

NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE

PO Box 340 LENNOX HEAD NSW 2478

coordinator@northeastwasteforum.org.au

education@northeastwasteforum.org.au

www.northeastwasteforum.org.au

Newsletter Enquires To:

Linda Tohver
Education Co-ordinator
phone: 6685 3651 mob:
0427770198

December 2005/January 2006

NEWF News

Wishing all of our member Councils and stakeholders a Happy New Year. Thanks to your involvement, dedication and commitment the NEWF has achieved excellent outcomes over the last year. We look forward to further opportunities and challenges during 2006.

Events

January - February 2006

14th January

The Green House at the Brunswick Heads Fish n Chip Festival

1st February

Byron Youth Centre Staff Eco-Action Workshop

10th February

NEWF Meeting @ Clarence Valley Council

16th February

NEERG Meeting – venue to be confirmed

27th February

Regional Waste Groups Planning Workshop

1st March

Hazardous Waste Training Clarence Valley Council

The implementation of worm farm facilities at Byron Central Apartments was an activity outlined in their waste reduction action plan as part of the Business Waste Reduction Project



Business Waste Reduction Project

Individual waste reduction action plans formulated by the Project Coordinator and the selected businesses continue to be implemented through an action evaluation research process. For example, some plan timeframes such as Lismore Shopping Square and Grafton Correctional Centre have required adjustment to meet the delivery of new equipment and staff holidays, whilst other actions have been completed faster than expected such as Acmena Juvenile Justice Centre's new portion control measures in order to curb food waste.

Learnings from the former waste practices of each business and their planned waste reduction action plans are also beginning to be transferred to similar businesses in the NEWF region. For example, supporting and collaborating with the Maranoa Retirement Villages of Lismore and Alstonville with similar action plans based on Alstonville Adventist Retirement Village; options and ideas based on Casino RSM Club's audit results and waste reduction action plan have been discussed with Ballina RSL Club.

Due to the successes achieved by the participating businesses, the Business Waste Reduction Project contract will be renewed and extended into its second stage until June 2007. Thank you to the NEWF's supportive member councils and the enthusiastic waste reducing businesses alike.

NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE
 PO Box 340 LENNOX HEAD NSW 2478
coordinator@northeastwasteforum.org.au
education@northeastwasteforum.org.au
www.northeastwasteforum.org.au

Newsletter Enquires To:

Linda Tohver
 Education Co-ordinator
 phone: 6685 3651 mob:
 0427770198

December 2005/January 2006

Waste Management Projects Update

1. **Regional Organics Management Plan** – Over 600 Industry Fact Sheets have been distributed to all businesses and organisations that participated in the survey to collect information for the Organic Waste and Resource Inventory. The 12 Fact Sheets are available on the 'Organic Waste' section of the NEWF website.
2. **Hazardous Waste Stores** – A one day Training Session will be held on Wednesday the 1st of March in Grafton for all Council staff involved in the handling of hazardous waste.
3. **Waste Costs and Charges Workshop** - A workshop was held at the Regional Finance Managers meeting in December outlining the process for moving towards full cost accounting for waste management services co-ordinated by councils.

Waste Education Update

1. **Eco-friendly Youth Project** – The NEWF recently received the Environment Award at the Byron Youth Service AGM, in recognition of the involvement of the NEWF in bringing about environmental changes within the Centre. The NEWF are also coordinating a Centre Staff Eco-Action Day to involve all staff in the implementation of the Environmental Action Plans.
2. **The Department of Environment and Conservation's Planning for best practice Education Projects Workshop on Evaluation and Social Research** – the DEC facilitated an education workshop in late November 2005, organised by the NEWF, on using evaluation and social research in planning and design of programs. Sixteen people attended the workshop, including educators from member Councils. Evaluation indicated that after the workshop, participants had a good understanding of how to find and use research to assist in their program planning; and had a good understanding of program planning and evaluation using program logic and the outcomes hierarchy. Participants also responded that they would be utilising the information gained from the workshop.

What's in store for 2006?

The NEWF is working through milestones and projects outlined in the Regional Waste Plan for 2005/2006. Some of the projects targeted for the remainder of the year include:

- Second Hand Saturday co-ordinated for a second year;
- Research and prepare Regional Contracts for concrete crushing and metal waste;
- Landfill and Transfer Station Open Days held in Casino and Byron Bay
- Regional Organics Management Plan Stage 2;
- Reuse Directory to include C&I businesses;
- Hazardous Waste and Landfill Operator Training;
- Business Waste Reduction Project moves into stage 2;
- Regional Education Plan launched;
- Electronic Goods and C&D Recycling Facilities projects get under way;
- The Green House continues to travel around the region;
- Eco-friendly Youth Project moves into stage 2;

Planning for Best Practice Education Projects using the Research and Evaluation Workshop in November



Next NEWF meetings:

9.30am, Friday 10th February
 Clarence Valley Council

9.30am, Friday 7th April
 Richmond Valley Council