

EASTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

EMRC Newsletter

ISSUE 121 – December 2017

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1. CEO's message

As the close of another successful year at the EMRC approaches, it gives me immense satisfaction to reflect on all that we have achieved during the last 12 months. The EMRC staff have been incredibly busy with a number of projects and I take this time to thank them for all of their efforts in 2017. I also welcome our newly elected and returning EMRC Councillors, especially Chairman Cr David McDonnell and the Deputy Chairman, Cr Dylan O'Connor.

To help us rejuvenate and prepare for the year ahead, EMRC's Ascot Place Administration Office will close at 5pm on Friday, 22 December 2017 and will reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday, 2 January 2018.

The Red Hill Waste Management Facility will be closed on Christmas Day (Monday, 25 December 2017) and New Year's Day (Monday, 1 January 2018). The Hazelmere Resource Recovery Park will be closed from 3.00pm Friday, 22 December 2017 and each day until Tuesday, 2 January 2018. The Coppin Road and Mathieson Road Transfer Stations (Shire of Mundaring) will be closed on Christmas Day (Monday, 25 December 2017), Boxing Day (Tuesday, 26 December 2017) and New Year's Day (Monday, 1 January 2018).

On behalf of the EMRC's Chairman, Councillors and staff, we look forward to continuing our work together in 2018 and we wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable festive season.



PETER B. SCHNEIDER
Chief Executive Officer

2. Councillor David McDonnell elected EMRC Chairman

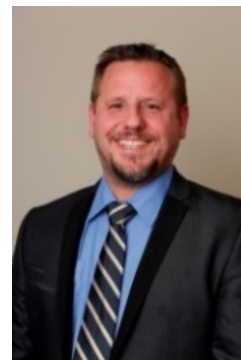
City of Swan Councillor David McDonnell has added the role of EMRC Chairman to his portfolio after being elected unopposed during the Special Council Meeting held on Thursday, 9 November 2017. City of Kalamunda Councillor Dylan O'Connor was elected as the Deputy Chairman.

This is Cr McDonnell's second two-year term with the EMRC and Cr O'Connor's third.

Cr McDonnell said he was looking forward to the Chairman's role to continue the collaborative planning approach the EMRC brings together with the member Councils.



EMRC Chairman
Cr David McDonnell



EMRC Deputy Chairman
Cr Dylan O'Connor

EMRC CEO Peter Schneider welcomed and congratulated the six new Councillors and five deputies who were appointed to the EMRC following the recent October local government elections.

For more information please contact Jocelyn McLennan at Jocelyn.McLennan@emrc.org.au

3. End of Year Volunteer Event

On 24 November 2017, the EMRC held its End of Year Volunteer Event at the Hartfield Country Club in Forrestfield. The event was to celebrate volunteer efforts as part of the Eastern Region Catchment Management Program. A total of 125 people attended representing catchment groups, 'Friends of' groups and a number of distinguished guests. The EMRC Chairman Cr David McDonnell opened the event followed by an address from Mr Stephen Price MLA, Member for Forrestfield representing the Honourable Mick Murray – Minister for Seniors and Ageing, Volunteering, Sport and Recreation and the Honourable David Templeman – Minister for Local Government, Heritage, Culture and the Arts.

The EMRC also appreciated the attendance of the Honourable Alanna Clohesy MLC, Member for East Metropolitan Region; Mr Mark Cugley, Acting Director of the Rivers and Estuaries Division, Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; Mr John Holley, Director of the State NRM Office; Cr Brooke O'Donnell, City of Kalamunda; Cr Lesley Boyd, City of Kalamunda; Cr John Daw, President of the Shire of Mundaring; Cr Doug Jeans, Shire of Mundaring; and Mr Peter Schneider, CEO of the EMRC at the celebratory event.



Some volunteers who attended EMRC End of Year Volunteer Event

The event highlighted some of the key projects lead by volunteers within the City of Kalamunda, Shire of Mundaring and City of Swan. The projects help to protect, enhance and conserve bushland values and water quality in the Perth Hills. This work would not be possible without dedicated volunteers caring for their local reserves.

'Nature in Focus' was the theme of this year's annual photo competition with 34 entries on display.



Andre Lebel's winning entry – 'Follow the Leader'.

First place was awarded to Andre Lebel for his entry named 'Follow the Leader' with Francisca Lebel second and Darrell McCarthy third.

Andre and Francisca are members of the Friends of Strettle Road Reserve while Darrell is a member of the Friends of Vernallen Reserve.

The winners all received a gift voucher from Zanthorea Nursery in Maida Vale for their efforts.

For more information please contact Karen Warner at Karen.Warner@emrc.org.au

4. EMRC to be the first to accept Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The Red Hill Waste Management Facility has led the way in being the first landfill facility in Western Australia to have been awarded a licence to accept per- and poly-fluoroalkyl, or PFAS, contaminated material.

In June 2017, the EMRC sought an amendment to its licence to accept and dispose of PFAS material at the Red Hill Waste Management Facility. Permission from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation was granted in September 2017.

PFAS is a collective term used to describe manufactured chemical compounds that provide resistance to heat, other chemicals or to abrasion and have been used for many decades in industrial processes and consumer products. Common uses for the chemicals include firefighting foam, medical imaging such as x-rays and on fabrics and cooking applications as a fire retardant.

The EMRC is working with industries and organisations, particularly defence establishments and fire training facilities, to advise and provide a local and convenient location for the appropriate disposal of PFAS.

For more information please contact Sandra Evans at Sandra.Evans@emrc.org.au

5. Employee of the Year - Aimee Kontor

Aimee Kontor, Strategic Projects Officer with the Regional Services directorate, has been named this year's Employee of the Year.



EMRC 2017 Employee of the Year Aimee Kontor being presented with her award by EMRC CEO Peter Schneider, Manager Human Resources Prapti Mehta and Director Regional Services Wendy Harris

During 2017 Aimee was also named the January employee of the month as a result of her efforts to help a team member outside of work hours. Aimee provided support to a staff member who required medical assistance, alerting a point of contact and stayed on the scene to ensure the staff member remained safe and calm.

We would like to thank Aimee for all her hard work throughout the year and congratulate her on this prestigious achievement.

For more information please contact Prapti Mehta at Prapti.Mehta@emrc.org.au

6. 2017 Children's Environment and Health Local Government Report Card Project Awards

The EMRC added to its list of awards for 2017 when the Swan River Ramble won the Environments Promoting Physical Activity category at the *Local Government Children's Environment and Health Policy Awards*.



EMRC Chairman Cr David McDonnell and Director Regional Services Wendy Harris with the award won for the Swan River Ramble

The Children's Environment and Health Policy Awards are presented annually by the Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA, and showcase the progress of local governments in creating environments that protect and support the health of children.

This year's award ceremony took place on 8 December at the Bendat Centre in Wembley with EMRC Chairman Cr David McDonnell and Director Regional Services Wendy Harris in attendance to accept the award.

Collaboration between the Councils involved in the Swan River Ramble contributed to the success of this regional project. It is great to see families utilising the cycle route and enjoying the fun of finding Eric, a fictional character depicted on signs at 14 locations along the way.

The Awards are an initiative of the Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA with support from Healthway, the WA Local Government Association (WALGA), the Commissioner for Children and Young People WA (CCYP) and The Cancer Council WA.

7. EMRC Recycling Tips

The EMRC is very proud of our contribution to limiting waste and we can help by providing some useful tips.

Still buying your takeaway coffee in a disposable cup?

If so, you are missing out on reducing your waste contribution but also on potentially saving money. Approximately 1 billion disposable cups are used in Australia each year and as many are plastic lined and difficult to recycle, they will end up in landfill. Instead, invest in a reusable coffee cup and use this for your next takeaway coffee. Some cafés will even offer a discount! To find cafés offering a reusable cup discount, visit <https://www.responsiblecafes.org/> or ask your local coffee shop to join up. This is an easy piece of waste to avoid!

What plastic can go in my recycling bin?

When it comes to determining what kind of plastic can go in the recycling bin, do the scrunch test. That means, if you can scrunch up the item (think of a chip bag) and it makes a noise, then it cannot be placed in your recycling bin. This should be placed in your local REDcycle bin (commonly found at Coles). If the plastic container is hard and contained something (think of a plastic bottle), then it should be rinsed and placed in your yellow-top recycling bin. All lids, smaller than the palm of your hand, should be placed in the general waste bin. For information about the REDcycle program visit www.redcycle.net.au and for a list of what can be placed in your recycling bin refer to your Waste and Recycling Guide or visit www.rgang.org.au/a-z-of-waste.html

For more information on our tips, please contact, EMRC Waste Education on WasteEducation@emrc.org.au

8. Council and committee meeting dates

EMRC Council and committee meeting dates for 2018 are as follows:

EMRC COUNCIL MEETING

Commencing at 6.00pm

Thursday	15 February	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	22 March	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	19 April (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	24 May (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	21 June	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	19 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	23 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	20 September	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	18 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	6 December	EMRC Administration Office

AUDIT COMMITTEE (AC) MEETING

Commencing at 6.30pm

Thursday	1 February (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	8 March	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 April (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	10 May (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	7 June	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	9 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	6 September	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	4 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	22 November (if required)	EMRC Administration Office

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CEOAC) MEETING

Commencing at 12.30pm

Tuesday	30 January	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	6 March (informal)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	3 April	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	8 May (informal)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	5 June	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	3 July (informal)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	7 August	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	4 September (informal)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	2 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	20 November	EMRC Administration Office

RESOURCE RECOVERY COMMITTEE (RRC) MEETING

Commencing at 5.00pm

Thursday	1 February (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	8 March (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 April (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	10 May (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	7 June (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	9 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	6 September (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	4 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	22 November (if required)	EMRC Administration Office

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING

Commencing at 4.00pm

Thursday	1 February (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	8 March (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 April (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	10 May (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	7 June (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	9 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	6 September (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	4 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	22 November (if required)	Red Hill Waste Management Facility