

# CIRCULAR

ISSUE NO 7 2025

## WELCOME!

"If we could build an economy that would use things rather than use them up, we could build a future."  
 Ellen MacArthur

The beginning of a new year is an opportunity to set goals and devise plans to achieve them.

**AHRWMA's Strategic Plan** describes our goal to provide cost effective, progressive, and best practice waste and resource management services across our region.

In this edition of In the Circular, we are pleased to share some of the actions we are taking to achieve our goals. These include ensuring sufficient landfill airspace for the future, empowering our community to engage with the Circular Economy in South Australia and supporting local government to engage in effective resource recovery.

We are also thrilled to welcome our new CEO, Rob Gregory, to the AHRWMA team.

There's a lot to look forward to in 2025!

## SITE DEVELOPMENT

### CELL 10 AND PHYTOCAP PLANNING UNDERWAY

Designs are being drawn up for a new landfill cell (Cell 10) which we estimate will be required by 2028. Soil dug from the cell will be used as 'daily cover'. Daily cover is a layer of soil placed each afternoon over the waste in the landfill to reduce odour, windblown litter and deter vermin.

Meanwhile, plans for the volumes of soil required to 'reshape' closed landfill cells into their final form are being drawn up. These plans include sufficient soil for the planting of indigenous species which will reduce erosion and the chance of rainwater entering the cell.



WELCOME!



### ROB GREGORY, CEO OF AHRWMA

We are thrilled to welcome Rob Gregory as our new CEO to the AHRWMA team.

Rob was previously General Manager of East Waste and is a Board Member of KESAB. He also brings extensive experience in local government in roles at the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters, City of Holdfast Bay and the Murray Catchment Management Authority. His experience and understanding of resource recovery, waste management and local government will ensure that AHRWMA continues to be able to provide excellent service to our stakeholders.

Rob has been well known to many staff at AHRWMA and our Member Councils through his role at East Waste and his reputation as a thoughtful, efficient and friendly leader proceeds him.

Since commencing at AHRWMA in late November, Rob has been hard at work, collaborating with colleagues to understand the strategic, financial and operational aspects to the organisation. These include resource recovery, hook truck services, community engagement, waste management support to our Member Councils and landfill operations.

Rob can be contacted at  
[r.gregory@ahrwma.com](mailto:r.gregory@ahrwma.com)



## NEW RECYCLING HUB FOR MOUNT BARKER

### BRING IN YOUR BOOKS AND BATTERIES!

Residents of Mt Barker and surrounds now have a convenient drop off point for X Rays, small eWaste, batteries, household cords and mobile phones.

Pictured above, staff of the Community Library are keen recyclers who had been providing a mobile phone and battery collection service for residents. The new hub helps to streamline that service by providing an easy to access drop off point.

Contents of the hub are transported to the Windmill Hill Transfer Station or the Heathfield Resource Recovery Centre by AHRWMA where they are sorted for recycling.

In its first month, the hub has collected 150kg of materials.

Well done, Mt Barker!

## SUPER SOILS AT MEADOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Getting out into the community to spread the word about Resource Recovery is something that we love at AHRWMA! It's particularly important for us, as landfill operators, to explain why compostable organic matter does not belong in the rubbish bin. It's a common misconception that organic matter will decompose safely in landfill; however, the low oxygen environment leads to the creation of methane which is a powerful greenhouse gas.

We were proud to sponsor a visit of Cameron from Bin Thinking to the Year 4 and 5 students at Meadows Primary School to undertake learning focusing on 'Super Soils'. The students learned about how organic material in their green bins is transported to large composting facilities to become valuable compost for South Australian soils. They loved setting up their school's new inground worm farms into which they can place food scraps from their school kitchen.

If you pop your scraps into landfill (wrong), that will make Methane gas it needs air, moisture and worms to help break it down properly.

## HOOK TRUCK SERVICES FOR TATIARA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Our trusty truck drivers, Dave and Brad, are making the trip to Bordertown twice a week, transporting hook truck bins from the Bordertown Transfer Station to Brinkley for the Tatiara District Council.

AHRWMA is pleased to be able to support councils (including Tatiara) in its endeavours for efficient and effective waste management and resource recovery solutions.



# EMBEDDED BATTERY DROP OFF EVENT

AHRWMA collaborated with the Adelaide Hills Council and Green Industries SA to host an Embedded Battery Drop Off Event on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at the Heathfield Resource Recovery Centre.

The event aimed to educate the public as to the dangers of placing batteries into bins and to provide them with an easy drop off point, so that the batteries can be safely recycled. Batteries are transported to a recycling facility in Victoria.

## COMMON QUERIES

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH UNWANTED BATTERIES?

AHRWMA accepts household and car batteries at its Heathfield and Brinkley sites. Check the [B-cycle website](#) for other drop off locations.

### WHAT IS AN EMBEDDED BATTERY?

A battery that is 'built in' to a device (and may be rechargeable).

Devices containing embedded batteries include:

- Electric toothbrushes
- Bluetooth speakers
- Cordless headphones
- Vapes
- Smart watches
- Powerpacks
- Many children's toys
- eScooters



## BATTERY FACTS!

Between 2010 and 2018, global battery demand grew by 30% annually. Demand is estimated to keep growing at a rate of 25% per annum. The main drivers of this growth are the electrification of transportation and the use of batteries in electricity grids. See [www.bcycle.com.au](http://www.bcycle.com.au) for more information.

