

MILESTONES

MORUYA RECYCLING CENTRE TAKES 20,000TH TONNE

WSN recently received its 20,000th tonne of recyclables, including bottles, cans and plastic containers, at its Moruya Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in southern NSW. We took the occasion to congratulate local residents on their good recycling habits via public radio broadcast.

The Moruya MRF started operating in December 2005 along with a new kerbside recycling service in the Eurobodalla Shire and Bega Valley Shire local government areas. Since then, recycling rates have almost tripled as a result.

WSN has also been able to on-sell almost 100 per cent of the plastic, metal and paper that is processed at the MRF to manufacturers, reducing reliance on raw materials.

GLASS RECYCLING PLANT HITS 5,000 TONNES

Along with our joint venture partner, Australian Glass Technologies, we have reached our first major glass fines processing milestone, with our Chullora glass recycling plant processing its 5,000th tonne of glass fragments.

The plant is fed with broken glass that's been separated from plastic, metal and paper in council collections, and turns the material into high quality, market-ready glass granules.

This milestone represents a great result both for the environment and for the manufacturing sectors that can utilise the finished products.

The facility was commissioned in January 2008 to solve the problem of recycling glass fragments – and to process a stockpile of 120,000 tonnes of glass fragments measuring less than 25 millimetres. With tonnages increasing further, plans are in place to install a second processing line in December this year.

BUMPER CROP FOR 2007-2008

Over the 2007-2008 financial year, WSN took in a record amount of garden organics, due in part to the higher than usual rainfall and warm weather over spring and summer.

The 31% increase on the previous year's take was a great result for the environment, with the record haul leading to an increase in the production of high quality compost and soil conditioning products, reducing demand for scarce virgin soils.

"Recycled organic products made from domestic garden organics provide a great alternative for a number of market sectors, including landscaping, home gardening, horticulture and agriculture," CEO Mr Ken Kanofski said.

"Properly blended and composted recycled organic products can provide a natural alternative to using virgin soils, which are increasingly in short supply in the Sydney basin. Further, these properly balanced blends provide a healthier environment to promote plant growth with a reduced reliance on artificial fertilisers."

opening hours etc – Customer service information line: 1300 651 116 (7.00am–5.30pm, Monday to Friday)

- Contact a member of staff directly – 02 9934 7000
- Send us a fax – 02 9934 7185
- Send us a letter – PO Box 3260 Rhodes NSW 2138
- Feedback forms are available at the weighbridge of each Waste and Recycling Centre and on our website.

HOW TO CONTACT US

We value your input. There is a range of ways that you can find out more about us and our operations, or make a comment or suggestion.

- For a wide range of information about our operations and services please visit our website: www.wsn.com.au
- Report an odour – Free-call 24-hour odour complaints hotline: 1800 062 086
- Obtain information about waste disposal services, Waste and Recycling Centre

VICTORIAN SHOWCASE FOR WSN'S AWT



WSN's stand at the MAV 2008 Conference. Photo © MAV.

OUR TENDER SUCCESS

In recent weeks, WSN has been awarded several new tenders:

- ▶ Bankstown, Holroyd and Parramatta Councils selected WSN to provide AWT processing
- ▶ GREENSTEP™ will provide waste management services to the Cockle Bay Wharf premises – including the Darling Park office towers
- ▶ Sutherland Council selected WSN for their garden organics processing
- ▶ Waverley Council also selected WSN for their garden organics processing



DID YOU KNOW?

When we use compost, we reduce the land's need for water by an average of 30%.



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REDISTRIBUTE REGENERATE RESPONSE REPLACE REVIEW REMEMBER REUSE RECYCLE RECOVER RESEARCH REACT REPLY RETHINK REPRODUCE RETURN REDEVELOP REVISE RESERVE RESPECT RESOLUTION RECLAIM REFORM RETRIEVE REPRESENT REDUCE



ISSUE 12 NOVEMBER 2008 ■ A REGULAR UPDATE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WSN

WELCOME TO 'RESOURCE'

Welcome to the latest issue of Resource, our customer newsletter. We hope that Resource keeps you well informed about the services and facilities available to you and highlights sustainable initiatives.

Would you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically? Would you or any of your colleagues like to be added to the mailing list? If so, please contact Marketing and Communications Officer, Kate Concannon, on 9934 7019 or email kate.concannon@wsn.com.au.

2008 GRASS ROOTS PROJECTS SELECTED



17 outstanding projects selected for the 2008 Grass Roots Sponsorship Program.

WHAT'S INSIDE...

GROSS VERSUS NET: THE BIG, GREEN DIFFERENCE...

TOP SOIL FOR WSN WSN ACQUIRES CAMDEN SOIL MIX...

2008 GRASS ROOTS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM 17 NEW PROJECTS AWARDED...

14,000 MATTRESSES RECYCLED WSN AND DREAMSAFE GIVE NEW LIFE TO OLD MATTRESSES...

Our 2008 Grass Roots Program team have been busily reading through no less than 53 funding applications received through the sponsorship submission period. From these, they have identified 17 outstanding projects that are to be awarded, with funds granted ranging from \$500 to \$15,000.

Winners were selected from as far north as Gosford, and as far south as Broulee in the Eurobodalla Shire, with their projects to create immediate benefits for local communities as well as communities as distant as Kenya.

Some of the winning projects include: a "Green Media Project", encouraging local youth in the Canterbury area to produce short films and video clips on environmental themes; art and sculpture workshops at a primary school, and the creation of sculptures from reused waste materials; and a project which takes end-of-life keyboards, which would otherwise be destined for landfill, and employs people with disabilities to turn them into a learning resource for street kids in Kenya.

Winners for this year's program, along with their councils, have been notified of their success and their projects will be featured in an illustrated booklet to be published next year.

CEO'S MESSAGE



Ken Kanofski, CEO

We've certainly been busy with a broad range of initiatives at WSN...

There's the commissioning phase of the Ecolibrium Mixed Waste facility at Macarthur Resource Recovery Park that is looking very positive and on-track.

So positive in fact that we intend to build a second Mixed Waste Facility at Lucas Heights. This will enable us to provide the best greenhouse gas outcomes for processing our most recent and significant tender win with Bankstown and Parramatta City Councils, while Holroyd Council's household waste will be processed at the UR-3R AWT at Eastern Creek.

We have also been pro-active in stating our case for the Federal Government's proposed Emissions Trading Scheme. We were the only waste company to recommend that landfill gas emissions from waste landfilled (after the scheme commences) be included in the scheme. This is only right considering that landfill greenhouse gas emissions constitute the major component waste's total emissions. However, we are also arguing that legacy waste emissions should not be included in the Scheme.

Introduced in February 2008, the new mattress recovery program has proved a great success. With over 14,000 mattresses being recycled through Dreamsafe, this new program reinforces that the community wants to do the right thing – it just needs an affordable solution.

Finally we have awarded another 17 grants through our Grass Roots Sponsorship program. This program I am proud to say has enabled over 88 local sustainable programs to be delivered. Thanks to those Councils that helped encourage 53 submissions from the community.


Ken Kanofski
Chief Executive Officer

GIVING NEW LIFE TO OLD MATTRESSES

Since February, WSN has recycled 14,000 unwanted mattresses through its facilities in partnership with Dreamsafe Recycling.

Dreamsafe staff take the mattresses for re-conditioning where possible and, where this is not an option, they strip out and recover the valuable recyclable resources they contain, such as timber, foam and metal.

Mattresses that are in good condition are cleaned and sanitized, then either sent to charities, including The Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul, or sold to hostels and motels.

The wood recovered from unwanted or damaged mattresses goes to WSN's Chullora Recycling Centre for composting and biofuel production, while the coil springs are melted down and on-sold to manufacturers for a variety of uses. The foam is recycled to make carpet underlay.

This milestone marks a great achievement for WSN and Dreamsafe – and one from which the community benefits in various ways. In addition to the economic and environmental benefits of recycling 14,000 of these unwanted mattresses, WSN has saved thousands of cubic metres of airspace in landfill, where they would otherwise have ended up.

TOP SOIL FOR WSN



WSN recently acquired Camden Soil Mix, which produces a range of organic soils and composts as well as provides services for land and greenspace maintenance. The

business is located close by Macarthur Resource Recovery Park and has a strong reputation for quality and reliability, due in no small part to the widely recognised safety of its products and the exclusion of biosolids from their mixes.

Camden Soil Mix's top soils in particular are created with human health in mind, so they can be used with confidence in human-contact applications. This is especially important on sportsfields, where players may have scratches or grazes.

In addition to a comprehensive range of soil and compost products, Camden Soil Mix provides useful services for councils, such as spreading, aerating, shredding and grinding and sportsfield rehabilitation.

SUSTAINABLE SPRINGTIME IN MACARTHUR

Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living held its fourth annual Spring Open Day in September, attracting many visitors eager to learn more about sustainable living practices, protecting the local environment and achieving a healthy, balanced lifestyle and general wellbeing.

WSN supported the event and was onsite to provide guests with information about how waste fits into the sustainability picture and what practical steps they can take to make a difference. We also took the opportunity to develop the local community's understanding of what happens at the Macarthur Resource Recovery Park, where the combination of facilities will boost their recycling rates to an impressive 85%.

GROSS VERSUS NET: THE BIG, GREEN DIFFERENCE

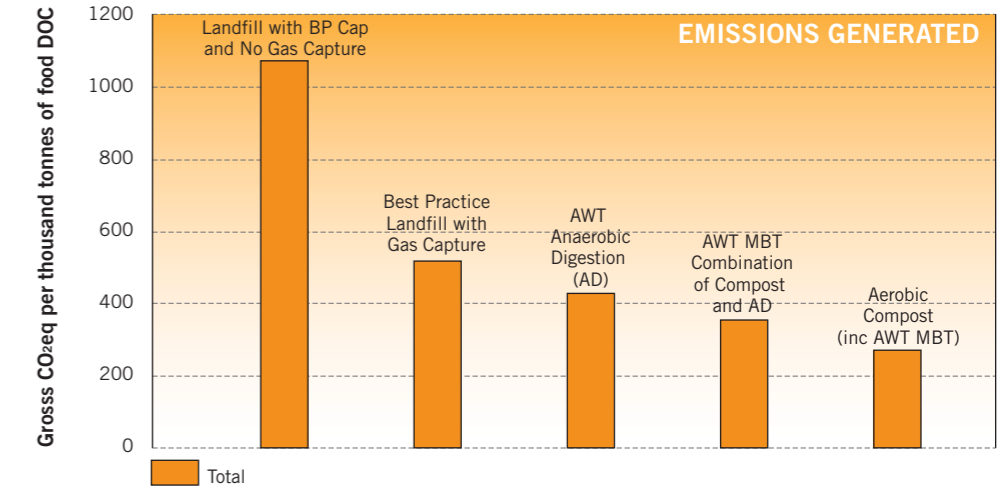
There are a number of simplified graphs of 'gross' carbon emissions around that compare the performance of various waste management options – from landfilling, to aerobic MBT (rotating drum), and anaerobic digestion combined with composting. These graphs can be confusing because, by presenting only the gross carbon emissions produced by each, they don't demonstrate the net carbon emission impact of the systems represented. This means they don't provide all the relevant data needed to assess and compare system performance overall.

A case in point is the performance of anaerobic digestion combined with tunnel composting, which is the Ecolibrium™ technology solution applied in WSN's new AWT facility at Macarthur Resource Recovery Park. A graph of gross emissions from food DOC (degradable organic carbon) shows that this system produces significantly more CO₂e than aerobic composting. While this might suggest that the latter is therefore the 'greener' system, gross emission production is only half the picture. This is because a system such as anaerobic digestion creates an offset by generating electricity from waste and has a positive net emissions position. Simply put, it creates more emissions savings than it creates emissions.

So the bigger picture afforded by a net calculation reveals the whole environmental performance of waste systems, and shows us that our combined anaerobic digestion and tunnel composting solution is leading the field.

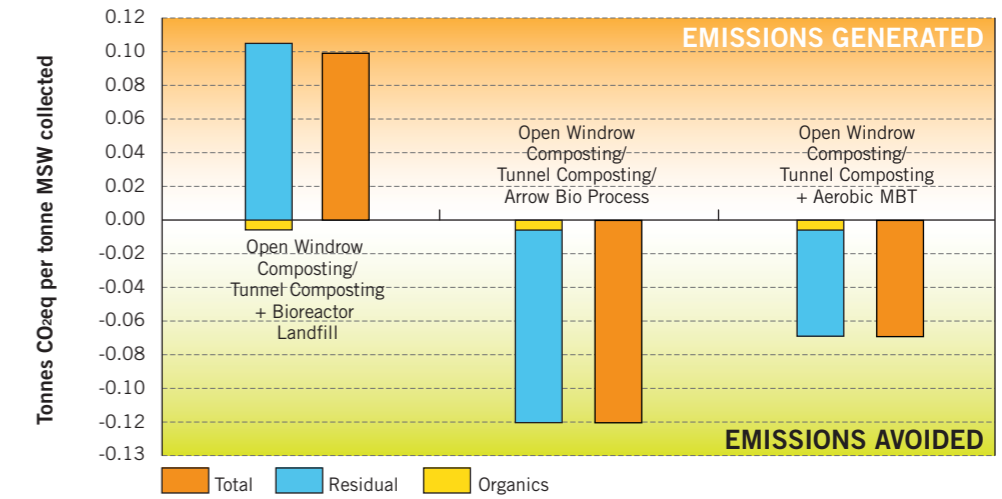
GROSS CO₂E GRAPH

The gross graph figures are only half the equation.



NET CO₂E GRAPH

The net graph shows the overall picture correctly.



WSN PROMOTES GREENWASH WASHOUT

In August WSN sponsored the Total Environment Centre (TEC) Green Capital Breakfast, where an important discussion paper and guidelines for avoiding 'greenwash' were released. The greenwash topic generated timely discussion, with the temptation to appeal to consumers through green claims proving too much for a number of organisations whose unfounded statements have attracted the attention of the ACCC.

WSN was actively involved in providing feedback for developing the paper and guidelines, which set out to increase awareness of the dangers of unsubstantiated 'green' marketing claims and to provide direction as to how to ensure credibility of legitimate claims through better validation.

Importantly, the guidelines have also been drawn up to ensure that consumers are offered clear, honest, trustworthy information for the choices they make.



DID YOU KNOW?

Each Australian uses about 6kg of steel cans each year, and about 3.5kg per person ends up in landfill.