

RE:ACT

REDUCE : REUSE : RECYCLE : RECOVER

Issue two December 2006

Household waste update for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove

This is the second issue of RE:ACT, Veolia Environmental Services' newsletter, with news on the facilities which are planned to manage the area's household waste.

Veolia Environmental Services, on behalf of East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council, provides an integrated waste management service designed to manage household waste more sustainably.

The Waste Strategy

The aim is to stop so much waste going to landfill by:

- Reducing and reusing
- Recycling
- Composting
- Energy Recovery

Promising results so far!

Since 2003 waste growth has slowed down and recycling has gone up. This success is down to many factors, from more recycling points to education officers visiting schools.

Household waste tonnages

	Total	Per Person	Recycling Rate
2003/4	368,090	490.8 kg	20.1%
2004/5	374,326	500.7 kg	22.6%
2005/6	368,573	492.4 kg	26.1%

However, tough targets, with heavy fines for councils, are looming if landfill diversion is below the LATS target (Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme), and there is the added problem of local landfill running out as soon as 2008.

Waste Local Plan status

East Sussex County and Brighton & Hove City Council's Waste Local Plan, adopted in February 2006, was the subject of a legal challenge in October. In November, Mr Justice Collins ruled that the Plan was lawful and "overall not only entirely justifiable but was in my view the only sensible course to adopt".



INSIDE:

Pebsham Waste Transfer Station

Recovering Energy from Waste

What Happens to Glass?

New transfer station needed for the east of the county



Earlier this month Veolia Environmental Services submitted a planning application for a much needed recycling and household waste transfer station to serve the east of the county. The proposed location is the site of the former Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) plant, on Freshfields Lane in Pebsham.

The proposed facility will make use of the existing buildings on the site and will help to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill by sending waste for recycling, composting and energy recovery.

An important job done

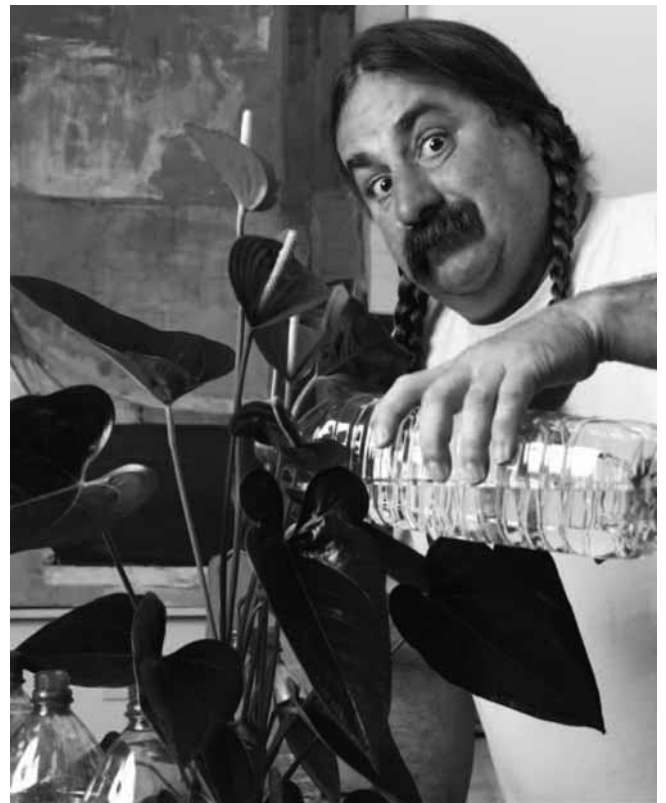


The former abattoir and council cleansing centre in Hollingdean Lane, Brighton has finally been demolished. Veolia's subcontractors carried out the demolition on behalf of Brighton & Hove City Council, following advice from the Police and the Fire Service's Arson Reduction Team who had grave concerns over the safety of the buildings.

Earlier this year Brighton & Hove City Council granted planning permission for a Materials Recovery Facility, Waste Transfer Station and Education Centre to be built on the site. Construction will start in 2007.

"This facility is vital for Brighton & Hove to sort, bulk and market all its recyclable materials and to cope with the expected increases in recycling levels year on year. It will also bring a welcome reduction in waste collection vehicle traffic", said John Collis, Project Director of Veolia.

Bulletins informing local residents and schools of the developments are circulated periodically. To view back issues or be added to the mailing list please go to www.veolia.co.uk/southdowns



Have you got the bottle to recycle?

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cityclean



recycle
because we love our city

Composting - not just good for the garden



Removing green garden waste from our rubbish to produce compost is not just good for the garden but good for the environment. In a landfill the material breaks down and produces methane, a gas which is 21 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than CO₂. The breakdown of biodegradable waste in landfill also adds to a concentrated liquid called leachate which needs to be collected and specially treated.

Green waste can be taken to the area's 14 Household Waste Recycling Sites and is also collected from households by some Local Authorities. Alternatively, there are

many different ways to compost green waste (as well as kitchen waste) at home.

For more information check with your local recycling officer, visit the County Council and City Council websites at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/compost and www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cityclean or visit your local garden centre.



This Christmas, please don't forget to recycle your trees

You can either take it to a local council tree recycling point or to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Site.

Recovering energy from waste



With today's latest technology they are safe, clean and award-winning in their design!

The ground breaking design for the North Quay Energy Recovery Facility in Newhaven has been produced by renowned architect Jean Robert Mazaud. He has previously designed award-winning Energy Recovery Facilities at Chineham near Basingstoke, where a Brunel medal was awarded for design, and at Portsmouth, which has recently won a hat-trick of prestigious awards; a letsrecycle.com Award for Excellence for Innovation in Design of a Waste Management Facility, the Institution of Civil Engineers' Edmund Hambly Medal and the prize of Best New Building from the Portsmouth Society.

All these facilities are also fitted with the latest technology, in line with the strict standards set by the Waste Incineration Directive. These standards are so stringent that these facilities are actually cleaner than the conventional power stations from which most of us get our heat and light.

Green Apple Windfall!

East Sussex County Council's success in encouraging recycling and waste-reduction reaped a windfall at this year's prestigious Green Apple Awards, held at the Tower of London on November 3rd. In the fourth year that the County Council was nominated, it received four Green Apple Environment Awards. This year's awards were for:

- campaigning to encourage home composting, which means less organic waste goes to landfill
- campaigning to promote 'real' nappies which can be reused rather than disposable nappies which are thrown away
- working in partnership with Veolia Environmental Services to improve the county's Household Waste Recycling Sites and increase recycling rates
- working on waste management issues with its international partners Smedar council, in Rouen, northern France.

The Green Apple Awards are part of an international campaign to find the greenest companies, councils, communities and countries. The campaign is run by The Green Organisation; dedicated to recognising, rewarding and promoting environmental best practice around the world.

Environment Agency confirms the Energy Recovery Facility is safe

In November, the Environment Agency granted the proposed Newhaven Energy Recovery Facility a Pollution Prevention and Control permit, which allows it to operate.

Chris Wick, Environment Manager for the Environment Agency in Sussex, said: "we are satisfied that the incinerator, if built and with our conditions, will not damage the environment or cause harm to human health."

Subject to planning permission, the Energy Recovery Facility will be taking the area's residual household waste, burning it and generating energy. This will be fed to the National Grid, providing much needed local and sustainable electricity, enough to power 16,500 homes.

The facility could, at the most, take about half the household waste generated in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, some 210,000 tonnes a year.



Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for East Sussex 2006-2020

East Sussex County Council has asked people in all the Districts and Boroughs of East Sussex for their ideas on how best to tackle the waste we all create. The strategy sets out, with other waste plans already in place, how we could reduce waste going to landfills, how to increase recycling, what can be reused and what to do with waste that cannot be recycled.

The consultation started in September and lasted for six weeks. The final draft strategy and plan will be published in summer 2007.



Veolia Environmental Services **WINS** the Battle of Hastings



Veolia was awarded the new waste management contract with Hastings Borough Council earlier this year. The contract covers refuse collection, street cleansing and recycling and will last for a minimum of seven years. The new contract has put greater emphasis on improving recycling performance and a higher specification of street cleansing.

Have the best festive season and recycle all your glass!

Christmas is a vital time of the year for glass recycling. Think of all the extra food and drink that is consumed to make family and friends as welcome as possible.

And we at Veolia welcome all the used bottles and jars so that they can be recycled and made into new bottles and jars to really help the environment. But how does this work?

Veolia Environmental Services collects glass every day at the 14 Household Waste Recycling Sites and receives glass through the Brighton & Hove kerbside collection scheme (at the recycling sites alone we collect some 1200 tonnes each year).

This glass is then taken to the UK's largest glass recycler, Berryman Glass. Once the glass arrives at their modern factory, it is broken into small pieces known as cullet. From there special equipment separates it into clear, green and brown. It is then ready to be remelted in a very hot furnace. This produces molten glass which is cut into individual 'gobs'. Each 'gob' is shaped into a brand new bottle or jar at speeds of up to 400 a minute. The finished bottles and jars finally end up where they began, back on the shelves and ready to be used and recycled again. Remember, there may be a little bit of Sussex in each one you buy!

Some facts about glass

1. Glass is 100% recyclable. It can be re-melted and re-used over and over, forever.
2. There are lots of items which should not go into bottle banks, including crockery, Pyrex and window glass. These do not melt at the same temperature, which leads to faulty bottles which have to be thrown away.
3. We save the production of 314 tonnes of carbon dioxide for every 1000 tonnes of glass remelted and reused to make new bottles and jars.
4. Using recycled glass to make bottles and jars saves energy and raw materials. For every tonne of recycled glass used, 1.2 tonnes of raw materials are preserved and 136 litres of oil are saved.
5. Jars are recycling stars! So make sure you recycle them too.



Recycling Site Update



The Household Waste Recycling Sites have had a busy few months. In September a new van permit scheme was introduced at the East Sussex sites, designed to improve service for users. So far the scheme is proving popular with over 4,000 permits issued so far.

Following a successful trial at Mountfield Household Waste Recycling Site last year, winter hours have begun at the Forest Row, Hailsham, Hastings, Heathfield, Lewes, Seaford and Wadhurst sites. The new hours came into force on the 1st November. The seven recycling sites are opening and closing one hour earlier to the public (from 8am-4pm) on weekdays and six of them are also opening from 8am-4pm on Saturdays and from 9am-4pm on Sundays. The opening times allow residents to make more use of the sites during daylight hours and before work. If successful they will come into force between the 1st November and the 31st March each year.

For more details visit www.veolia.co.uk/southdowns/hwrs or www.eastsussex.gov.uk/rubbishandrecycling



Choose to reuse this Christmas

Ever wondered how to give that old wardrobe a good home, find arts and crafts materials or get a reliable second-hand fridge? The area boasts a number of innovative community organisations which will reuse, reuse and reuse again, saving money and helping the environment into the bargain.

However you choose to reuse, this list of organisations will help to get you started:

Arts and crafts materials:

Flotsam and Jetsam Scrapstore 20 North Street, Lewes	01273 486619
---	--------------

Furniture reuse and electrical goods:

Furniture Now! Lewes Unit 1, Phoenix Works, North Street, Lewes	01273 487377
---	--------------

Eastbourne Unit 3a, Courtlands Road, Eastbourne www.furniturenow.org.uk	01323 638000
--	--------------

Hastings Furniture Service 6-10 Dorset Place, Hastings www.hfs.org.uk	01424 441112
--	--------------

Hove YMCA www.hoveymca.org.uk	01273 885505
---	--------------

Shabitat (Magpie) Saunders Park, Lewes Road, Brighton www.magpie.coop/shabitat.php	01273 677577
--	--------------

Emmaus Drove Road, Portslade www.emmaus.org.uk	01273 426480
---	--------------

Freecycle®:

www.uk.freecycle.org



Wood recycling:

Brighton & Hove Wood Recycling Project Unit 32-36, Municipal Market, Circus Street, Brighton www.woodrecycling.org.uk	01273 570500
--	--------------



Local schemes range from furniture reuse charities to scrap stores and electrical goods repair and resale projects. You can spend time browsing their well-stocked shelves or donate items. Many will come and collect free of charge. Or how about looking up your local area's Freecycle group at www.uk.freecycle.org? This service provides a web-based notice board full of unwanted items which are all offered completely free!

Don't forget, supporting these schemes doesn't just benefit the environment. As well as offering goods at very affordable prices many reuse groups also fund vital local projects.



Reduce...Reuse...Recycle...this Christmas!

Don't miss the Rethink Rubbish bus



Our specially designed mobile exhibition unit is packed full of information on how to **reduce and recycle your rubbish**.

We visit schools, shopping centres, fetes and fairs throughout East Sussex and are available to hire with staff for free.

To book the bus or find out where you can get onboard call 01273 482323 www.eastsussex.gov.uk/rethinkrubbish



rethink rubbish
small actions, big changes

*colourful displays, multimedia computers, games,
quizzes, compost bin displays, washable nappy displays,
leaflets, advice*



This newsletter has been sent to you as an individual interested in local waste issues and the progress being made in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove on the waste management strategy. If you wish to continue to receive your copy of RE:ACT no action is necessary. Otherwise, please tick below.

- 1: Please see the corrections I have made to my address
- 2: Please delete my details from your mailing list
- 3: Please add the details given below of someone who would like to be added to the mailing list
- 4: Please send me future copies of RE:ACT via e-mail

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____ Name _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Post, fax or e-mail the above details to Veolia Environmental Services
- see details opposite.

Printed on paper that is 50% recycled, 50% sourced from sustainable forests and totally chlorine free.
© Veolia Environmental Services, December 2006

RE:ACT

future copies

RE:ACT is published by Veolia Environmental Services



Veolia Environmental Services
Freeman House, Ellen Street, Portslade BN41 1DW
Tel: 01273 410 231 Fax: 01273 418 144
E-mail: info.southdowns@veolia.co.uk
www.veolia.co.uk/southdowns

WORKING FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT