



THE WASTE MINIMISATION AND RECYCLING INTEREST GROUP

Newsletter - March 2014

Cape Town clamps down on illegal dumping



The Cape Town mayoral committee has approved an amendment to the wastewater and industrial effluent bylaw, giving the city the power to confiscate any vehicle used to dump waste illegally. 985 illegal dumping sites have been identified and measures such as increasing fines have been put in place to discourage the illegal practice. The city issued 364 fines amounting to millions for illegal dumping in the last six months. The draft bylaw, which will go to council for approval, will also force the food industry to refrain from discharging fat and grease into the sewer system as well as prevent medical waste from being discharged into the sewer system.

Indonesian community clinics accept garbage as payment

Garbage Clinical Insurance (GCI) is a health micro insurance programme where community members pay for clinic services with garbage they bring in. This has spread to 19 sub-district facilities. GIC has recruited 88 volunteers, 15 doctors, 12 nurses all of them paid with proceeds from garbage sales. The programme is a winner of the [Unilever Sustainable Living Young Entrepreneurs Awards](#) competition.

EcoATM Recycles 2 Million Electronic Devices

EcoATM's network of more than 800 automated electronics recycling kiosks located in shopping malls and retailers across the US, recycle consumer electronics including mobile phones, tablets and MP3 players to keep them out of landfills and provide cash payments as an incentive to recycle. Customers can also choose to donate a portion or all of their cash payment to a number of charity partners. See <http://www.ecoatm.com/>.



Workshop on Changes in SA Waste Law

This 2-3 hour workshop convened by PETCO will provide an overview of the SA environmental legal framework, licensing requirements and general duties, topical issues of waste law, including the newly published Waste Classification Regulations & Norms and Standards. It will also provide strategic understanding of the consequences of waste law, as well as risks and compliance in business. Save the date: 18 March. Venue to be decided. For more details contact Lisa Parkes at lisa.parkes@petco.co.za.

Tyre scrap rolls on

While REDISA (Recycling and Economic Development Initiative of SA) has government backing for its plan to recover scrap tyres, the South African Tyre Manufacturers Conference (SATMC) says it aims to get government approval for its plan this year. REDISA's plan is based on job creation while SATMC's is on efficiency with the support of big tyre manufacturers. Director Etienne Human said "The tyre industry pays millions of rands to REDISA every month to collect and recycle tyres. However to date it has not collected



a single tyre that we know of. The industry does not have a problem with REDISA but believes there should be an alternative system." The SATMC system has the support of French tyre collection and disposal company Aliapur whose members include Continental, Michelin and Pirelli. SATMC members include Bridgestone, Continental South Africa and Goodyear.

Coke, Ford, Nike Form Bioplastic Feedstock Alliance



Coca-Cola, Ford, Nike and five other big brand companies in the US along with World Wildlife Fund have formed the [Bioplastic Feedstock Alliance](#) (BFA) to support the development of [plastics](#) made from plant material. Danone, H.J. Heinz, Nestle, Procter & Gamble and Unilever are the other founding members. The

primary focus will be on responsible selection and harvesting of feedstock - such as sugar cane, corn, bulrush and switchgrass. As companies increasingly turn to sustainable materials, the demand for bioplastic is growing. In June 2012 [Coca-Cola, Ford, Heinz, Nike and Procter & Gamble](#) formed a strategic working group to accelerate the development and use of 100 percent plant-based PET materials in their products.

Book: Effective business in a circular economy

'A New Dynamic: effective business in a circular economy', is a new book from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation which makes the case for a shift from throughput to 'roundput', and from ownership to access. The circular economy is enabled by information technology and the design of materials and products to flow in effective cycles and at high quality – 'made to be made again'. The book contains contributions on understanding the model, business case studies, development and entrepreneurial opportunities in these fluid times, and can be purchased [online](#) - international shipping available.

Edited and produced by [GreenEdge](#), communication and marketing specialists to the recycling industry. Send your updates, contributions and comments to: info@greenedge.co.za . Thanks to our sponsors:

