



Waste Authority

Media Release

Massive E-Waste Clean-Up at City of Stirling

1 April, 2010

More than 68 tonnes of e-waste including computers, monitors and CD players has been collected by the City of Stirling.

The City took part in a recent e-waste program, recycling all but 3.5 tonnes of the material collected, as part of an e-Waste Recycling and Monitoring Project, funded by the Waste Authority of Western Australia.

City of Stirling spokesperson Eddy Albrecht said grant funding of \$24,500 helped support the collection of e-waste, some of it classified as hazardous - including plastics, some metals and wood.

“There was a range of products collected, mostly televisions, monitors as well as large quantities of printers, DVD, VCR and CD players at the Recycling Centre at Balcatta (RCB),” Eddy said.

With every tonne of e-waste recycled there are savings of between 3-5 tonnes of green house gas (GHG) emissions.

“Based on this the RCB is averaging a saving of between 8 and 14.5 tonnes GHG per month,” Eddy said.

“The project has shown that about 96 per cent of all e-waste collected was recycled and diverted from landfill, including recyclable materials embodied in all computer components especially desktops and towers which often end up in scrap metal collections.

“Without positive action the majority of e-waste ends up in landfill, leaving heavy metals and other toxic components to leach into the soil and more dangerously contaminate the water table.”

Mercury, Cadmium and Lead are among the most toxic leachates.

According to the Environment, Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC), Australians discarded 16.8 million electronic devices in 2007/8. Only 9 per cent of this was recycled while 88 per cent was sent to landfill.

One of the major outcomes of the e-Waste Recycling and Monitoring project has been the realisation that e-waste is entering the local area from regions outside of the City of Stirling. The City has become a prime central location for the majority of Perth residents to drop off their e-waste.

The project has presented an opportunity to further collect e-waste through more verge junk collections as well as lead into another Waste Authority grant for Plastic Recycling from verges.

For more information about e-waste collections contact Judy Scott 9345 8555

Media Contact: Donna Cole, Last Say Communications, 0419 901229m.