

## Issue 7 ~ Autumn/Winter Edition 2007



### Waste Wise UP ▲ – Waste to Landfill down ▼

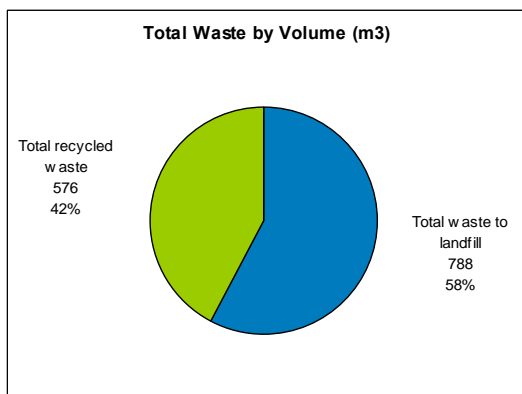
Is your organisation Waste Wise?

Waste Wise is booming as business across the Region with six businesses receiving their Waste Wise certification.

Hepburn Health Service was re-certified at the Silver level and University of Ballarat, Central Highlands Water, Golden Plains Shire, macGARDENS and ourselves achieving Bronze certification.

They join Maryborough District Health Service, Sovereign Hill and Masterfoods (Gold level) who are already Waste Wise.

Results to date clearly show the impact that these organisations are having.



In addition there are another 10 organisation who have expressed commitment to the program and are currently at various stages of the development of their Waste Reduction Action Plans.

### macGARDENS growing their business for a better environment

Local horticultural business macGARDENS has committed to reducing its waste and maximizing its recycling options Their achievements have been recognized by the awarding of the Bronze level Waste Wise certificate.

The first step was to conduct an assessment of macGARDENS operations to establish waste types and volumes and then move on to identifying practical ways of cutting waste.

The baseline data helped to identify where materials can be recovered for recycling, as well opportunities for reductions in resource use.

The good news is that everyone in the community can follow macGARDENS' Waste Wise example of reducing waste and saving money whether they are in schools, businesses, events or at home.

**Contact the Regional Education Officer for advice about Waste Wise.**

### Golden Plains Shire Council commits to a Waste Wise future

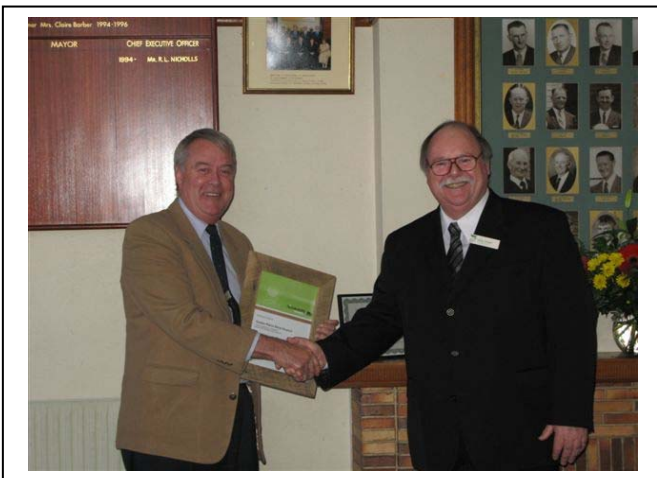
Golden Plains Shire Council also announced it has committed to reducing its waste and

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maximizing recycling through the statewide Waste Wise program.

In accepting their certificate, Cr David Cotsell, Mayor of Golden Plains Shire noted that becoming Waste Wise was a logical and important practical step to address climate change and build on the council's commitment to environment sustainability.

Victorians are already experiencing the impact of global warming through drought and water shortages. The Waste Wise program provides the framework for responsible government to demonstrate environmental leadership through their own practices to their local communities.



**Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr. David Cotsell receiving their Bronze Waste Wise certificate from Philip Clingin Executive Officer Highlands RWMG**

Some Key actions being implemented by Golden Plains Shire include:

- Providing paper recycling bins
- Changing printer defaults to double sided
- Identifying what can be re-used within the office or donated
- Eliminating disposable cups and packaging
- Reducing packaging and encouraging rubbish-free lunches
- Recycling toner cartridges and mobile phones

## Moorabool Shire Wins Award

At the recent ECOBuy Awards, Moorabool Shire received a Special Achievement Award recognising Council expenditure of \$28.70 per capita on green products in 2005/06. Congratulations to Moorabool Shire and Thea Laidlaw, Environmental Sustainability Officer for this achievement.

## LESS Litter TOOLKIT launched



**Litter is often a problem in secondary schools.** A Sustainability Victoria Litter Grant has been used to develop a CD ROM toolkit to assist secondary schools in Victoria to strategically plan and implement litter reduction in a way that actively involves students in all stages of the process.

The CD ROM toolkit contains:

- Six steps to implementing a secondary schools litter reduction program
- A list of drivers, barriers and solutions to litter issues in secondary schools
- The research report from the secondary students focus groups
- Over 60 documents to help schools plan and implement a litter program involving their students – these include Research Findings, Information Sheets, Instruction Sheets, Student Activity Sheets, Secondary Schools Case Studies, Curriculum Activities, and Spreadsheet Templates

The CD ROM toolkit is available **free** to **secondary schools**. Contact the Highlands Regional Education Officer



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