



# WMRIG

## Western Cape



## THE WASTE MINIMISATION AND RECYCLING INTEREST GROUP

### Newsletter April 2017

#### **WMRIG Seminar skills up members on energy from waste at New Horizons**



On Thursday morning 10 March, WMRIG held a well-attended event which began at the New Horizons Energy plant in Athlone adjacent to WasteMart offices. Attendees were taken in groups of ten around the plant and then went on to nearby Edith Stephens Wetland Park where Yoav Shmulevich (at left) of New Horizons explained the plant and process in more detail. Hugh Tyrrell followed with a talk on taking a company upstream from recycling to sustainability. Snacks and networking then began in earnest and a good time was had by all. Presentations will soon be available on the IWMSA website in the WMRIG section.

#### **GreenCape Waste Economy Market Report 2017**

GreenCape's Market Intelligence Report 2017 outlines the changes in the waste management landscape and opportunities for businesses and investors. Some highlights include: Opening of Mpack Polymers R350 million recycled PET bottle- to-bottle plant which provides 40 jobs; construction of the New Horizons Energy MSW biogas and RDF plant worth R400 million creating 75 jobs; commissioning of the CoCT/CFN plastics to oil pyrolysis plant costing R41 million and creating eight operational jobs; and operation of the first landfill to comply with the new Waste Classification and Management Regulations. This Averda (formerly Wasteman) landfill is worth R250 million and created 30 direct jobs. The full report is downloadable at: <http://www.greencape.co.za/assets/Uploads/GreenCape-Waste-MIR-2017-electronic-FINAL-v2.pdf>



#### **Research shows waste industry would increase GDP by 0.5%**

A study undertaken by UCT's [Energy Research Centre](http://www.research.uct.ac.za/use-waste-stimulate-sa-economic-growth) (ERC) in November 2016 titled 'The general equilibrium impacts of monetising all waste streams in South Africa' investigates the economic impact of putting resources back into the economy through the waste stream. The study shows that managing waste as a green industry would increase GDP by 0.5%. The authors say this is a conservative figure as the multiplier effect is large and hasn't been included in the calculations. For the full research paper whose co-author is Dr Reza Daniels, senior lecturer at the UCT School of Economics, and head of Research and Development at REDISA. For more see: <http://www.research.uct.ac.za/use-waste-stimulate-sa-economic-growth>

## Solar-powered water wheel cleans up waterways

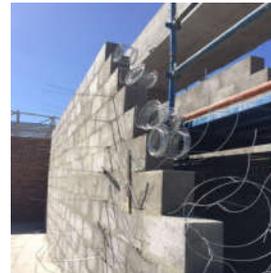


Plastic and other floating waste clog up waterways especially those that lead into the sea. This water wheel can either be powered by water currents or photovoltaic energy to drive a moving ladder system that lifts debris off the surface and into a holding barge which will take it to be processed. Designed by waste engineers in Baltimore, it's applicable in harbours, dams, rivers wherever floating objects can be drawn into its uptake ladder. See more at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RkQbcryAeE>

## 20,000 concrete/polystyrene blocks used in new Table Bay Mall

Recycled polystyrene is used as an aggregate mixed with cement and additives to form insulated, sound-proof, fireproof lightweight concrete blocks and screeds. This building system pioneered by the Greenlite manufacturing company is becoming more widely used countrywide. Last year over 2000 tons of polystyrene were successfully recycled through this method. See:

<http://greenliteconcrete.co.za/>



## Changes due on recycling companies' 'listed activities' compliance

In terms of [GN 242 published in GG 40698 of 17 March 2017](#), the Department of Environmental Affairs published for comment a notice to delete activity 3(2) – “the sorting, shredding, grinding, crushing, screening or bailing of general waste at a facility that has an operational area in excess of 100m<sup>2</sup>” - from the listed activities and add it to Category C - by publishing norms and standards to comply with. The implications of this are not currently clear and can depend on what materials or streams are being applied. Those who want to make comments can combine and work with Kirsten Barnes at [kirsten@green-cape.co.za](mailto:kirsten@green-cape.co.za)

## PETCO AGM and Awards Event -7 June in Sandton

For those who are planning to be in Gauteng in early June, include the PETCO AGM and Awards evening in your itinerary: all welcome. For more information, email [janine.basson@petco.co.za](mailto:janine.basson@petco.co.za) . PETCO is also relaunching its Associate Membership Programme with workshops on topical issues facing the PET industry and informal sessions aimed at information, raising awareness and encouraging action. To keep informed, sign up to their newsletter: <http://petco.co.za/our-newsletter/>

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