



Waste Authority

MEDIA STATEMENT

On-site sorting of recyclables saves greenhouse gas emissions.

Simple lifestyle choices such as sorting recyclables on-site and composting organic waste can result in an eight fold reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions according to a report released today by Waste Authority Chairman Mr Barry Carbon

The report describes a study undertaken by Murdoch University's Environmental Technology Centre (ETC) at the Bridgewater Lifestyle Village (BWLTV), a residential village of 380 houses designed around the principles of sustainable living and environmental consciousness.

Mr Carbon said simple waste management practices and individual action really can make a difference in reducing GHG emissions.

"The village has set up three Asset Recovery Centres (ARC) where recyclable materials are manually sorted. Food and green garden waste are also treated on-site through a composting process and then used in the village gardens," he said

"The results showed the main emissions were caused by transportation of inert waste to the landfill site. So the more onsite treatment and less waste to landfill, the better."

The study first determined the scope of the GHG accounting and included a comprehensive audit of any potential sources of emissions in the overall waste management process, ranging from the power consumed by the cement mixer used to compost the organic waste through to the fuel consumed transporting any non recyclable waste to the Millar Road landfill site.



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BWLV parent company, National Lifestyle Village are in discussions with ETC to determine the feasibility of implementing similar waste management systems across their five other projects in Western Australia.

Located in Mandurah, BWLV was the overall winner of the 2007 WA Environment Awards.

The report is available on the Authority's website www.zerowastewa.com.au

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