

LITTERature

Keep Australia Beautiful Council WA's

e-newsletter



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2021. It's been a busy few months for KABC, assisting volunteers with clean-ups and regional visits.

On Wednesday 17 March, the Premier announced a new Cabinet team for the re-elected Labor Government. Hon. Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA was elected as the Minister for Environment; Climate Change Action: Commerce. Keep Australia Beautiful Council looks forward to working with the new Minister on all things litter.

The KABC team has also been busy providing assistance to communities at Clean Up Australia Day events. This year, clean-up events were held throughout the month of March in the cities of Cockburn, North Cottesloe, Kalgoorlie and in Albany. More than 600 volunteers attended these events removing over 200 bags of litter. In Kalgoorlie, the team of volunteers also removed 12 tonnes of illegally dumped bulk rubbish – an outstanding effort.

We would also like to take this opportunity to send our thoughts to the residents in all the mid-west communities who have been impacted by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Seroja. KABC has always connected with communities in the mid-west through our community led programs and we wish everyone the best in their recovery efforts.

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[KABC visits Albany](#)

KABC staff were invited to join the Keep Albany Beautiful team and attend two local events in March. Since establishing our Adopt-a-Spot partnership with the Keep Albany Beautiful team and the City of Albany back in 2018, more than 50 groups have adopted sites throughout the town



This year, Keep Albany Beautiful President, Lynley Harrison, was keen to raise the profile of the Adopt-a-Spot program in Albany. Enlisting KABC's support, we attended the Green Fair on the Square sustainability event to promote KABC's anti-litter message, promote our programs and we invited locals to attend a community clean-up event that was held the following day at Foundation Park. The Keep Albany Beautiful team ran a very successful cake stall, sold locally designed Keep Albany Beautiful reusable tote bags and ran a raffle, all raising money for their volunteer organisation.



Volunteers met at Foundation Park and collected litter from the park and surrounding areas for just over two hours. KABC was on hand to assist with sorting and auditing the litter that was collected. Over 40kgs of litter was removed by 26 volunteers. This was the first joint community clean-up event held since establishing our partnership. We look forward to assisting again in the future.

"It was great to be shown how to audit the litter by KABC. We will now be confident to run audits at future clean-up events" said Keep Albany Beautiful President Lynley Harrison.

If you would like the KABC team to assist with raising the profile of the Adopt-a-Spot program in your local government, contact adoptaspot@kabc.wa.gov.au



Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful Council will launch the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards 2021 at a community clean-up event in Esperance on 1 May 2021, co-hosted by the Shire of Esperance..

Entries into the Awards will be open for regional and remote communities from 1 May until 27 August, when submissions are also due.

The awards encompass initiatives across seven categories including litter prevention, environmental education, preserving heritage, community action and youth leadership. This year's awards criteria is available [here](#). To discover the types of projects submitted by communities for awards consideration, please click [here](#). The Keep Australia Beautiful Council is charged through the Litter Act, to 'foster and encourage the appreciation of clean and well-kept cities and countryside' and the Awards are all about encouraging communities in their sustainability projects.



For more information and to enter, visit the [Keep Australia Beautiful website](#).

Community Litter Grants



Grants of up to \$5,000 for local projects and \$10,000 for regional projects are now available.

If you have a litter problem, or a litter reduction idea that needs assistance to come to fruition, you can apply through the KABC [Community Litter Grants](#) page. Litter management at events and festivals, as well as community engagement projects, are also eligible.

Find out more about the program and past recipients [here](#).

Roadside litter program update

Keep Australia Beautiful Council presented its new regional roadside litter prevention program at the Litter Congress 2021 in Sydney. The new program is due to be rolled out throughout Western Australia to highlight how out of place litter is in the natural environment.

Hosted by KAB NSW, the Litter Congress is an opportunity for individuals and groups involved in litter management, prevention and reduction from around Australia to meet and discuss the issue of littering and behaviour change in an interactive environment.



[Litter Hero - Bob Taylor](#)

Bob has been collecting rubbish across Western Australia since 1962. He moved to Geraldton from Northampton and quickly became a member of the Gero Clean up crew. So far he has collected over 1500 bags of litter around Geraldton.

Using his own vehicle, Bob keeps 51 kms of roadside into and around Geraldton free of litter, and in 2020 he collected 752 Keep Australia Beautiful orange pick up bags of litter.

The types of rubbish collected over the years has included tyres, mattresses, carpets, plastic, 200 ltr drums, eskies, pillows and clothing. In his 17 years at Northampton Bob spent 1,750 hours travelling to pick up rubbish and he collected 3,236 bags of it.

Bob is truly impressive and the Keep Australia Beautiful Council is grateful his efforts to keep wherever he calls home clean of other people's litter.



[Clean Schools professional learning](#)

More schools are looking at ways to educate students about the impacts of litter in their school and local environment. As educators we support and encourage our students to become responsible citizens and to develop and enhance a sense of pride and ownership for their school.

Register for free workshops and join other educators in developing a Clean Schools program, full of fun and inspiring ideas, to help keep your school litter free. By using the Clean School guide, your program will be specific to your school and suit the needs of your students.

To make it easier for you to take part, Keep Australia Beautiful Council can cover the relief cost for two people from your school to attend.

The Clean Schools workshop is a great opportunity to network with other educators and discuss ideas that can be implemented in your school.

Upcoming Clean Schools professional learnings workshops

[Esperance Clean Schools and Waste Wise Schools workshop](#)

[Broome Clean Schools and Waste Wise Schools workshop](#)

[Scarborough workshop](#)

Our Clean Schools program is supported by the Waste Authority through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account.

Find out more >>

Citizen Science opportunity

Are you looking for an opportunity to get your local school or community group involved in citizen science? KABC and [AUSMAP](#) provide a half-day session in the Perth metropolitan to collect and audit both microplastics and macroplastics.

Participants work in small groups, along the hightide line, to sample for microplastics (between 1 and 5mm) using the AUSMAP methodology under the guidance of a trained facilitator.

The surrounding area is also cleared of litter and audited using the Tangaroa Blue [Australian Marine Debris Initiative](#) database, which now contains over eighteen million pieces.

For more information about this free opportunity, please contact [Sam](#) at KABC. Timing of the event is dependent on tides.



Ongoing promotions



KABC is continuing to offer custom-made bin stickers through two of our programs: Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities; and Clean Schools.

[Find out more >>](#)

Upcoming events

[24 April 2021 – Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor clean up](#)

[1 May 2021 – Clean Up Esperance](#)

5 May 2021 – Bushrangers conference

5 June 2021 – [National Tidy Towns Awards](#) WA's State Winner Narrogin will represent WA at the National Tidy Towns Awards

Are your litter reporter contact details up-to-date?



When you send us a litter report, the KABC enforcement team will let you know that your report has successfully become an infringement. To make sure that you are notified, we need your email, phone and address details to be current. If you have moved house, changed your phone plan or got rid of that old Hotmail email from 10 years ago, then please: [update your litter reporter details](#)

Quick links:

[Report Littering](#) | [Adopt a Spot](#) | [Tidy Towns](#) | [Clean Schools](#) | [Clean Clubs](#) | [Outback packs](#)

Social Media links:

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

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