

5 February 2019

Waste Minimisation Facilitation Update for Local Board

Biosecurity Ambassadors eye on waste

The Biosecurity ambassadors working at ports of entry have been supporting waste minimisation education, engaging as appropriate/useful with visitors and residents utilizing the waste facilities (especially at Port Fitzroy Wharf) to facilitate good separation of waste from recyclables.

New Years Picnic and Family Fun Day

The Wastewise facilitator manned waste stations at both these events and worked with the event coordinator to support both events running as 'zero waste' events. The amount of refuse and recyclables at these events has continued to decline over recent years and this year the reduction relative to other years was particularly impressive. With less than half a bin of refuse from each of the events, one yellow crate of recyclables from the New Years picnic and one from the Family Fun Day. Extra pleased with one stall holder who had come to the island with plastic cups for their drink stand, offering to set up a collection point at their drink stand and supporting the return of plastic cups from the other drop off points back to their collection point for removal off island.

There is opportunity at the New Years Picnic to improve the bin set up to encourage patrons and stall holders to engage more with waste/recyclables separation.

Workshops

The waste minimisation budget continues to support 'make the most of waste' workshops run through the Tipshop/Aoteaora. During the first half of this financial year, workshops have included rag rug making, rag bag making, upholstery, small metal sculpture, plastic bottle building, and macramé. Workshop numbers have ranged from 2 to 11. Coming up in February will be a clothing/soft fabric fix and mend, rag rug, and pockets and socks workshops.

Compost/Love food hate waste

A community garden composting workshop, involving several island compost experts had in excess of 20 attendees.

Caity Endt has continued to have organised visits from Okiwi School students and staff to learn about all aspects of sustainable gardening- growing food, composting, and a less wasteful life. Mulberry Grove School has begun a similar programme, and Caity hopes to engage more with Kaitoke School this year/term.

Caity continues to offer support to Mulberry Grove school's garden and compost design as part of her wastewise role.

Two home garden visits are planned to learn more about composting and sustainable gardening from local experts. Other workshops are also in the pipeline.

Waste Minimisation Innovation Fund

We were successful in securing funding to work with Okiwi and Mulberry Grove Schools to establish community pantries and compost facilities at each of the schools last year. The Tip Shop were engaged to work with the schools to create the pantries and all signage. This project is running behind schedule due to personal issues of staff involved but we are working to complete early this year.

Waste Tender/Steering Group

Through Auckland Council, Rick Thorpe and Jon Morgan from Zero Waste Network continue to inspire, advise, encourage and support our community tendering for the Aotea waste and resource recovery contract to develop a zero waste, community focused, successful model. The Wastewise facilitator (Jo O'Reilly) continues to offer support to local organisations considering the tender.

Curb-side recycling

The waste wise facilitator role has supported Auckland Council and Great Barrier Cartage, promoting the new curb-side collection service for recyclables through Facebook, Barrier Bulletin, radio and other print information as well as responding to the occasional query.