

LITTERature

Keep Australia Beautiful Council WA's

e-newsletter



Keep
Australia
Beautiful
WA

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2020. It's been a different first half of the year with COVID-19 affecting the way we do business. In response to COVID-19, and to ensure the safety of our volunteers, we made the decision to temporarily postpone our Adopt-a-Spot and Clean Schools programs.

However, we do have some good news.

Following State Government advice, the Environment Minister has opened up applications for funding as part of the 2020 Community Litter Grants program. He also announced that this year's 2020 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards will go ahead – with regional communities invited to enter the awards from Friday, 12 June 2020.

Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) has also re-opened Adopt-a-Spot registrations. Please remember that all clean-up events must adhere to the [current government social distancing restrictions](#).

Clean Schools conducted online workshops in Term Two and look forward to face-to-face sessions in Term Three.

As always, thank you to all our KABC volunteers for your ongoing support.

Bin Stickers

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

Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities

Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities are offering remote and regional towns in Western Australia free custom-made bin stickers for 240lt bins.

This initiative is part of the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards (you don't need to be an entrant to get the stickers). We are encouraging community members, groups, corporations, local councils and schools to create bin stickers that promote litter free communities.

The chosen designs will receive complimentary bin stickers. For more

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information on how to get involved please [click here](#).

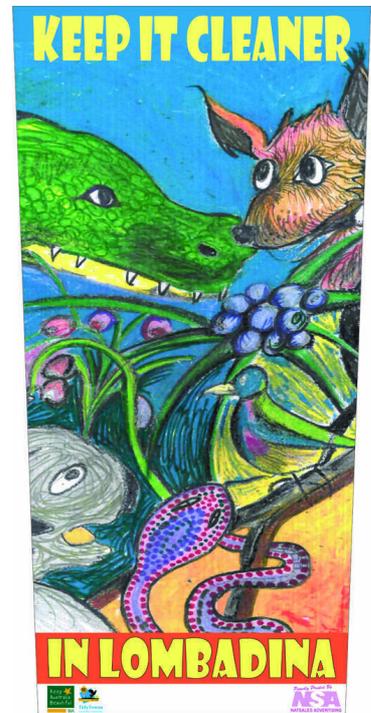
Clean Schools

Clean Schools will offer Western Australian schools free student-designed stickers for their school bins. This offer is open to schools registered in the Clean Schools program. To check if your school is registered, email cleanschools@kabc.wa.gov.au or register [here](#).

To get involved please email cleanschools@kabc.wa.gov.au and let us know you are planning to design stickers with your students. We will discuss the size of your bins and ensure you are using the correct template.

We will provide 18 stickers for your school in 2020. This can include nine different designs, with two of each design printed.

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



Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful Western Australia is happy to announce that the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards 2020 will be going ahead this year.

Entries will be open from 12 June until 7 September 2020, when submissions are also due.

The awards ceremony will be held at Optus Stadium on the 27 November 2020.

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](#).

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

[Register your community here](#)



Community Litter Grants

On World Environment Day on Friday, 5 June our Environment Minister opened funding applications for the 2020 Community Litter Grants program.

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

Litter grant applications close on Friday, 24 July 2020. Find out more about criteria and eligibility [here](#).



Roadside litter program update

Keep Australia Beautiful has been working with Main Roads WA (MRWA) for many years to reduce roadside litter. You may have noticed signage at Freeway off ramps or along Great Eastern, Brand and Forrest Highways asking road users to put their rubbish in a bin. The signage was part of a trial roadside litter prevention project implemented in 2016 that encourage motorists to do the right thing with their rubbish. The project included the roadside signs as well as free car litter bags, which were available from service stations along these highways. Litter audits found reductions of up to 70 per cent in the type of litter thrown out of vehicles (cans, bottles, food wrappers) at some study sites along these roads.

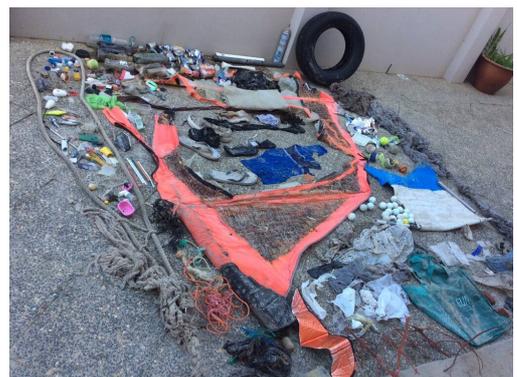
In response to this, MRWA has funded the roll out of a similar program state-wide that will include new roadside signage along major highways, free car litter bags from roadhouses on these highways and a social media campaign all aimed at further reducing the litter that appears along roadsides.

Sadly, roadsides continually appear in the National Litter Index as one of the most littered sites in Western Australia. However, it is anticipated that in conjunction with the commencement of Containers for Change (Western Australia's container deposit scheme) in October 2020, WA should see a significant reduction in the amount of litter along our roadsides.

Adopt-a-Spotter

From a young age, Adopt-a-Spot volunteer Roslyn from Busselton remembers her parents teaching her not to litter. It was in 2011 that Roslyn participated in her first organised clean up with Tangaroa Blue whilst holidaying on Rottnest Island, and she has continued on her clean-up journey ever since.

Roslyn joined the Adopt-a-Spot program in 2019 after becoming increasingly concerned about the impact litter was having on wildlife.



During a 2019 winter storm, she was shocked to see that large volumes of ocean debris had washed up along a one-kilometre stretch of beach. She took it upon herself to clean up the beach and was amazed to find that in just one hour she had filled two large shopping bags with debris. She then joined Tangaroa Blue to record her data.

Roslyn now collects litter from her local beaches whenever she goes out for a walk – averaging 10–15 litter-collecting hours each week. To date, she has collected a large variety of debris including fishing gear, hard and soft plastics, and even foreign plastic drink bottles from Asia, the Middle East and the USA.

A keen photographer, Roslyn captures images of clean-up hauls across her adopted spot which can be

viewed here: www.kabc.wa.gov.au/adoptaspotgallery.

The City of Busselton has been a great support to Roslyn, providing her with rubbish bags, gloves and vests to assist with her clean ups.

KABC thanks Roslyn for her amazing efforts with her adopted spot, and looks forward to seeing what else she achieves in this area.

Western Australians who are interested in carrying out clean ups at community spaces can join KABC's Adopt-a-Spot program.

Adopt-a-Spot is an anti-litter program that engages volunteers (individuals, community groups and business groups) to undertake litter clean ups at designated sites, on a one-off or ongoing basis. Information is available at our [Adopt-a-Spot](#) page.

World Oceans Day - Mullaloo Beach

As part of World Oceans Day on 8 June, the KABC team hosted a clean-up event at Mullaloo Beach. Attended by KABC's Chairman Michael Aspinal, the team of six took to the beach and surrounding areas to clean up litter.

Over 1.5 hours, the team collected 612 items – recovering 2kgs of litter. The most common items found were small bits of hard and solid plastic, with a golf ball being the most unusual pick up of the day. Cigarette butts continue to be on top of the list of most commonly found items.



KABC conducted an audit of its findings which has been submitted to the Tangaroa Blue [Australian Marine Debris Database](#).

Environment Minister Stephen Dawson said beach litter is not just unsightly – it kills and injures marine life and can injure beachgoers.

"I would encourage everyone to 'pick up three' – carefully removing and disposing of three pieces of rubbish where possible every time they leave a beach," he said.

"If we all practiced this, it would go a long way to making our beautiful WA beaches even more pristine."

Our Adopt-a-Spot program engages with volunteers to undertake litter clean-ups. Visit our [website](#) to see how you can get involved.

Are your litter reporter 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](#).

Please continue to send through your litter reports. Reports can be completed online via: our website – [Lodge a litter report](#) the [Litter Reporter App](#) – Android and iPhone.



Upcoming events

Free Clean Schools professional learnings workshops

Keep Australia Beautiful offers full day relief subsidy for up to two teachers per school to attend.

How to be litter-free and waste wise in Port Hedland

Tuesday 18 August

9am-3pm

Port Hedland

How to be litter-free and waste wise in Red Hill

27 August 2020 9am -3pm

Red Hill Waste Management Facility

1094 Toodyay Road

Red Hill, WA 6056

If you would like to register for one of these workshops, please follow [this link](#).

Keep an eye on the [Clean Schools page](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates.

Quick links:

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

Social Media links:

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