

\$980,000 INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

The North East WRRG Board congratulates the following Councils on their recent success of funding support through the Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund.

Benalla Rural City Council	\$440,000	A best-practice resource recovery transfer station will be built at a council's landfill site, significantly improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Benalla landfill and lift the amount of material not going to landfill from 35 per cent to 55 per cent.
Rural City of Wangaratta Council	\$500,000	A new organics processing facility will be built at the Bowser East Landfill which will be capable of processing up to 12,000 tonnes of material annually.
Towong Shire Council	\$40,000	Towong Shire is upgrading Corryong's resource recovery centre and Tallangatta's transfer station, diverting up to 30 per cent of priority materials like rigid and soft plastics, e-waste, glass, timber and cardboard from landfill. Towong Shire will also establish two resale shops, public access to recycling skips at Corryong and improve storage capacity at each site.

WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

E-WASTE GRANTS

Grants are available to increase local government's capacity and capability to safely collect and store the increasing volumes of e-waste in Victoria. These grants will establish one of the best e-waste collection networks in Australia. Local government and state government entities with sites listed in the Victorian E-waste Collection Network (VECN) can now submit proposals for grants of up to \$100,000 to complete infrastructure upgrades.

SV will be providing a workshop for Local Government and Alpine Resorts will be held on the 25 July 2018 in Benalla to provide an update on the development of the E-waste Campaign and to provide information and address questions concerning the grant application process. Further information will be provided in the upcoming week.

RESOURCE RECOVERY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT ROUND 3 NOW OPEN

The Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund valued at approximately \$13 million aims to support the development of infrastructure that improves the collection and processing of recycled materials. The program seeks innovative projects that will increase jobs in the resource recovery industry while also increasing the recovery of priority materials. Projects must be completed by 31 March 2021.

Round 3 has up to \$3 million available for infrastructure grants. Projects located in and servicing Victoria can apply for between \$40,000 and \$500,000 in funding for infrastructure development. Infrastructure can be for collection, sorting or processing.

Round 3 is seeking projects that target food organics, rigid and soft plastics, paper and cardboard, and e-waste re-processing as priority materials. However, projects addressing the future resource recovery infrastructure needs and opportunities identified in the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plans developed by the Waste and Resource Recovery Groups (WRRGs) will also be supported.

For further information visit: <http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Grants-and-Funding/Resource-recovery-infrastructure-fund>

NEWRRG BOARD

Interviews for the appointment of four general member directors to the North East WRRG has been completed. These director appointments are expected to be approved by the Minister and their term will begin on 1 August 2018.

NEWRRG PROJECTS

North East WRRG has recently completed three projects that will inform projects planned for 2018/2019. The reports and information are made available to our Local Government and Resort Stakeholders to assist progression in improving waste and resource recovery initiatives and operations, including collaborative procurement.

[Probity review of North East WRRG Collaborative Procurement Template](#)

North East WRRG developed a suite of templates that have been used to facilitate collaborative waste and resource procurement in councils and alpine resorts across the north east region. The probity review of the templates has been completed ensuring a sound platform for ongoing collaborative procurement.

[Aggregate, Masonry and Soil \(AMS\), Garden and Timber Waste \(GTW\) product improvement report.](#)

The investigative report considers sector specific data of AMS and GTW waste quantities, material composition, and opportunities for improving AMS and GTW product at council's resource recovery centres.

[Food and Timber waste from the retail sector investigation report.](#)

The report observes current waste practices at food retail and wholesale businesses, in particular related to the management of food and timber waste (such as pallets) and includes suggested business cases with the aim of driving increased waste avoidance, food donations, food diversion to animal feed, reprocessing unavoidable food waste and diverting timber waste will be presented as part of the project. The data gathered may provide the primary platform to later launch organic waste reduction programs targeting the food retail and wholesale sector. Blue Environment will be presenting the report to the Local Government Waste Forum on the 19 July 2018 in Wodonga, a tour of the Wodonga Foodbank is also being planned to compliment the findings of the investigation.

CONGRATULATIONS WANGARATTA REPAIR CAFE

NEWRRG Board congratulate Wangaratta Repair Café on their recent Wangaratta Business Award- Future Business. The Board extends its congratulations to North East WRRG Procurement and Planning Manager, Mr Richard Paschke who volunteers significant time to the venture, extending his passion for waste and resource recovery beyond the workplace. The Repair Café not only provides an opportunity to seek out a repair solution to their broken goods, keeping 'stuff' out of landfill, but also a social setting to learn repair skills and chat about future opportunities in Wangaratta to reduce waste.



NEWRRG GOVERNANCE

To meet its legislative function, significant energy has been directed to governance over the last three months. The Board is pleased to report that it is progressing positively with the development of policies and procedures to ensure that it continues to improve its operational efficiencies and meet expectations. Like many of our stakeholders we are working to prepare for end of financial year reporting and prepare for the implementation of projects starting 1 July 2018.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on any item included in this Communique or relating to the North East WRRG please contact the Executive Officer, Cydoni Edwards on 0438 003 038 or cydoni.edwards@newrrg.vic.gov.au