

NEW WAYS WITH LESS WASTE

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Newsletter Enquires To:

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November/December 2004

PLEASE NOTE:

THE NEWF OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FROM THURSDAY 23rd DECEMBER TO JANUARY 10th 2005. FOR ANY URGENT ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT BERNADETTE: 0427150422 LINDA: 0427770198

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY HOLIDAY, A WASTE-LESS XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Events

December - February

10 December 2004

NEWF Meeting, Ballina Shire Council

Launch of The Green House Mobile Waste Education Unit, St Francis Xaviers College, Ballina

12 December

The Green House – Channon Markets

14 December

Environmental Educators Reference Group Meeting, Ballina

21 December 2004 – 10 January 2005

NEWF Office Closed

3rd February 2005

10am – 12 noon
 Environmental Education Reference Group, Lismore City Council

24 and 25 February 2005

Regional Waste Groups Meeting, to be hosted by NEWF in the Byron Shire

Launch of



More than 40 Year 6 students, Councillors, local and state government management and staff, local and regional media attended the launch of the new NEWF mobile waste education resource – The Green House - held at St Francis Xaviers College, Ballina on the 10th December. Cr John Felsch, Chairperson of NEWF officially launched this innovative resource, and the Waste Expert performers, PETe and Second-hand Rose, provided an engaging insight into their home of waste avoidance for the students and adults alike. The Green House is travelling across the NEWF region for the next 12 months showcasing ways of living with less waste through practising simple measures – smart-shopping, reuse and repair, composting and recycling at schools, markets and events. The trailer has a combination of interactive and static components to engage with a wide cross section of the community including games, quizzes, DVD, performers and information brochures. For further information on where to see the Green House next, contact the Education Coordinator on Ph. 6685 3651.

The Waste Expert "PET" with students from St Francis Xaviers College





North East Waste Forum

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Waste Management Projects Update

- Household Hazardous Waste Collections have been scheduled for early 2005 starting in Tweed on February 26 and finishing at Evans Head on April 10. Details will appear on the NEWF website and advertising will appear in local papers and radio stations in the New Year.
- Regional Waste Audits will occur across the region in all council areas during February, March and April, for domestic services only. Councils will have detailed information about waste generation rates and recycling and organics contamination. The information will be used to assist in the update of the Regional Waste Plan and for councils waste management & education planning.

Waste Education Projects Update

- Waste and Environmental Education Reference Group: The group has expanded to be inclusive of other environmental educators working in the NEWF region. This will assist in collaboration, cooperation in local and regional environmental projects where possible. It will also provide a forum for best practice environmental education case studies to be showcased, and combined expertise in planning and developing education projects and grant applications.
- The A-Z fact sheets almost complete: The final S – Z fact sheets are in the process of being completed. All fact sheets will be available for download on the NEWF website early in 2005. These are a good resource for high school and university students, as well as to the general community.

Hazardous Waste Projects

The councils of the NEWF have a comprehensive Hazardous Waste program, aimed at reducing the amount and type of hazardous materials in the community and disposing of (or recycling and reusing) them in a way that does not harm human health or the environment.

The NEWF is again co-ordinating **household hazardous waste collections** across the region in 2005.

Residents will be able to dispose of their hazardous chemicals at the temporary collection depots in each council area. Councils will accept paints & paint related products, pesticides, herbicides & poisons, solvents & household cleaners, pool chemicals, acids & alkalis and hobby chemicals.

Proposed dates for 2005 are Tweed – 26 February, Ballina – 5 March, Byron – 12 & 13 March, Lismore – 2 April, Casino – 9 April & Evans Head 10 April.

The **Hazardous Waste Stores** at Grafton and Lismore landfills accept household quantities of these chemicals on a regular basis. Bookings are essential to assist with chemical identification and safe handling. Call Grafton Regional Landfill on 6643 3846 or Lismore Waste Management Facility on 6622 8134.

Empty chemical drums can be returned as part of the federally funded **drumMUSTER** program, supported by councils across the region. More information can be obtained from the website at www.drummuster.com.au. In 2005 the NEWF will work with **Chemclear** to promote the collection of unused and registered farming chemicals for proper disposal. More information can be obtained from the website at www.chemclear.com.au.

All hazardous waste projects are currently free of charge.

For more information on any of these projects please contact Bernadette on 6687 7066.

2005 NEWF Meeting Dates

Friday 11 February Clarence Valley Council
Friday 8 April venue to be advised
Friday 10 June Byron Shire Council
Friday 12 August Lismore City Council
Friday 14 October Richmond Valley Council
Friday 9 December Ballina Shire Council