



# Zero Waste Update

Please pass on

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

October 2003, Issue 35

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

### Inside this bumper issue

**Page 1....** Zero Waste NZ Trust

**Page 2....** Community News

**Page 3....** Zero Waste Network News

**Page 4....** Zero Waste Resources, Events and International News

**Page 5 ....** Life With Waste

**Page 6 ....** Notices

### Zero Waste NZ Trust

#### An Update from Jo Knight, Manager.

The Life With Waste Hui in Raglan several weeks ago reinforced the fact that there are a lot of community groups working throughout New Zealand to implement the vision of Zero Waste. We have 135 community projects registered with the Zero Waste Trust.

It also highlighted to us that a lot of groups weren't clear about what the Zero Waste Trust could do for them so we have decided to set some of the main activities out for you here.

**Contact** the Zero Waste Trust office by email ([mailbox@zerowaste.co.nz](mailto:mailbox@zerowaste.co.nz)) or phone (09 486 0734) to find out more about the following services:

A Zero Waste **Advisor programme** has been going for a couple of years. Go to our website ([www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,37.sm](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,37.sm)) to see the list.

We recently surveyed 10 groups who had used this service. A variety of feedback was recorded. Seven of the organisations were 'very satisfied' with the assistance they received, while three were 'somewhat satisfied'. The type of assistance received depended on the project and the skills and experience of the advisor. Assistance varied from moral support and inspiration through to the development of resource recovery park plans and regional waste minimisation plans.

We also administer a **grants programme**, mostly funded at the moment by the Ministry for the Environment's Sustainable Management Fund, particularly applicable to community groups. Currently we have no funds for capital costs but we are trying to remedy this and access more funds from different sectors (so sell those Green Bags and recycle those mobile phones!). Take a look at the website for funding conditions and application forms ([www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,36.sm](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,36.sm)).

We have an established **Communications department** with Lucy White at the helm,

providing regular contact through newsletters, the website and email bulletins. (Please send your stories to [lucy@zerowaste.co.nz](mailto:lucy@zerowaste.co.nz)) We also have a **comprehensive library of resources** available for use as well as a desk and a computer in our Takapuna office if you are coming through Auckland.

Other activities we are putting time and resources into include **visiting councils**, particularly those that are heading for Zero Waste.

For instance, we are planning to run a bus tour for Councillors in the South Island (funds permitting) so they can see some of the varied and successful waste minimisation projects. (If you are interested in jumping on the bus then please let us know.)

Wouldn't it be great if all the South Island Councils adopted Zero Waste; we are very close with only 5 Councils not having done so.

Another major project we are working with is the Zero Waste Academy where we are aiming for agreement and implementation of an industry wide Zero Waste education framework.

#### Vodafone mobile phone recycling programme:

If you have a stack of old and broken mobile phone handsets, chargers and batteries then you can now return them to Vodafone to be recycled.

In return you will receive \$5 airtime for each envelope returned (envelopes available from [www.vodafone.co.nz/recycling](http://www.vodafone.co.nz/recycling)). The Vodafone NZ Foundation will also give \$5 per envelope received to the Zero Waste NZ Trust which will in turn use this fund community-led waste minimisation and recycling projects throughout New Zealand and the Zero Waste Academy.

Since the launch a month ago, 2065 handsets and 2900 batteries have been returned to Vodafone for recycling. During the whole of 2002 they only received 225 phones so that is already a huge improvement!

### ZERO WASTE TRUST WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER

Lindsey du Preez has recently joined the Zero Waste NZ Trust as Office Administrator. Lindsey's interest in waste minimisation comes from the degree in Environmental Engineering that she studied several years ago. More recently Lindsey has been investigating the potential of computer recycling in New Zealand.

Lindsey's main roles at the Zero Waste Trust involve administration of the funding grants process and communicating with the Zero Waste network. If you have any enquiries or need any assistance with your project, please contact Lindsey at [lindsey@zerowaste.co.nz](mailto:lindsey@zerowaste.co.nz) or call 09 486 0734

# Community News

## Green Bags



**LOOKING FOR A FUNDRAISER?**

**GREEN BAGS AVAILABLE NOW!**

**DOWNLOAD ORDER FORMS FROM**  
**[www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,234.sm](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,234.sm)**

**35,000 Green Bags** have arrived in New Zealand and are available for distribution nationwide.

The Green Bag (GB) Foundation (of which Zero Waste NZ Trust is a part) is distributing the bags (as a fundraising opportunity) to community groups and schools at a special price of \$1.65 + GST per bag (including freight). Minimum order of 50.

Order forms are available on our website ([www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,234.sm](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,234.sm) or call 09 486 0734). The recommended retail price is \$2.30.

The bags are made from recyclable non-woven polypropylene, have been designed with the checkout in mind and hold 3-4 plastic bags worth of groceries.

The GB Foundation is investigating the option of manufacturing the bags in New Zealand and working on distributing them to large retail outlets nationwide.

For now however they are only available through us and the Green Bag Foundation but are starting to sell like hot cakes so get your order in now!

Waste Minimisation and Education Officers in Councils get out there and let your communities know that these bags are available!

Ten cents from each bag will go back to the GB Foundation to fund community waste minimisation initiatives.

## Elephant Communication

We are hearing rumbling elephant-like communication about the New Zealand Waste Strategy. Feeling frustrated with progress? Then here are some remedies:

1) Come to our session on Tuesday 4th November at the WasteMINZ Annual Conference in Nelson. Contact [carole@wasteminz.org.nz](mailto:carole@wasteminz.org.nz) for more details.

2) Contact the following MP's with your concerns: Labour Party, Minister for the Environment, Marian Hobbs - [marian.hobbs@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:marian.hobbs@parliament.govt.nz). National Party, Nick Smith, Spokesperson for Environment - [nick.smith@national.org.nz](mailto:nick.smith@national.org.nz).

Green Party, Mike Ward, Spokesperson for Waste, [mike.ward@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:mike.ward@parliament.govt.nz).

**For a synopsis of all the political parties waste policies go to our website [www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,nz.sm](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,nz.sm).**

## Useful Tools for Community Groups

### Resource Recovery Centre Management Training Course.

Interested in gaining the skills to enable you to manage a successful recycling enterprise? Then this practical hands on training course is for you.

10 - 14 November 2003, Kaikoura. Hosted by leaders in the resource recovery field, Innovative Waste Kaikoura.

Contact Josie Uren at [iwk@xtra.co.nz](mailto:iwk@xtra.co.nz).

### New Report - Getting There! The Road to Zero Waste.

Prepared by Envision NZ for the Zero Waste NZ Trust with support from CEG this report has been produced to help communities develop practical strategies to work towards Zero Waste. The report outlines 7 key strategies for communities and draws on the expertise of many councils, businesses, institutions and individuals working towards Zero Waste. Available on-line from [www.zerowaste.co.nz](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz)

## Getting Started - Some Help from CEG

Establishing a new community group can seem very daunting and often the hardest obstacle to overcome is knowing how to get a good idea off the ground.

There were several groups at the Hui in Raglan who were really keen to get a waste minimisation project going in their area but who weren't sure where to start. Yvonne Carter from the Community Employment Group (CEG) gave a quick run down on how they can help community enterprises get started.

Here's a brief synopsis of ways in which they can help. If you know of a fledgling group that is looking for some help then please pass this newsletter on to them.

CEG works mainly with groups representing people who face the greatest barriers to achieving self-sufficiency (such as Maori, Pacific peoples, women and people who live in disadvantaged rural or urban communities.) CEG helps to build capacity of groups.

A national network of fieldworkers assist communities

and the organisations within them in a number of ways: Provide information & advice; advice and support as goals are set and help with developing short and long term plans; help identify & assess capabilities and skills; help to develop or strengthen infrastructures; assist development of economic partnerships; help to find financial, technical & expert assistance; advice with legal structures and provide small grants to kick-start projects. These are just a few ways in which CEG can help you.

The main point is that they are an invaluable source of information, support and advice to community groups. CEG is like a springboard: they place huge emphasis on empowering community groups and helping them take progressively bigger steps towards their goal.

For more information go to [www.ceb.govt.nz](http://www.ceb.govt.nz). You will be able to find a list of workers in your region.

**There is also a list of Zero Waste Advisors available on our website at [www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,37.sm](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz/default,37.sm).**

# Zero Waste Network News

## New Report

'Resourceful Communities: A Guide to Resource Recovery Centres' is a comprehensive look at the role and function of Resource Recovery Centres, and the key principles behind planning, designing and developing effective waste reduction facilities. Twelve Resource Recovery Centres, from Kaitaia to Dunedin, were visited to gather detailed, up-to-date information from the experts in the field. Their case studies are included, and provide invaluable information on new jobs and businesses created, resources saved from landfill, income generated, and physical assets such as buildings, land and equipment. Five overseas examples are also profiled, providing international perspectives on this rapidly growing and evolving sector of the waste minimisation industry.

'Resourceful Communities' can be downloaded from [www.zerowaste.co.nz](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz). Hard copies can be obtained from the Ministry for Economic Development.

## Zero Hero

Moira Rauputu is the head cleaner at the Bay Of Plenty Polytechnic in Tauranga and is single-handedly responsible for the recycling that occurs. The cleaners have separate bins for plastics, paper & residuals on their trollies and she makes sure everything is separated into the correct bins at the end of each shift. Thanks to her they have reduced the use of the compactor service from twice to once a month and recycle 3 fadges and a 3m cage of cardboard and paper plus 12 wheelie bins of plastic bottles and cans each week! Well done and thanks to Moira for all her dedicated efforts!

## Harmful Herbicide - Councils want ban

Local authorities, resource recovery agencies and composting companies are campaigning to have herbicides which contaminate compost banned from sale in garden centres under a proposed law change next year.

Herbicides containing the chemical clopyralid have been banned in the home gardening market in some parts of the USA because the substance contaminates garden waste which, when made into compost, damages plants. The chemical has caused problems in Christchurch where gardeners are high users of the herbicide for lawn care.

Efforts by local authorities and the MfE to reduce organic waste disposal have concentrated on the production of compost that can be sold back to home gardeners. Therefore, chemicals that contaminate compost pose a threat to compost manufacturers and home gardeners as well as the country's plan to reduce waste. For more information contact George Fietje from Living Earth on 021 273 9828.

## Baleage Wrap Waste Solution

Enviromart, Wellington's Waste Exchange, has secured \$10,000 from MAF's Sustainable Farming Fund to develop a prototype of a portable lightweight plant that would process baleage wrap waste on-farm into plastic sheeting suitable for feed pad floors, or pipe for culverts or drains.

Richard Moore, Coordinator of Enviromart, anticipates that by creating products of value to the farmer it will be in the farmers interest to help minimise contamination. It will also help achieve sustainable solutions to these problematic rural wastes.

Enviromart also has an urban project in progress - earlier this year they sourced stock feed hammer mills (retired from crushing grain for pig food) to process expanded polystyrene. This initiative focuses on turning waste consumer packaging into long life under floor insulation products.

For more info on Enviromart go to [www.enviromart.org.nz](http://www.enviromart.org.nz) or phone 0800 4 EXCHANGE.

## Ministry for the Environment

### Talk Environment Roadshow

New Zealand's environment is unique. It is our inheritance, our economic base, our playground and our home. To help develop policies that meet our environmental, social and economic needs the Ministry for the Environment, in partnership with regional councils, is going on the road with 'Talk Environment - Roadshow 2003' in November, so that they can talk with the public about creating a sustainable future. See [www.mfe.govt.nz/withyou/conferences-events/talk-environment.html](http://www.mfe.govt.nz/withyou/conferences-events/talk-environment.html) for details.

### National Environment Standards

The MfE has just released a package of national environment standards. One section relates to incineration. The proposed standards are to prohibit the following activities:

Burning of coated wire in the open (to recover materials); deliberate landfill fires; burning of tyres in the

open; burning of road tar seal (bitumen burnoff); burning of waste oil in the open; all new high temperature hazardous waste incinerators; new low temp waste incinerators that don't have a resource consent; by 2008, existing low temperature waste incinerators in schools and hospitals that do not have a resource consent. The MfE stated that they "do not propose to ban existing high temperature hazardous waste incinerators (but we will by default once consents have expired if we make new ones prohibited) and we are equivocal [unclear] about new large incinerators for urban waste disposal, including those designated for 'energy from waste'. We are predisposed to ban those also, however we will be guided by public submissions and comments."

**CD ROM available** providing an outline of the decision making process in Parliament and Government. Also discusses decision making with the Community and between Parliament and Community, law making, help from Parliament, rule of law and more. Contact Anthon Haas at [ahaas@decisionmaker.co.nz](mailto:ahaas@decisionmaker.co.nz) or call 027 242 2301 or Laura Beck, Green Party, on 04 470 6891.

## Zero Waste Resources

### November Events

#### WasteMINZ 15th Annual Conference, 4-6 November, Nelson

Keynote Speaker: Doug McKenzie-Mohr, founder of community based social marketing.

**Zero Waste workshop** on 4th November focusing on the Zero Waste Academy and a session with the TLA Waste Officers' Forum.

To register contact Carole Inglis through [www.wasteminz.org.nz](http://www.wasteminz.org.nz) or call 09 486 6722.

#### Free Business Seminar Efficient Resource Use ... The Key to Profitability ... A Practical Toolkit for SME's

13th Nov, Takapuna, Auckland

Prof. Don Huisingh will be speaking at this seminar. His work has focused on pollution prevention/ waste reduction approaches to managing toxic substances & hazardous waste. He has worked with industry throughout Europe.

For more info visit [www.northshore.city.govt.nz](http://www.northshore.city.govt.nz) and go to Business & BusinessCare.

WasteMINZ presents **Effective Behaviour Change for Sustainable Living** with Doug McKenzie-Mohr, an environmental psychologist and founder of Community based social marketing (He is a keynote speaker at the WasteMINZ Conference in Nelson).

#### Christchurch 13 Nov, Wellington 17 Nov, Auckland 21 Nov.

Contact Carole Inglis on 09 486 6722 or go to [www.wasteminz.org.nz](http://www.wasteminz.org.nz) for details.

#### New Zealand Sustainable Business Conference & Expo

Hosted by the Sustainable Business Network.

17-19 November, Aotea Centre, Auckland.

Go to [www.sustainable.org.nz/conference2003](http://www.sustainable.org.nz/conference2003).

**Christchurch** will be hosting a mini version of this conference on 19 Nov giving local businesses an opportunity to hear a couple of keynote speakers from the Auckland event.

Call 03 325 6711 or go to [www.naturalstep.org.nz](http://www.naturalstep.org.nz).

### Jobs

#### Mana Community Enterprises Inc.

is looking for a Development Manager to replace Alison Lewin who is leaving at the end of the year. The position is based at **Trash Palace** which is located at the Spicer Landfill in **Porirua**. The role involves extensive contact with the Porirua City Council.

We are looking for someone with a passion for recycling and proven management experience. This is an exciting position with huge potential and would suit an innovative team player. Hours are flexible.

Contact Alison Lewin on 04 237 6440 or [wwise@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wwise@xtra.co.nz).

#### Seeking Work

Anne Billing is a self employed waste reduction consultant seeking contract work in the waste industry. She has a lot of experience of waste analysis and education work in the Wanganui region.

Please contact her through [pavab@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pavab@xtra.co.nz) if you can help.

## Zero Waste International News

#### Japan's first Zero Waste declaration

Kamikatsu town in Tokushima prefecture, Japan, has adopted a policy of Zero Waste by 2020 (without using incineration or landfills). This is the first municipality in Japan to have adopted such a policy. Japan is considered by some to be the incinerator capital of the world and also has the highest levels of dioxins recorded in the environment. The mayor of Kamikatsu said that "they hope to send the message that Japan needs to move away from its continuing addiction to expensive and polluting technologies which is leaving behind a wasteful and toxic legacy for future generations."

(Source: Greenpeace Japan September 03)

#### Zero Waste UK News

The political party, Liberal Democrats adopted a policy of Zero Waste at their recent party conference. The policy was put forward by a Councillor from the first UK Council to have adopted (and implementing) Zero Waste.

Staged targets include 60% recycling by 2010, 75% by 2015 and Zero Waste

by 2020. The UK currently recycles about 13% and has a government target to reach 25% by 2015.

(Source: Letsrecycle.com, Sept 03) A series of Zero Waste conferences is taking place in the UK during the next month, with a complement of world-class Zero Waste speakers. Tour organiser commented that "these events will show even the cynics how the economics of Zero Waste adds up."

#### California passes cutting edge e-waste law

California has adopted the most comprehensive law in the USA governing the manufacture & disposal of electronics. The law aims to speed the recycling of discarded computers & TV's, force manufacturers to stop using lead, mercury and other harmful materials and to establish safety standards for dismantling computers in foreign countries.

To fund the law new products will be subject to a \$6-10 fee. This will either be absorbed by manufacturers or consumers.

(Source: LA Times, 26/9/03)

#### And finally ..... Loving Waste

Let's say you're basking in the glow of your wedding reception, and the musician for the occasion breaks into song: "I hope you won't ... toss me out like a bag of trash/I wouldn't want your burning love to turn to ash." You'd be insulted, right? But Dave Hart and Rockie Graham took it in their stride. After all, it fit with the setting for their nuptials: the Bethel (Maine) Transfer Station. The couple took their vows amid piles of solid waste because, well, both are employed there, and it's where they feel comfortable.

(Source: Christian Science Monitor, 9/9/03, USA)

#### Zero Waste New Zealand Trust PO Box 33 1695, Takapuna, Auckland

Ph: 09 486 0734 F: 09 489 3232

E: [mailbox@zerowaste.co.nz](mailto:mailbox@zerowaste.co.nz)  
[www.zerowaste.co.nz](http://www.zerowaste.co.nz)



## Life With Waste - Zero Waste Community Groups workshop

The recent Community Group Hui, Life With Waste, organised by the Xtreme Waste Team in Raglan was bursting at the seams with groups from all over the North Island and a hearty representation from South Islanders too. Over 80 individuals ranging from organisations and community enterprises involved in Zero Waste initiatives, concerned individuals, local council representatives and the Ministry for the Environment gathered for three days to discuss the issue of Zero Waste from a community standpoint.

This was an experience not to be missed but limited places meant groups were being turned away towards the end of registrations.

The Xtreme Team were wonderful hosts and we were welcomed into the community with a heartwarming powhiri at the Poihaakena Marae. The conference journey then began at the Trust Waikato Surf Life Saving Club where we were kept inspired with 180 degree views of the West Coast Ocean swell and black sandy beaches.

Vegetarian food-lovers were in paradise! Many thanks to the Italian Chef and his associates in the kitchen for the constant supply of taste sensations and energising organic food. This extends also to Kai Whenua Organics for the kai specially planted for the Hui and the hangi crew as well as those who ensured those coffee pots were always full. Cornerstone Roots treated us to some tasty musical morsels - Whaingaroa's finest reggae rhythms inspired the whole conference crew to get up and shake off some of that inertia (and hip fat) that so often builds up at these conferences.

We were invited to the opening of the Life with Waste art exhibition to share glasses of wine and tales from Raglan's artisans. A whole gallery of artistic creations built from recycled materials was opened up for us to enjoy.

Xtreme Waste invited us to share Recycling Whaingaroa's experience of waste through an exchange of stories and a visit to the Recycling Centre and Kaahu's nest, a delight for the op- shopping enthusiasts amongst us.

It was great to see some new faces and community groups participating in this event. To those of you just getting started please remember there is a network of support out there in the form of other community groups in your situation and organisations such as the Zero Waste New Zealand Trust who can help you with funding issues, access to mentors and keep you supplied with information.

The objective of the Hui was to create some invaluable networking time, to strengthen networks, provide knowledge and to create an infrastructure where this knowledge could continue to grow outside of the Hui. It was also a process where issues were identified and some solutions offered. It provided an opportunity for people to learn from the key people involved in the Zero Waste community arena.

The main discussion points during the Hui focused around issues that community groups face in relation to local government and funding, the practicalities of Zero Waste, what the national players were doing, successful community groups, identifying who the knowledge holders were, creating a Zero Waste community network and strategising for the nationwide growth and support of Zero Waste. Key speakers included Bruce Gilkison who gave us insight into quadruple bottom line accounting.

The major outcome of the Hui was the consensus that a group of individuals representing the community voice in waste issues should be established. It was also acknowledged that there is an educated and passionate sector of the community groups and that they are a core player in achieving Zero Waste, and an important stakeholder in the waste industry.

Notes from the Hui will be available from Xtreme Waste shortly.

*Thanks to Laura Beck from the Green Party for her contribution to this article.*



*A beautiful welcome to Whaingaroa, Raglan, at the Marae.*



*Visit to Raglan's recycling centre and Kaahu's nest.*



# Notices

---

## **WASTE WATCH WHANGAREI invites YOU to 'Talk Rubbish'**

At the Senior Citizens Hall, Alexander St (Opp Library), Whangarei

Starting 11am Saturday 1 November 2003

**Facilitated by:** Rewarewa D Land Inc

**Key Speakers:** Don Riesterer, Zero Waste NZ,  
Cliff Colquhoun, CBEC Kaitaia

**Objective:** to seek a mandate to establish a community trust to promote and manage the minimisation of waste in Whangarei and District.

**Contact:** Mike Kake, Chairperson, 0274 781105  
Hinemoa Apetera, Secretary, (09) 4338263

---

## **Central Otago WasteBusters (Inc.) is looking for a Manager**

The position, based in Alexandra, is to cover recycling park management. Supervision and management of paid and volunteer staff, recyclable sales, record keeping, accounting, correspondence, safety, and computer skills required. We are seeking a person who is fit and highly motivated. Must also have good communication skills, be a team player and well organised.

Experience with machinery, forklift and HT licences an advantage but not essential.

This position has become available due to our Manager leaving New Zealand.

Full-time Individual or consider Job Share Individual or Joint Application

For further info phone (03)448 or email [wastebusters@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wastebusters@xtra.co.nz)

Please apply in writing including a copy of CV & 2 references by 7 November, 2003 to:

**"Manager"**  
**Central Otago WasteBusters,**  
**P.O. Box 375,**  
**ALEXANDRA**