

Mission Statement: "To encourage and motivate all sectors of New Zealand society to work towards a target of zero waste."

Inside this issue:

Working Group Submissions	1
Green Globe in Kaikoura	1
Zero Waste by Design	1
Timaru Profile	2
Zero Waste Schools	3
Green Bikes Trust	3

Zero Waste Website

www.zerowaste.co.nz

* **New Employment page** – listing vacant positions in the waste minimisation sector (Latest News and Events/ Employment)

* **Selection of Submissions** to Waste Working group (National Campaign/National Strategy)

* **Zero Waste Activity Kit** (Resources & Links/ Zero Waste Resources)

Working Group Submissions

A total of 252 submissions on the National Waste Minimisation Strategy were received by the Waste Minimisation and Management Working Group. A summary of these will be available on the Ministry for the Environment website within the next month. A list of submissions calling for a vision of zero waste is now available on the Zero Waste website. (National Campaign/National Strategy)

Green Globe in Kaikoura

Kaikoura District Council will be the first community in New Zealand to be included in the Green Globe Asia Pacific's pilot project and to go through the certification process. Green Globe 21 is the global affiliation, benchmarking and certification programme for sustainable travel and tourism, based on Agenda 21 principles. Green Globe 21 works with travel and tourism companies and communities to achieve and maintain good environmental and social practice.

The draft indicators to be benchmarked and used for community certification are:

a sustainable policy, energy consumption, potable water management, solid waste reduction, environmental investment, resource conservation, bio diversity, water quality, soil quality.

The potential benefits to the Kaikoura community of both going through the

certification process and obtaining certification are huge. "Green Globe communities will be part of a world wide programme which actively advertises the positive actions being taken collectively by Green Globe communities to protect the worlds environment" Contact Kirsty Quickfall, 03 319 5026 or kirsty.quickfall@kaikoura.govt.nz

Zero Waste by Design Seminar Series

The Auckland Environmental Business Network (AEBN), sponsored by Zero Waste NZ Trust, is bringing John Gertsakis, an Australian expert in Design for the Environment (DfE), to New Zealand, to share his practical experiences with progressive manufacturers, retailers, managers, designers, and architects.

'Zero Waste by Design' seminars and workshops will be held in Christchurch on the 30th April 2001 and Auckland on the 1st May 2001. This is the first step to developing a national programme to actively encourage the development of New Zealand made products and services designed for the environment.

John works at the Centre for Design at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Australia. He is responsible for managing a range of projects and consultancies related to DfE and Product Stewardship including EcoReDesign™, the EcoSpecifier materials database and a new strategic research collaboration on Product Life Cycle Management with Fuji Xerox Australia. For further information or to register, contact Paul Honeybone in Christchurch on 03 377 8566 or paul@sustcities.org.nz or Rachel Brown in Auckland on 09 817 2622 or office@aebn.pl.net



Kaikoura District Council's new public recycling bins, set up in the main tourist areas.

Zero Waste Council Profile: Timaru

Strategic Service Delivery

Timaru District Council's first step towards Zero Waste is to consider who will have strategic control of the waste stream, i.e.: whether to go for privatisation, joint ventures, contracts, a trading entity, a trust or a combination of these. Two factors Council is considering in making this decision are:

1. the ability and control to achieve Zero Waste to Landfill; and
2. the ownership of materials to maximise economic success.

It is envisaged that the type of service delivery structure will be confirmed by the end of 2001, in conjunction with the Council's Solid Waste Management Plan. The priority and detail of initiatives will then be determined by the relevant management structure.

Office Zero Waste To Landfill Plan

Timaru District Council have recently decided to commit to Zero Waste to Landfill from their head office in Timaru. The Council's waste minimisation co-ordinator, Briony Woodnorth has had the great pleasure of removing 158 rubbish bins from staff's desks and replacing them with an office recycling system.

Under the Zero Waste to Landfill Plan, 92% of the Council's waste stream will be diverted for re-use, recycling and composting.

The Zero Waste Plan will see 6 tonnes of material retrieved each year, and will save the Council an estimated \$3,800 annually in disposal costs.

Support from the Timaru District Council staff has been tremendous considering that a complete change in thinking and habit was required. In time the programme will be implemented at other Council locations in the Timaru District.

Waste Exchange

The long awaited Timaru District Waste Exchange is now being promoted to local businesses and industries. To date, 84 businesses have been paid a personal visit by the Waste Exchange Co-ordinator, Blue Forsyth to distribute information and explain how the exchange will operate.

While promotion of the exchange has been kept deliberately low-key at this stage, initial feedback from the business community has been very positive and encouraging. In fact many businesses have already implemented in-house systems to reuse and recycle products such as cardboard and packaging. Increased publicity, planned to surround the publication of the first listings in the middle of the year, is expected to bring the exchange to the attention of the wider community and result in a corresponding increase in activity.

"A goal of Zero Waste is an opportunity for New Zealand to lead the world and take advantage of market development. Zero Waste is future thinking, being a step ahead of the market. To settle for any less of a goal is being short sighted and not thinking strategically for New Zealand's future." Brian Gallagher, Solid Waste Manager, Timaru District Council.

Resource Recovery Centres

The confirmation of the service delivery structure by the end of this year will enable the development of an improved service for reuse and recycling. To date only the basic drop-off facilities have been provided until the future service structure is finalised. A budget of \$284,000 has been allowed for the next 2 years (01/02, 02/03) to create the necessary infrastructure. This will allow for expanded

reuse, recycle drop-off facilities as well as retail areas.

To conclude, Timaru hasn't hit the Zero Waste freeway as yet. Development of their arterial links and confirmation of their means of travel are their present priorities... However they have started the journey!

For further information contact: Brian Gallagher, Solid Waste Manager, phone: 03 684 8199 or briang@timdc.govt.nz



Three excellent waste minimisation promotional brochures put out by Whakatane and Timaru District Councils and Palmerston North City Council.

Situation Vacant

Waste Not Ltd in Auckland currently has a graduate level position available, as a Resource Consultant.

The person will be responsible for undertaking and assisting with waste and Cleaner Production projects. There is excellent scope for the Resource Consultant to develop opportunities in the areas of their own interest or expertise. For a full job description, contact Duncan Wilson on 09 486 3635 or wastenot@xtra.co.nz

Zero Waste Schools

Maraetai School Teaches the Community

By Bronwen Bartley

Maraetai Beach, on Auckland's east coast, is a small place achieving big things. The children of Maraetai Beach Primary School have become enthusiastic ambassadors for waste reduction and environmental protection practices.

The small rural school of some 220 pupils has taken on challenges of working to protect the environment. Principal Bruce Robinson says "we are very lucky to have staff who are dedicated to teaching our children the principles and practices of good environmental management. We can see the results of their efforts in the huge response not only from our pupils but also their families. It's something for us all to be proud of".

Dulcie Bignall, Head of the Senior School, devised a leading edge project on waste management with her Form 2 pupils. The class was divided into project teams to work on recycling of different materials. Some of the children produced a questionnaire circulated to all homes in Maraetai asking about their waste management habits. The results were used by the Beachlands Resource Centre to assist with their work.

Other groups looked at recycling plastics, metals and paper. The recycling project involved the whole school. Organic scraps were processed in a worm farm to produce compost for a vegetable garden planted and tended by the children.

All areas of the curriculum from maths and science to communication skills were

incorporated in the innovative and exciting project. Towards the end of 2000 the Form 2 groups made a very professional presentation on their work to the whole school. Parents were extremely impressed by the way the children had worked so enthusiastically and with such dedication towards something they clearly believed in.

Mrs Bignall says "We believe that these children will take the things they have learned about protecting the environment out into the wider community. Our aim is to give them knowledge and skills and a sense of shared responsibility for the world we live in."

For further information about the program used at Maraetai Beach School contact Mrs D. Bignall on 09 536 6570 or e-mail maraetai@ihug.co.nz.

Zero Waste Certificate for Schools

Zero Waste New Zealand Trust has recently commissioned the development of a Zero Waste Certificate for Schools.

The certificate is being developed by the Environmental Education for Resource Sustainability Trust (EERST) and will be posted on the Zero Waste website for schools to use in May.

The certificate will outline the criteria that a school will need to meet in order to qualify as a Zero Waste school. On completion of the criteria, the school will be awarded a Zero Waste Certificate and invited to place a profile of their achievements on the Zero Waste website. For more information please contact Sunshine on 09 486 0738 or sunshine@zerowaste.co.nz

Greenbikes Trust

The Palmerston North Greenbike Trust has set up a bicycle recycling venture, that recycles second hand bikes and put them at the disposal of the general public. A pool of Green Bikes is available in the Central City and at Massey University and people can simply borrow the bikes and leave them at their destination for someone else to use.

In an effort to raise capital to further their work, the Green Bikes Trust recently set about developing a product for sale. One of the Trustees, Bryce Clifford, an inventor, came up with the idea of creating a bicycle stand out of second hand bicycles. The prototype was created and sent up to the Zero Waste Conference in Kaitaia, where it was displayed. During the conference, a major US recycler, Dan Knapp of Urban Ore, impressed with the idea and design, decided to place a large order, so as to on use them in his Berkeley, California, Resource Recovery Park.

So far the whole project has been a win win situation, enabling the Trust to dispose of an awkward product (old bike frames) and diminish the waste stream while raising funds through the sale of a useful product.

Other initiatives of the Trust recently included the exporting of about 300 Green Bikes to Timor as an aid project. In Timor the average villager calculates their travel time to the next village in days or weeks and to own a bike is to own a Mercedes Benz!

Congratulations, Greenbikes Trust, for these commendable projects. For more information go to www.greenbikes.org.nz or contact Bryce Clifford (Inventor) Clifford@pncc.govt.nz

Resources

Zero Waste Activity Kit

Eco-Cycle and GrassRoots Recycling Network have released a free Zero Waste Activity Kit. The kit includes everything you need to plan a Zero Waste community event and make it a success. Best of all, the kit is free on GRRN's website. The kit is available at www.grrn.org/zerowaste/kit/event/zw_kit.html

Ecological Engineering

In November 2001 an International Conference on Ecological Engineering will be held at Lincoln University. Four primary themes have been selected for this conference:

1. Ecological engineering for services
2. Economics and markets for landscape services and products
3. Decision making and implementation strategies to achieve integrated development
4. Education and training for ecological engineering

For further information, go to <http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/pgd/jees/>

International Conference on Zero Waste Management in the 21st Century, London

On the 12th of May, International Zero Waste experts will gather in London to speak on incineration; its cost; impact on human health and the environment; the benefits of recycling; composting; jobs creation; saving/recovering natural resources; the regulatory bodies; environmental law/human rights.

Zero Waste New Zealand Trust

PO Box 33 1695, Takapuna, Auckland, phone: 09 486 0734, email: mailbox@zerowaste.co.nz

International News

Closure of largest landfill

The worlds largest landfill, and in fact the worlds largest man made construction, the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island, New York, has been closed, 9 months ahead of time. The landfill covers 2,000-acre (810 hectare) and its four garbage mounds tower some 27 metres to 69 metres above sea level. <http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm?newsid=10254>

Ottawa's Take it Back! Program

Ottawa-Carleton's "Take it Back!" program, now in its fourth year, is a unique, award-winning initiative that encourages residents to return waste products to local participating retailers. The Take it Back! program includes more than 60 household products and hazardous materials such as automotive and electronics products, medication and used needles that should not be deposited in garbage or recycling boxes.

More than 300 retailers have signed a one-year contract to take back a range of waste products for reuse, recycling, or proper disposal. This public-private partnership provides cost effective services to residents, offers convenient disposal options they might not otherwise have, and gives exclusive competitive advantages to the retailers such as increasing consumer traffic to their stores.

Check out Ottawa's Take it Back! Web Page, http://city.ottawa.on.ca/gc/takeitback/index_en.shtml (Story from **Target Zero Canada Web site**)

<http://www.targetzerocanada.org/Pages/ZeroHeroes/ZHeroCan/ZHeroCAN.html>

General Motors Offers End-of-Life Vehicle Manuals

DETROIT, March 29 /PRNewswire
In a first among U.S. automakers, General Motors announced it is making its vehicle recycling information easily accessible by posting the manuals to its web site. GM's End-of-Life Vehicle (ELV) manuals are available at www.gmability.com, the company's corporate stewardship site.

"ELV manuals provide automotive dismantlers with information on which parts of a vehicle can be recycled," said Terry Cullum, Director of GM Global Design for Environment. "Currently, 75 percent of a car is recyclable because the majority of it is metal. But few plastics on vehicles are recycled due to lack of information out there for the dismantlers. With ELV manuals now easily accessible, there's potential to significantly increase the percentage of the vehicle that is recycled."

Japan tests its mettle with recycling plan

New legislation to take effect in Japan in April, will require electronics makers to recycle old appliances, rather than crushing or burying them as waste.

Some of the additional costs that recycling will require will be absorbed by industry as a trade-off for improving their efficiency in using recycled materials and portraying themselves as socially responsible businesses. The rest of the cost will be passed on to consumers.

The law applies to washing machines, televisions, air conditioners and refrigerators.

<http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm?newsid=10118&newsdate=16-Mar-2001>