



WMRIG

Western Cape



WASTE MINIMISATION AND RECYCLING INTEREST GROUP JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Final round-up for Industry WM Plans. The industry waste management plans required in terms of the Section 28 notice by DEA are due to be submitted on 5 September. Public comment roadshows by Polyco, PETCO and PlasticsSA are nearing completion and final submissions are being prepared. A significant proposal by the 'Federation' of plastic PRO's is a Municipal Fund aimed at assisting municipalities to divert more clean higher-value recyclables from landfill and into the recycling economy and so help to fund transformation. The recycling industry remains in a period of indecision until DEA responds and a joint way forward can be negotiated.



SA plastic recycling rate now higher than Europe

According to PlasticsSA, more than 334 727 tons of plastics were recycled back into raw material in 2017, giving South Africa a recycling rate of 43.7 %, well above Europe's rate of 31.1. Whilst the recycling rates are impressive, there has been more recycle collected than required by recyclers' customers. Developing suitable end-markets has become critical for the sustainability of the plastics recycling industry.



Nigeria hosts 'Africa's Biggest Cleanup'.



In Lagos recently, environmentalists, celebrities and children came out for a cleanup event to collect litter from Nigeria's beaches, markets and waterways. The event supported by Shoprite was tagged, 'Africa's Biggest Cleanup' and involved over 6000 volunteers across the continent. Volunteers picked up trash littering beaches and planted trees. Water sachets, PET bottles, fast food containers, chips and sweet wrappers made up the highest proportion with almost 56 items per 100 metres. Look out for the Let's Do It /International Coastal Clean-up which PlasticsSA is supporting, happening on 16

September across South Africa. See: <https://www.letsdoitworld.org/country/republic-of-south-africa/>

Protest action halts Hermanus recycling



The Overstrand municipality suspended its recycling collection services to residents of Hermanus and nearby towns due to protest action recently. The baler and conveyer belt were damaged in fires, which put the plant out of action. This is a major though temporary setback for one of the Western Cape municipalities that has been at the forefront of successful household recycling programmes.

Saldanha Bay wins silver with Separation-at-Source project.

The Saldanha Bay Municipality's separation-at-source residential recycling project won the Silver Award in the Municipal Category at the recent Eco-Logic National Environmental Awards. Over a thousand tons of recyclable household waste materials have been collected since 2016. The project has also created 46 employment opportunities within the local community. For more contact: info@greenedge.co.za



The State of Environment Outlook Report for the Western Cape Province :



Waste Management, released in earlier this year highlights improvements and issues for the province. Strides have been made in improving waste management and the integration of sustainable practices that recognise waste as a resource. All municipalities, with the exception of the CKDM

have plans for regional facilities, and waste collection services are improving. The general outlook of concern is mainly due to the increase of waste generated (from 2001 – 2010) far exceeding the rate of population and economic growth. Most waste management facilities have less than five years of operational capacity remaining.

Edited by GreenEdge, waste management and recycling communications service providers, with the assistance of PETCO. Send comments and contributions to: info@greenedge.co.za

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