



# WMRIG

## Western Cape



## THE WASTE MINIMISATION AND RECYCLING INTEREST GROUP

Newsletter  
July 2017

### **PETCO consumer recycling research**

The results of PETCO's latest consumer research survey were released in March and a summary of key findings include: 93% agree that the municipality is responsible for putting systems in place to increase recycling; 90% would recycle if a formalised waste collecting team came and took recyclable items away. The main barrier to recycling is lack of storage space and clutter it causes in the home – mentioned by over two thirds of non-recyclers. The availability of facilities follows at 63%. The main benefit of recycling is environmental: 47% spontaneously mentioning pollution and its effect on the environment. For the full report, contact [janine.basson@petco.co.za](mailto:janine.basson@petco.co.za)



### **Marine and plastic debris in focus**

An African Marine Debris Conference was held recently in PE where 29 countries were represented (<http://www.sstconference.org.za/>). SA will host the research and actions coming out of it. Education and awareness is seen as key in supporting coastal local authorities to improve collection and disposal of waste and manage river catchments. This was followed by a seminar at Two Oceans Aquarium where leading academic Jemma Jambeck from University of Georgia USA presented data on plastic tonnages getting into the sea globally. She also showed a tracker usable on smart phones anywhere - <http://www.marinedebris.engr.uga.edu/>

### **Electronic waste landscape assessments**



National and provincial government departments are in the process of assessing the electronic waste landscape of South Africa. The National Department of Science and Technology (DST), through Mintek and CSIR, released a report ([click](#) to access) providing a 2016 assessment of ewaste recycling technology in operation in South Africa. The executive summary provides some useful info to be used. DEADP is also planning to investigate the status of ewaste in the Western Cape. Both

assessments will provide key insights for companies seeking to invest in ewaste processing in the province.

## REDISA grinds to a halt



The Recycling and Economic Development Initiative of South Africa (REDISA) has been placed in provisional liquidation. REDISA halted their services on 01 June 2017. This was a result of the tyre levy (which they received directly) becoming a tax (effective from 01 February 2017). REDISA claimed that DEA did not pay them, thus they could not continue operating. However, DEA stated that the liquidation was a result of REDISA halting their services, and the non-payment was a result of REDISA significantly under-performing. Currently, a liquidation company has been put in charge and will continue operating on REDISA's behalf.

## R40m invested in health care risk waste treatment

A waste management licence for an autoclave treatment facility in Cape Town has been applied for by Compass Medical Waste Services. The R15 million investment is envisioned to employ an estimated 80 people. This is a second HCRW treatment plant seeking establishment, the other being Ozonator's R25million treatment plant in Atlantis which is undergoing an environmental impact assessment. Together these amount to an investment of R40 million in HCRW technology in the City of Cape Town.



## Calling all waste management companies to register

Some smaller waste companies are not aware that they need to register with their local municipalities as part of IWM By-Laws. They need to do so to become accredited service providers so they can operate formally and tender for municipal contracts.

## WMRIG seeks sponsorship partners

The Western Cape's Waste Minimisation and Recycling Interest Group is seeking sponsors to support its activities from July 2017 to June 2018. An informative report on the past year's activities can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yb5lh7p9>. Sponsors are offered exposure at all events and logo exposure in our regular newsletter. The cost is only R3 500/year. Please email [TomMcLaughlin@woolworths.co.za](mailto:TomMcLaughlin@woolworths.co.za) if you are interested in becoming a sponsor.



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