

Waste Exchange Register

Often we come across a business with a waste product that would be useful to someone else. An up to date list is kept at the Marion Council. If you would like any of these items or if you have a product and would like to be on the list, **contact Julian on 8375 6857**. Alternatively the waste exchange Database is updated monthly on the city of Marion website using the following link. <http://www.marion.sa.gov.au/Web/webmar.nsf/Lookup/Waste+Exchange+Register>

1	Regular pine packing timber (various lengths)	22	Plastic pellets used for packaging	40	Large and small cardboard rolls
2	Particle board, Medium density fibre board, Timber off cuts	23	Cardboard boxes	41	Folded and unfolded cardboard boxes
3	Carpet and underlay off cuts	24	20L plastic drums with taps previously used for ATF and brake fluid	42	Wanted 20L plastic pail type buckets with sealable lids & Square offcuts of Plywood for signs
4	Plastic tubs	25	Electrical plastic cable drum- black, 300 *200 (about 100 per month)	43	Timber pallets and medium - large cardboard boxes
5	Free toner and ink cartridge pick up	26	Timber Pallets	44	Dacron and upholstery foam offcuts
6	Old automotive paint mixing bench (motorised) and various pallets - happy to deliver	27	stackable 20L plastic drums	45	Pallets
7	Wooden and styrene crates (large)	28	new 205L drum of Truck Wash - Make an Offer	46	Timber Offcuts and Sawdust
8	Grass clippings (for mulching)	29	large Heavy Duty Machinery pallets treated pine approx 2200 * 1500	47	approx 50 sheets 6ft x 2ft corrugated iron, good cond
9	60L steel drums, good condition	30	Off cuts of shade cloth	48	New and Old guttering, corrugated iron and range of timber from verandah/roof demolition
10	Scrap steel (mainly used springs)	31	Off cuts of particle board	49	Timber Offcuts
11	Large Cardboard boxes and pallets	33	Large Offcuts Angle Iron 1502*12 mm and 1002*10mm all 1000mm + long.	50	Cardboard Boxes, degradable packaging pellets
12	20L Plastic Coolant Drums	34	Regular pine packaging timber (various lengths)	51	various size medium cardboard boxes new
13	strong wooden pallets	35	Commercial windows and doors, aluminium frame with glass insert, various sizes.	52	Timber Pallets
14	200L drums cleaned have had fibreglass resin	36	Treated pine pallets, cardboard sheets, multi coloured Yarn on Cardboard tubes, clean 205L drums	53	Large Nylon bale bags (Bulka Bags) like wool bales but stronger
15	Strong cardboard boxes 300 * 400 * 400	37	wooden pallets, Cardboard Pallets, Polystyrene foam, cardboard cartons flattened	54	Timber Pallets
16	Timber Pallets 1m * 2m	38	Plastic Packaging foam	55	Cardboard Boxes various sizes
17	Large Cardboard boxes and flat poly styrene foam from fridges	39	Material off cuts and cardboard rolls	56	Range of Cardboard Boxes
18	Timber Pallets - Medium Size			57	Timber Offcuts, excellent for small projects or toy making
19	Want empty laser printer toner cartridges, any quantities			58	Second Hand Carpet
20	Plastic sheets used to cover clothing stock				
21	Want large pieces of carpet in good condition				



Farewell

Jill Pearson has worked as the Mitcham Environment Officer with the Marion and Mitcham Environmental Education Project for the past 15 months. Jill has visited many automotive and manufacturing businesses

throughout area, helping them to improve their environmental practices and reduce stormwater pollution. Jill leaves the project to go travelling but looks forward to hearing about the continued success of the Project in the future. We would like to thank Jill for contribution to the Project and wish her all the best.

Who you can contact . . .

For more information on the Marion and Mitcham Environmental Education Project contact either project officer on the details below.



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Disclaimer

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To the Business Owner/Manager

March 2004

Marion and Mitcham Environmental Education Project NEWS

New Stormwater Outlet Signage NEW STANDARD STORMWATER WARNINGS FOR BEACHES

In South Australia we are lucky to have great beaches and recreational lakes in which to swim and participate in water sports. Along the metropolitan coastline, our beautiful long, white beaches are generally clean and safe for everyone to enjoy.

New signs to warn of possible health risks around stormwater discharge points in summer will soon appear along our metropolitan beaches and lakefronts.

Although the Catchment Water Management Boards, together with local councils, have taken action to greatly reduce the amount of material being washed into stormwater drains, it is impossible to keep it all out.

The signs are part of a communication strategy that will help people make informed choices about where to swim and gain maximum enjoyment of our beaches and lakes. In addition to the signs a public information brochure has been produced (available from you local Project Officer).



Note
This information has been taken from the combined resources of the Brochure "Tips For Healthy And Safe Fun In The Water", and the "News" page on the PCWMB web site

The strategy is an initiative of the Patawalonga and Torrens Boards in collaboration with all metropolitan seaside councils, the Department of Human Services, EPA, Adelaide Shores, the Onkaparinga Catchment Water Management Board and Surf Life Saving SA.

These signs appear at the entry to a section of beach that has a significant stormwater outlet nearby. They let you know that, after rain, polluted stormwater could flow out of the pipes or waterway, across the beach and into the sea. This reminds you to check the colour of the seawater where you plan to swim. If it is discoloured after rain, simply move 300-400 metres down the beach to where the water is clearer and you should be able to swim safely in cleaner water.

Environment Review Update

The Marion Mitcham Environmental Education Project has been undertaking on site reviews of the environmental practices of key industry sectors. Over the last 18 months the project has targeted Automotive, Manufacturing and Engineering and some Commercial premises to collect data and provide environmental management information. In

Edwardstown alone, 240 businesses have been visited to date. Of these, approximately 80% had environmental management concerns. These concerns ranged from businesses that had a minor risk of pollution from practices such as waste storage, to those causing actual pollution from chemical spills and similar.

The two Council Project Officers are now undertaking a systematic series of revisits to assess the changes in business environmental management practices. So far, the efforts of local businesses have been outstanding. Of the 25 businesses recently revisited in Marion 16 have addressed all the issues that were raised on the initial visit. The remaining 9 either had no issues or are in the process of undertaking changes, only two businesses have not demonstrated any improvement.

The following Environmental Performers provide an indication of the level of achievement from some of the local businesses already revisited. If your company has also made improvements, call your local project officer and you could also be written up in this newsletter.

Environmental Performers

Flight Bros. Pty Ltd

The Edwardstown engineering firm Flight Bros. were visited by the project in July 2003. This company designs and manufactures a range of equipment from Communication Towers and Guyed masts to Abattoir equipment and Awning fittings. As with most engineering firms, they had some minor issues with risks of stormwater pollution. However, they had shown their interest as they had already sound deadened their de-burring room and connected the factory air conditioning to sewer. Factory Manager Doug Wright also attended the Southern Pollution Prevention Projects environmental management systems (EMS) seminar in November 2003. The company is currently undecided about pursuing EMS although it has quality certification to AS/NZS ISO 9001:2000.

One of the company's most pressing issues was that of scrap metal bins stored uncovered outside. These had the potential to pollute rain entering the bins because, like most scrap bins, there were drain holes in the bottom. In response the entire stock of scrap bins have been replaced with watertight alternatives which are kept indoors. When they are placed outside, for collection, the company can be sure no pollutants will escape.

There had been a store of waste oil, that had been accumulated through years of maintenance activities. To address the risk of a spill, the company had the existing oil removed and has arranged for any further waste oil to

be removed by their service contractors during scheduled maintenance.

An area near the factory entrance was noticeably stained with oil. This has now been steam cleaned and a nearby hydraulic press has been serviced as the possible source of the contamination.

Finally, the company has a stormwater drain running through the entire length of the factory. To prevent accidental pollution the drain has been sealed along its length with silicone and steel plate.

Through these measures, Flight Bros. will have made a significant improvement to the quality of stormwater leaving their site. As a last indication of their effort, staff members were observed using rubbish bins to catch grinding dust when finishing large products outdoors.



Sustainability and Small to Medium Business

The Environmental Sustainability Context

Environmental Sustainability is about ensuring that the natural resources on which life depends, can be maintained for the use of present and future generations. It requires a fundamental understanding that the relationships between environmental, economic and social systems are deeply connected.

In the longer term over perhaps the next 20 years or so our individual and business enterprises will need to consider Environmental Sustainability in many daily decisions. Both local and global environmental systems such as our atmosphere and water cycles are already demonstrating signs of in-balance. To allow these systems to self regulate, will require sustainable decisions to be made by the individuals and small groups who make the vast majority of consumer choices. Some of these decisions will be simplified as governments and manufacturers alter their products and shift policy to meet the demands of consumers.

Small to medium businesses are also a major employer in Australian society today and make a significant proportion of those consumer decisions. There is a growing need for them to recognise their impacts and take remedial action without the external the influence of a regulator. In this way, the businesses themselves become more sustainable by embracing the concept of continuous improvement.

Businesses with an eye to the future will especially need a systematic method of planning for continuous improvement. Using a method like

environmental management systems can help you to recognise your impacts and plan your investment decisions.

Sustainable decision Making

Here are a few fundamentals culled from www.greenbiz.com:

You're running a small or medium-sized business, and you want to do it right. That means bringing your environmental performance in line for a healthier bottom line. But how to start working sustainably or, having started, how to follow through? Sustainability doesn't have to be a daunting goal. If you're familiar with the keys to becoming a greener business, you'll be able to identify and implement

improvements in your day-to-day operations — and begin to reduce the environmental impact of your company one step at a time.

Almost any business can cut its overhead expenses by 10% to 25% by using sustainability as a yardstick for decision making. Many of the gains can come from savings in the use of consumables like paper, energy, water, and other resources. However there is also much "low-hanging fruit" to be plucked through: minimizing wastes; reducing risks and improving quality. Most businesses taking this path find the this often enhances the company's ability to attract and retain customers, trading partners, and employees.

• **Comply with state, local, and federal environmental and health and safety regulations.** This is always a great place to start and address your immediate obligations. These regulations are

there for a reason and have usually evolved through an extended period of industry consultation. They often represent current best practice. Companies with good management of their legal obligations often talk of additional benefits such as improved staff/management relationships, morale and reduced regulatory attention.

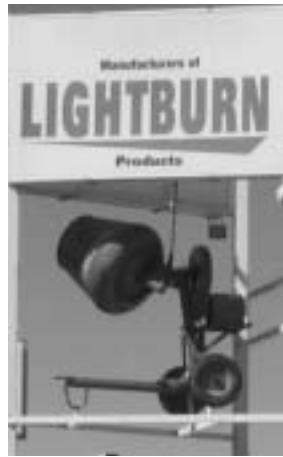
• **Understand how your business affects the environment,** from the things you buy, your relationships with customers and suppliers and the full life-cycle of your products and services. At each step of the way, there are opportunities to make choices that can help you align environmental responsibility with business success.

• **Begin to make changes where they can be done profitably** — or at least in a way that will not decrease profits and productivity for more than a short period. It's important to keep in mind that it isn't possible to do everything now; gradual, incremental progress is a worthy goal. There are dozens of ways companies of all sizes can reduce their environmental footprints, earn consumer trust and stakeholder confidence as well as boost efficiency and productivity.

• **Ask for Assistance** — or at least in a way Contact your local Project Officer for further discussion about how your business can reduce its impacts. We have access to many business networks and have a range of information available including environmental management systems.

Sections of this article were sourced from the www.greenbiz.com website.

Environmental Performers



Lightburn Pty Ltd

A local manufacturer of quality concrete mixers, this company has demonstrated excellence in environmental leadership during this period. With a strong management commitment to environmental improvement the company has achieved significant upgrades in less than a year.

Since the initial Council visit, the site has been tidied up considerably. A mass of obsolete machinery has been removed and the contamination these dirty machines were contributing to rain runoff has consequently been eliminated. This now uncluttered site makes regular maintenance a safer and simpler task. As an unexpected bonus, staff now undertake housekeeping without issue and keep the outdoor areas clean.

The job of grounds maintenance has been further simplified with the covering of the company's waste bins. The general waste bin has been weatherproofed with a large tarpaulin and a removable roof has been created for the swarf and scrap metal bin. These measures keep rain water out and pollutants and rubbish in. The Council review has noted a marked reduction in litter around the site now these bins are enclosed.

Having realised the risk of a chemical spill from occasional chemical handling, the company has also developed a simple yet effective emergency spill response plan. They have mapped their site, showing the lines of stormwater drainage and created a standard operating procedure (SOP) for spill response. Waterproof copies of this SOP have been placed at strategic locations around the site along with highly visible



Spill Response



General Waste

spill response equipment, see photo. All staff have been trained in spill response and the company is confident that any emergency spill situation will be managed without incident. This spill response planning is some of the best in the project area: for further information or copies of the SOP, please contact Julian at the City of Marion.

Finally an efficiency investigation of the powder coating line has seen the use of powder coating raw materials halved and considerable money saved on air filters. This was achieved in consultation with the company's product supplier who advised on fine tuning the flow rates of the spray and exhaust equipment. Currently, Lightburn Pty Ltd are strengthening their environmental risk management by bunding their complete surface coating line. This considerable project is expected to be completed later this year. Well done Lightburn Pty Ltd.



Swarf Bin

Environmental Performers

Kennards Darlington

Kennards Hire at Darlington was visited by the Council Project Officer mid last year. No actual instances of pollution were evident but a number of risks were identified during the visit.

David Baker, the local manager has moved quickly to eliminate the company's risk at this site. Of greatest note is the bunding that has been constructed to contain the large fuel tank and bowser. The bund is constructed from reinforced Besser Blocks, and in this situation, roofing was not a practical option. To remove any rainwater that is caught within the walled area, the company uses one of its own hire pumps. These pumps can remove water to a few millimetres depth and can adequately service this construction. The bund gives a professional and well managed feel to the drive through service area: the staff are also pleased with the result.

The company has also improved its storage of smaller quantities of chemicals. All their minor storage has been shelved in a covered workshop area well away from any stormwater drains.

Finally to complete the professional approach, the condensate from their compressors has been plumbed permanently to sewer.



Welcome



Melissa Risely has recently joined the Mitcham Marion Environmental Education Project Team. Melissa has a PhD in Environmental Studies and has worked on a number of Local Government environmental projects. She has a strong

grounding in environmental management and has worked with businesses to help them improve their environmental and economic performance. Melissa has a strong interest in community education and participation to facilitate change to improve the sustainability of local businesses, including the environmental, economic and social issues. Together, Melissa and Julian can assist businesses in working towards best practice, through the provision of a range of general information. The MMEEP officers can also provide an environmental site review which will provide assistance and advice regarding environmental management and legislative compliance. – benefits that may include cost savings, improved operating efficiencies and competitive advantage.