DEC on the Ethnic Communities Sustainable Living Project. Linda will be working on a range of education and waste minimisation projects in co-operation with the NEWF Co-ordinator. Contact details for Linda will be sent out closer to the start date.
Welcome Linda!

Waste Avoidance Education Trailer

The NEWF is working with the Northern Inland Regional Waste to build a mobile Waste Avoidance Education Unit. The two groups are aiming to share costs of design and construction and expertise of education staff. The 'trailer' will be used to help deliver the waste education message to all parts of the NEWF region. The key message of the trailer will be waste avoidance and will include smart shopping, reusing waste materials, and closing the loop by buying recycled. Councils will use the trailer at community events, festivals, schools, markets and environment days.

Producing and Consuming Efficiently to Conserve our Resources

This paper has been prepared by the Sustainability Programs Division of the DEC, and paints a vision about what each of us would be doing in a world that more actively conserved resources and avoided waste. It helps us understand our current performance and the challenges we face and identifies possible actions and issues that we need to debate and prioritise. Download the document from www.resource.nsw.gov.au and send feedback to strategy@resource.nsw.gov.au

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