



# MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT; CLIMATE CHANGE

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## MEDIA STATEMENT

11/01/08

### **State to benefit from recycling grants.**

The Carpenter Government has awarded almost \$800,000 to local government, industry and community groups across the State for innovative waste reduction initiatives.

Environment and Climate Change Minister David Templeman today announced that 10 businesses and organisations would each receive as much as \$297,000, under the latest round of funding through the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS).

“As we prepare to confront the challenges of our changing climate, it is important that we put more effort into reducing our waste and increasing our recycling,” Mr Templeman said.

“The projects recognised under this round of funding will help engage the community in acting now for the future and preserving our unique environment.”

Grants include \$53,000 to the Westralia Airports Corporation to undertake a major waste audit at the Perth Airport estate; \$297,025 for the expansion of the Hazelmere Wood Recycling Centre; and \$30,000 for a collaborative project between the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Southern Gateway Alliance, to deliver recycled content road-base to be used in a section of the new Perth-Bunbury highway.

Six community groups have also been awarded a further \$42,000 worth of grants as part of the Community Grants Scheme (CGS) for local, small-scale waste minimisation and recycling projects.

The grants of up to \$20,000 are for State-wide projects, including \$2,500 for the establishment of a facility in Kununurra to recycle cooking oil into a bio-diesel and \$2,500 for the operators of Alexandra Bridge Camping Ground in Margaret River to install recycling stations.

The Minister said the funding was part of the Carpenter Government’s commitment to move the State closer to the vision of ‘Toward Zero Waste’ by supporting waste and recycling initiatives across government, business and community.

“The benefits of recycling in combating climate change are now widely acknowledged and projects like these make it easier for everyone to join this fight,” he said.

Mr Templeman said more than \$750,000 had been awarded to organisations in the recent round of grants from the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme and the Community Grants Scheme.

“This is on top of the more than \$5million in waste reduction grants we distributed last year,” he said.

“The Carpenter Government is acting now for the future by tackling critical waste issues.

“We are taking the levy collected for all waste dumped in urban landfills and using it to support waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

“Late last year, we saw the passage of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bill through Parliament. This important legislation will see the establishment of a separate Waste Authority which will develop a comprehensive strategy for managing waste across Western Australia.”

The next round of SWIS and CGS is expected to be announced shortly.

Further information on the schemes is available from the Zero Waste website at <http://zerowastewa.com.au/ourwork/supportschemes/swis/> or by contacting Paul Ward on 6467 5320.

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