



8 February 2021

MEDIA STATEMENT

STANLEY ROAD CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE REACHES 2 MILLION CONTAINERS REFUNDED

Bunbury Harvey Regional Council's Stanley Road Waste Management Facility has reached a milestone with their Containers for Change refund point reaching 2 million containers processed through the scheme since it commenced on October 1.

On Sunday morning the 7th of February the 2 millionth container came through the doors, only 130 days into the commencement of the scheme.

Had Containers for Change refund points not had to close for the 1st week of February during COVID-19 lockdown the milestone would have been reached sooner.

"We are averaging just over 15,000 containers per day so far. Some days we have received over 47,000 containers and others have been quieter.

"The scheme seems to have kicked up a gear over the Christmas period, with people bringing in the containers they had saved since October for some extra Christmas cash." CEO Tony Battersby said.

2 million containers refunded means that \$200,000 has been injected back to the community in refunds and donations from the Stanley Road site alone.

The Stanley Road Refund Point is a drive through facility which is ideal for the elderly or people with young children as they can still see their containers being counted but do not need to get out of the car. Staff can remove the containers from your vehicle and count them bringing your refund and receipt to you.

If you have a Scheme ID, you can simply drop your bags of containers and the money will go into your account that day with your receipt being emailed to you.

We encourage people to sign up for a Scheme ID, particularly as cash handling during COVID is not ideal. To sign up for a Scheme ID please visit - <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/wa/>

If you would like to donate cash from your containers to the Lord Mayors Distress Relief Fund Wooroloo and Hills Bushfire 2021 Appeal, please use Scheme ID C10414519.

For information about containers for Change at Stanley Road Waste Management Facility visit - <https://watchyourwaste.wa.gov.au/containers-for-change/>

END STATEMENT

About BHRC

Bunbury Harvey Regional Council (BHRC) manages waste in the south west region of Western Australia. The Council is a statutory local government authority that delivers effective, efficient and environmentally sound waste management practices.

The primary purpose of BHRC is waste recovery and disposal. It is not responsible for waste collection services, which remain the responsibility of the individual local governments.

BHRC owns and manages the Stanley Road Waste Management Facility, which encompasses a waste transfer station, green waste recycling and a Class II landfill site. The BHRC also manages the Wellington Regional Compost Facility. Last financial year the facility took 19 thousand tonnes of organic waste and produced 6 thousand tonnes of compost.

This financial year by composting organic waste, the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council has forecast diverting 19 thousand tonnes of organic waste from landfill, saving 36,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere.¹

These emissions are equivalent to 1 year of electricity consumption from 8830 households^{2, 3} or the emissions from 7665 cars. We are extremely proud of our achievements to date and look forward to continuing to lead the state in diversion of waste from landfill.^{1, 4}

The BHRC produces organically certified compost from the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) bins collected from residents of the City of Bunbury and the Shires of Capel, Collie, Harvey and Donnybrook-Balingup. The compost is available for purchase in both residential and commercial quantities.

Waste Transfer Station

-  30,044 vehicle movements per annum,
-  10,895 tonnes per annum,
-  8,691 tonnes was diverted and reused or recycled with the remaining 2,204 being landfilled giving a diversion rate of 79.5%
-  Regional household hazardous waste center with South West Councils having satellite collection points at their waste facilities and delivering to Stanley Road for bulk collection,
-  Paint Back stewardship program including commercial sector,
-  Have been approved for a CDS refund and processing depot.

Landfill Operations

-  Site receives 97,071 tonnes per annum with 57,775 being diverted and reused or recycled with the remaining 39,296 being landfilled giving a site total of 59.5% diversion rate,
-  Site has been operating since 1990 and has significantly improved the waste diversion practices with records showing in 2006/2007 80,000 tonnes per annum and only 200 tonnes of scrap steel being recycled.
-  Site is 250 hectares all being located in the Kemerton Industrial Park buffer, 40 hectares currently being utilized for waste operations,
-  Waste audits on municipal waste required under the license, Bunbury only have 19% organics remaining in total waste delivered to site with Harvey having 58% organics in total waste. Harvey will improve the introduction of FOGO 18th August 2019.

Site Rehabilitation

-  Site rehabilitation has been ongoing for the last two years with phase 1 nearing completion with only a small amount native vegetation planting to be completed (Bunbury TAFE and Leschenault Community Nursery involved),
-  Landfill gas capture implemented with testing and trials being done over first 12 months, temporary gas flare results have shown an average of 59.62% Methane, 35.88% Carbon Dioxide, 0.22% Oxygen and 4.28% Balance Gas. Landfill gas flow was measured at 137 m³ per hour with a gas flare temperature of 767°C.

About Watch Your Waste

A regional waste education program funded by the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council. The program provides presentations, tours, events, displays and information for the community about the importance of waste minimisation, recycling and the impact of waste in the environment.

If you would like more information on the program please contact Taryn or Amanda at Watch Your Waste on 9711 1053 or have a look at the new website www.watchyourwaste.wa.gov.au or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WatchyourWaste/>

References

1. Watch my Waste - <https://watchmywaste.com.au/food-waste-greenhouse-gas-calculator/>
2. Australian Energy Regulator – www.energymadeeasy.gov.au
3. Department of Environment (2017) National Greenhouse Gas Factors
4. RAC Cars and the environment <https://rac.com.au/about-rac/advocating-change/sustainability/car-science>

For more information about the compost facility please visit <https://bhrc.wa.gov.au/how-does-the-organics-facility-work/>

Media enquiries to Tony Battersby on 9797 2404 or email tbattersby@bunbury.wa.gov.au