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Well, 2010 has been and gone and by now we are all settling down in to 2011. Rebecca has spent the break making soap; Amy has been busy preserving orange juice and plums; while Nabilla has been whizzing around town on her brand new racing bike! Despite these fantastic distractions we have taken the chance to do some serious planning for the year. There will be lots of workshops and courses as well as festivals and community events involving waste and sustainability in the western suburbs. If you haven't recently visited the Earth Carers new [website](#) we are constantly updating it with information on upcoming events and courses, as well as lots of photos of Earth Carers at work.

We hope to catch up with you all soon. Regards Amy, Nabilla and Rebecca

Upcoming Events:

- [Free household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day \(12 February 2011\)](#)
- [Living Smart Course \(starts 3 March 2011\)](#)
- [Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour \(17 February 2011\)](#)
- [Bike Maintenance Workshop \(27 February 2011 and 20 March 2011\)](#)
- [Earthwise Garden Workshops \(ongoing from 28 January 2011\)](#)
- [Clean Up Australia Day \(6 March 2011\)](#)
- [Sustainability Fair and Earth Hour Event \(26 March 2011\)](#)

WMRC & Member Council News:

- [Draft WMRC Strategic Plan - For Public Comment \(closes 25 February 2011\)](#)
- [WMRC Community Liaison Meeting \(next meeting 10 March 2011\)](#)
- [DiCOM® Construction Commencing](#)
- [New website for Town of Cottesloe](#)

Interesting Links & Information:

- [Department of Communities Volunteers Questionnaire \(closes 12 February 2011\)](#)
- [Freecycle Network](#)

Upcoming Events

Free Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day

Do you have a stash of nasties in the corner of the garage or on top of the fridge e.g. paint, chemicals or compact fluorescent lights? The WMRC will host a free Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal day on Saturday 12 February 2011 between 9am and 1pm at the JFR (Jim) McGeough Resource Recovery Facility (Cnr Brockway Rd and Lemnos St, Shenton Park). Click [here](#) to find out what you can take. Look out for a special appearances by the Fluoro Fairy (we hope it wont be too hot!).



Living Smart Course

Living Smart is a hands on seven week course covering all things sustainable and is facilitated by the inspirational Shani Graham and Tim Darby (the Sustainability Gurus). Nabilla, Rebecca and Amy have all done the course and highly recommend it! The course will start on Thursday 3 March 2011, 7.00pm-9.30pm at the Grove Library and is sponsored by the WMRC, Town of Cottesloe, Town of Mosman Park and Shire of Peppermint Grove. To register contact Shani on 0417 941 991 or by [email](#). Bookings essential, \$20 enrolment fee. Click [here](#) for flyer.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour

Our most recent Earth Carers graduates were a wonderful and inquisitive lot and, might we say rather insistent! Several of their questions revolved around water and more specifically waste water; an area outside of our expertise. So in the interests of satisfying their hunger for knowledge Earth Cares have organised a tour of the [Subiaco Wastewater Treatment Plant](#). The tour will consist of a short presentation by the Water Corporation's Process Technical Officer and then a tour of the plant. There will be time to ask questions...and we have warned the tour guide to be ready for us!

Date: Thursday 17 February, 2011

Time: 10.00am -11.30am (please arrive five minutes early to sign in)

Where: Subiaco Wastewater Treatment Plant (Cnr Brockway Road and Lemnos Street, Subiaco (over the road from our very own JFR (Jim) McGeough Resource Recovery Facility)

Bookings: Email earthcarers@wmrc.wa.gov.au or call us on 9384 4003. Places are limited.

Bike Maintenance Workshops

Are you longing to get back on your bike but have no idea how to keep those tyres pumped? Come along to our bike workshop to learn all the vital maintenance jobs needed for a smooth ride. After the workshop you will be riding hassel free off in to the sunset singing 'Down up pedals down up down...'. Registrations are essential as places are limited.



If you live or work in Subiaco, Nedlands or Cambridge

Date: Sunday 27 February, 2011

Time: 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Where: Lords Recreation Centre (3 Price St, Subiaco)

Bookings: Registration form available [here](#) (by Friday 18 February)

If you live or work in Mosman Park, Cottesloe or Peppermint Grove

Date: Sunday 20 March, 2011

Time: 12.30pm - 3.30pm

Where: Grove Library Community Centre (1 Leake Street, Peppermint Grove)

Bookings: Email earthcarers@wmrc.wa.gov.au or call us on 9384 4003 (by Friday 11 March). For further information see [flyer](#).

Also, if you are passionate about bikes and bike paths why not sign up to participate in the 2011 Super Tuesday Annual Bike Count? Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Earthwise Garden Workshops

Want to garden but don't know where to start? Would you like to pick up tips on how to improve your garden? Join Earthwise for a series of workshops that will show you how! Topics include "It's all in the soil" – why and what to compost, worm farms, propagation, pruning and maintenance & recycling and reusing.

Date: Starts Friday 28 January, 2011 (we know this one has passed, but there are still four more to go!)

Time: 10.30am - 12.00pm

Where: Earthwise (315 Bagot Road, Subiaco)

Bookings: Please RSVP to Marc Phillips by calling 9237 9260 or by [email](#).



Clean Up Australia Day

The annual Clean Up Australia Day will be held on Sunday 6 March 2011. This is a great community event that helps protect and preserve our natural environment. Last year volunteers across Australia (including some of our Earth Carers) picked up 15,560 tonnes of rubbish! In our region sites are located in the Towns of Cottesloe and Mosman Park and in the City of Nedlands .

If you would like to join in and want to know the full list of Clean Up locations visit [Clean Up Australia Day](#).

Sustainability Fair and Earth Hour Event

Following last year's success, Scotch College will be celebrating again with the 2011 Sustainability Fair. This year the event will coincide with Earth Hour (Saturday 26 March) and will include the screening of an outdoor movie - more details coming soon. Earth Carers will have a stall to promote waste education and volunteers are needed! If you can help out, please contact Earth Carers on earthcarers@wmrc.wa.gov.au or phone 9384 4003.

WMRC & Member Council News

Open for Comment

The WMRC's Draft Strategic Plan 2011-2016 is available for public inspection and comment until Friday 25 February 2011. Details on how to make comments can be found on the WMRC [website](#).

Community Liaison Meetings

Community members are invited to attend the JFR (Jim) McGeough Resource Recovery Facility (the Facility) Community Liaison Meetings (held bi-monthly). The purpose of the meetings are to provide an open forum for information exchange and communication between the WMRC, residents and other stakeholders about the Facility in Shenton Park. You can view the notes from the previous meeting [here](#). Tea and coffee will be provided.

Next Meeting:

Date: Thursday 10 March 2011

Time: 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Where: Mt Claremont Community Centre (Hakea Room), 107 Montgomery Avenue, Claremont

DiCOM® Construction Commencing

Construction of the full DiCOM® Bioconversion Waste Processing System is about to commence at the JFR (Jim) McGeough Resource Recovery Facility. Construction works are expected to take twelve

months with the end result an alternative waste processing plant that will deliver 65-80% of waste from the western suburbs away from landfill to produce market quality compost and biogas.

Construction of the DiCOM® System will be completed by Perth company Monadelphous who entered a joint venture with Anaeco Ltd (DiCOM® technology owner). Over the past months Monadelphous have been decommissioning the trial plant. Next month earthworks will commence. Between May and June structural works will occur, including an extension of the building. Between June and December the plant will begin to take real shape as the three processing vessels are delivered and constructed. December to March 2012 will see pre-commissioning.

The finished plant is expected to commence operation in March 2012 and will process up to 55,000 tonnes of waste per annum. Regular project updates will be available on the WMRC [website](#), and interested people can join the WMRC mailing list to receive bi-monthly updates (see website [homepage](#) to subscribe)..

Cottesloe Website Update

The Town of Cottesloe has updated their [website](#). Very swish! Nice work Cottesloe!

Interesting Links & Information

Volunteers Questionnaire

The Department for Communities is developing a 'Volunteering Framework' which expresses a vision for the future of volunteering in Western Australia. We are inviting people to fill in a short, on-line survey about their involvement in a particular kind of community group – that is, groups that are run by volunteers. The survey is available online by clicking [here](#).

Freecycle Network

Just a little reminder about the wonderful services of the [Freecycle](#) network. Once you register you can get rid of useful but unwanted items and you can also request items you're sure someone would have just kicking about at home. WMRC have put an unused camera, a gazebo frame missing its cover and a printer back into circulation and Amy found her son's Christmas present via Freecycle (a fish tank for yabbies)!

Our mailing address is:
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