



Preventing **LITTER**

FROM ENTERING OUR WATERWAYS

Waterway Values

Local Government

2015/16
Central Tablelands LLS
Incentive Funding

HOWICK STREET LITTER CAPTURE PROJECT – BATHURST CBD

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Hey Tossler!

Bathurst Regional Council

This project is seeking to address the important issue of litter in the CBD area of Bathurst and specifically, to capture this litter prior to it moving into the Macquarie River.

There is evidence of littering across the Bathurst CBD, particularly in areas of extensive pedestrian movement despite extensive education campaigns having already been implemented.

In order to prevent this litter from moving into our local waterways, this project will see two litter capture baskets installed in the existing stormwater pits on Howick Street.

The Project Site

This project will focus on Howick Street in the CBD of Bathurst. This is a high profile site with extensive pedestrian movements due to its location between two major shopping centres. Additionally, the project site encompasses a major transport interchange.

Should the pilot project be successful in this location, further litter capture baskets may be installed across the Bathurst CBD in the future.

Project Activities

Discarded litter - such as cigarette butts and take away food packaging - that avoids regular street sweeping and litter collection in the Howick Street project site, moves into adjacent stormwater pits when transported by wind or rain.

Once in the stormwater system, the litter is transported directly into the Macquarie River during rainfall events. To prevent litter from this area entering the Macquarie River, two litter collection baskets will be installed in the existing stormwater pits on Howick Street.

These stainless steel baskets will be fitted with permeable liners that will capture gross pollutants (litter) as well as other pollutants such as sediment, leaves, oil etc.

Community Engagement

This project will build on the existing Hey Tossler! Bathurst litter reduction project with new signage, footpath decals, print and radio media, and social media utilised to further educate the community as to why these pits are being installed and how litter affects our local waterways.



Stormwater Pollution

Water that enters stormwater pits carries pollutants such as litter, oil, grease and sediment that is transported directly into our waterways without treatment. This can have a devastating effect on local creeks and rivers



Cigarette Butts

Toxic chemicals such as cadmium, arsenic and lead trapped in discarded cigarette butts begin to leach into the aquatic environment within one hour of contact with water. With an estimated 4.5 trillion cigarette butts littered across the globe each year, these pollutants become a serious problem.

Added to this is the fact that many birds and aquatic animals can mistake cigarette butts for food which can result in serious health issues or death.

Hey Tosser!

Bathurst Regional Council

In 2014 Bathurst Regional Council partnered with Charles Sturt University (CSU) to conduct the Hey Tosser! Bathurst anti-littering campaign.

Funding for this project was provided by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) which funded a major litter education campaign to minimise littering across CSU and the greater Bathurst region.

Engineering Controls

While the original Hey Tosser! Bathurst project was a great success with a measurable decrease in littering across Bathurst, litter still remains an issue in areas of the CBD.

Despite signage, community education, improved infrastructure and advertising all being utilised to encourage residents and visitors to Bathurst to use bins, littering in the Howick Street area remains an issue.

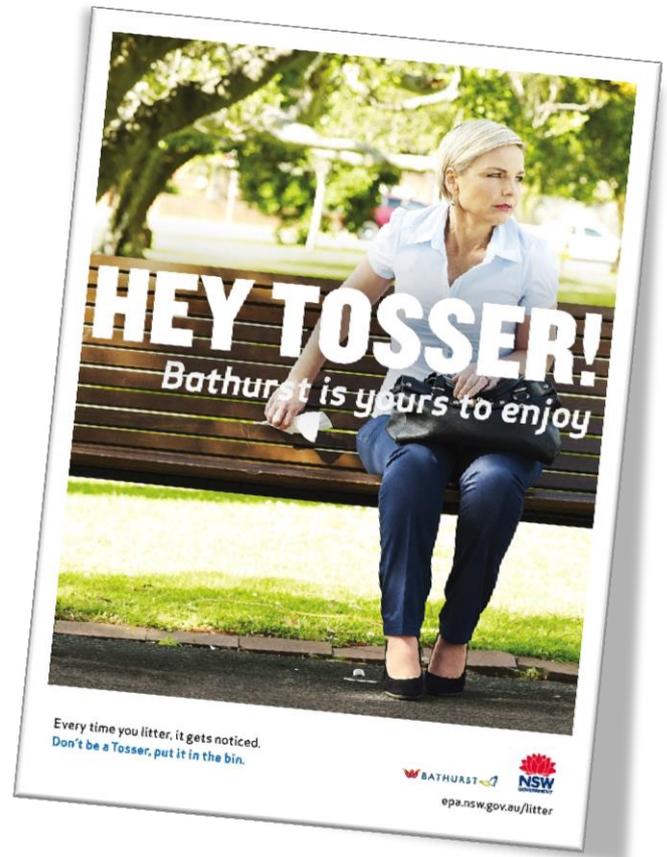
This has resulted in engineering controls – specifically litter capture –

being the next reasonable step to prevent litter from being transported into our waterways.

Litter Collection Baskets

The litter collection baskets to be installed in the stormwater pits will capture pollutants preventing them from moving into local creeks and rivers.

The baskets will be of marine grade stainless steel construction with a permeable liner. This design is strong and durable, allows water to pass through in excess of 20 Litres per second, yet is still able to capture pollutants as small as 150 microns.



A vacuum truck will be used on a regular basis to clean out the baskets with the permeable liner to be replaced on annual basis.



More Information

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Waterway Values - Local Government

The Central Tablelands Local Land Services funding supports land managers and community with improving and managing the health of our landscape. Working together to enhance our natural resources and build productive, profitable and robust communities.

The Waterway Values – Local Government project aims to assist councils throughout the Central Tablelands to protect and enhance our natural environment through the delivery of projects that exhibit best management practice and innovative solutions to existing issues.

This incentive funding has a particular focus on improving waterway health while concurrently providing community education and engagement. This is being achieved by targeting funding

towards councils that can demonstrate the appropriate planning, project management and community engagement skills to complete a project of this nature.

Councils must be members of the Central West Councils Environment & Waterways Alliance to be eligible for funding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project is provided by Central Tablelands Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme and NSW Catchment Action.