

E-Newsletter Sponsor



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- Waste Strategy Summit (Discounted tickets for VWMA members)
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Key Dates for May

- 1 May – State Budget (<https://www.budget.vic.gov.au/>)
- 6 to 12 May - International Compost Awareness Week (<http://www.compostweek.com.au/core/>)
- 8 May – Federal Budget (<http://www.budget.gov.au/>)
- 14 to 18 May – IFAT (<https://www.ifat.de/index-2.html>)
- 18 – 20 May – 2018 Transport Women Australia Limited Conference (<https://www.transportwomen.com.au/uncategorized/announcement-of-twaw-2018-conference/>)

VWMA State Conference

The VWMA's annual State Conference will be taking place this year on **Tuesday 31 July to Wednesday 1 August** in the beautiful Yarra Valley.

The two day event will include an impressive line-up of guest speakers, workshops, information sessions and seminars.

Pencil these dates in – formal communication about this event will start in June.

COAG and the Environment Ministers Meeting

Council of Australian Governments (COAG) is the peak intergovernmental forum in Australia and this month all the States and Territories Environment Ministers met with the Australian Local Government Association to talk recycling waste.

You can get details on this meeting and what they have agreed to here

(<http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/4f59b654-53aa-43df-b9d1-b21f9caa500c/files/mem7-agreed-statement.pdf>).

For more information on MEM visit: <http://www.environment.gov.au/about-us/mem>

How these broad agreements translate at a local level have not yet been outlined and the VWMA believes there is opportunity to build a more resilient waste and resource recovery system and industry should really guide this development (please refer to Industry White Paper).

State and Federal Budget

The Victorian State Budget was realised on 1 May and it was disappointing to see no meaningful allocation for the essential services the waste and resource recovery sector provide. However additional funding was allocated to the Victorian EPA (including \$9.1 to expand the

Visit the ABC News website for breakdown of the budget here:

State - <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-05-01/victoria-budget-2018:-winners-and-losers/9696920>

Federal - <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-05-08/federal-budget-2018-winners-losers/9738982>

Industry White Paper: Road map for a resilient waste and resource recovery system

The VWMA's Executive Council approved the development of a white paper for Victoria as part of a holistic industry led response to a number of challenges that our members are facing.

The white paper will frame the Victorian waste and resource recovery as an interconnected system that delivers essential services to all Victorians and will focus on aspects of waste generation, disposal, kerbside collection, contracts, stockpiling, transport and consolidation, infrastructure, planning, insurance, landfill levies and more.

You can see a copy of the media release related to this white paper here: <http://www.vwma.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/VWMA-Release-10-April-002.pdf>

We are keen to identify members who would like to be involved with the development of this white paper. If you are interested (there will be additional opportunities for input and feedback) please contact mark@vta.com.au to register your interest.

National Sword/Blue Sky

The VWMA has continued to be active in a range of public and behind the scenes forums and discussions on this topic.

A few points on what's been happening in this space

- Environment Ministers (all of them) met and have agreed to some high level statements which can be found here (<http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/4f59b654-53aa-43df-b9d1-b21f9caa500c/files/mem7-agreed-statement.pdf>).
- How these translate at a local level has not yet been communicated
- VWMA has continued to be active on national sword/blue sky fronts

- Victorian Government has been running 'Future of Recycling Workshops' which some VWMA members have contributed to

Industry Breakfast Summary

A big thank you to our speakers and the members who attended the VWMA Industry Breakfast last week. The event was made possible through sponsorship from EPA who worked with us to put the Breakfast on and also delivered a stockpiling workshop post breakfast.

The breakfast had 119 people in attendance which included member and non-members and delivered information on the topics of: insurance, Government Update and an update on the stockpiling taskforce.

VWMA will be uploading PDFs of all the presentations onto our website next week if you'd like a copy of them.

Victorian Government Updates

As the peak body representing the waste and resource recovery sector in Victoria the VWMA is often called upon to provide input and feedback on topics and issues that may impact the industry. If you are interested in commenting on government policy (current and proposed) that impacts your business and the sector and influencing the agenda please contact mark@vta.com.au to register as part of small reference group the VWMA is looking to form.

Current consultations open for input and discussion

Stocking: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/managing-combustible-recyclable-waste-victoria>

E-Waste, waste to energy and reducing plastic pollution: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/waste>

Water pricing: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/water-price-review-2018>

Draft State Environment Protection Policy (Waters): <https://engage.vic.gov.au/seppwaters>

VTA Driver Training Program

The VTA run a free heavy vehicle licencing program which provides a pool of drivers for heavy vehicles should you need them. The training program equips drivers to have the knowledge and experience to make them industry ready.

If you'd like to know more about the training program or the pool of available drivers please contact: Deborah Hogg at deborah@vta.com.au or (03) 9646 8590

PIW Training

The VWMA deliver training in Port Melbourne with current courses available via our website (<http://www.vwma.com.au/training-at-the-vwma/>). If there is demand VWMA can put on additional courses but need a minimum number of attendees confirmed.

Veolia recently worked with the VWMA to put on two training sessions in regional Victoria (Cohuna and Echuca). It was great to see this deliver PIW training to a group of drivers who would have otherwise been required to travel all the way into Melbourne.

If you are keen for VWMA to host training in a regional location please express your interest to mark@vta.com.au.

Waste Strategy Summit

The VWMA has worked to secure a discount for our members for the upcoming Waste Strategy Summit on the 26-28 June: <http://www.questevents.com.au/waste-strategy-summit-2018>

As a special thanks to our members, VMWA have been able to secure you the special discounted rate of 10% off ticket prices. Please get in touch with mark@vta.com.au in order to receive the discount.

Recognition and awards

Awards are a great opportunity to increase the profile of your business and the broader waste and resource recovery sector.

Premiers Sustainability Awards

The Premier's Sustainability Awards, now in its 16th year, recognise and celebrate Victorians who are leading the way to a sustainable future. The awards continue to grow and reflect the action that is happening across industry, business and community from regional to metropolitan Victoria. There are a range of categories to compete in: <http://www.sustainabilityawards.vic.gov.au/>

Australian Freight Industry Awards

The Australian Freight Industry Awards are among the most coveted accolades in the Australian transport industry, and recognise fantastic achievements across a range of categories and sectors.

For more information: <http://www.vta.com.au/events/vta-australian-freight-industry-award-2017/>

Grants and funding

Sustainability Victoria

E-waste Infrastructure Support Program

The E-Waste Infrastructure Grants valued at \$15 million is currently available to support infrastructure upgrades that will provide reasonable access to 98% of Victorians across metropolitan and regional areas.

A \$1.5 million education and awareness campaign to educate Victorians about e-waste is currently being developed and due to commence in mid-2018.

<http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Grants-and-Funding/Ewaste-Infrastructure-Support-Program>

Recycling Industry Transition Support Grants

\$1 million Recycling Industry Transition Support Grants. These are a component of the \$13 million support package for councils and the recycling industry following challenges that impacted the Victorian recycling industry.

<http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Grants-and-Funding/Recycling-Industry-Short-Term-Relief-Package>

The \$6.1 million Boosting Business Productivity program supports businesses to access expert advice and support needed to cut energy and materials costs, reduce greenhouse emissions, and improve energy productivity. The program includes grants for businesses, a sustainable finance service, and various training, events, and information resources.

These include grants for energy, gas and material efficiencies

<http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/business/efficient-business-operations/boosting-business-productivity>

New procurement standard for State Government: Social Procurement To Create Jobs For All Victorians

Triple bottom line: an accounting framework with three parts: social, environmental and financial. The Victorian Government will now assess criteria against these components and business who can demonstrate how they are going to deliver on these parts will receive a competitive advantage. The VWMA is working with the relevant government agencies on what this new standard might mean for our members and will seek to provide additional information as it is made available.

<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/social-procurement-to-create-jobs-for-all-victorians/>

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