

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>REEN (RYDE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NETWORK) MEETING</b>		
<b>Venue:</b>	The Habitat		
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> of June 2016		
<b>Time:</b>	3:30pm - 5:30pm		
<b>Chair:</b>	Denise Torres /Nilushi Disanayake		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>School/ Organisation</b>	
	Sylvia Lane	Epping Boys	
	Bev Debrincat	The Habitat	
	Pam Ward	The Habitat	
	Philip Ward	Ryde East Public School	
	Julie-Ann Sheridan	Field of Mars Environmental Education Centre	
	Tammy Scharenguivel	Denistone East	
	Sephine Kho	St Dunstan's Preschool Kindergarten	
	Joanne Messinis	Hunters Hill Public School	
	Deborah Cunneen	Ryde Secondary College	
	Nirodha Neupane	Waste Project Officer	
	Nilushi Disanayake	Sustainability Programs Coordinator	
Denise Torres	Waste Coordinator City of Ryde		
<b>Apologies</b>	Cathy Tall	Ryde Public School	
	Julie Prideaux	St Dunstan's Preschool Kindergarten	
	Jennie Spenceley	Melrose Park Public School	
	Denise Minifie	Kent Road Public School	
<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>AGENDA TOPIC DISCUSSION</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>
	<b>Meeting opened at : 3:45AM</b>		
	<b>Key Points from Presenters</b>		
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Introduction &amp; Welcome –</b></p> <p><b>The Habitat –</b></p> <p>Bev Debrincat introduced everyone to the Habitat and the new facilities that opened in December. "The Habitat" is open every Wednesday and Saturday 10 am to 4 pm. For more information on up and coming workshops or for more information on how to create a habitat in your backyard please visit - <a href="http://www.habitatnetwork.org">http://www.habitatnetwork.org</a></p>		

<p>2.</p>	<p>The Gladesville catchment collects and channels an area of over 36 hectares draining into the lower section of the catchment and connecting to the Parramatta River. The project area includes suburbs and parks in Gladesville, Tennyson point and Putney.</p> <p>City of Ryde has partnered with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for 2015/2016 and aims to reduce the amount of litter entering our stormwater drains and thus polluting the Parramatta River. This will be achieved through a number of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An <b>Anti-Littering education campaign</b> to raise awareness of the impact of littering on the environment, particularly in the Gladesville area. This will be achieved through engaging with the community by providing educational resources, getting community ownership through pledges and engaging with local businesses.</li> <li>• Installation of <b>drain stenciling at 25 locations in Gladesville</b>. This helps in minimizing litter and pollutants ending up in the Parramatta River.</li> <li>• A “before and after” <b>litter count</b> is carried out to measure the success of the litter awareness campaign and the installation of the Gross Pollutant Trap.</li> <li>• Providing ‘<b>No Litter</b>’ car bags and colour-in story book related to litter to community.</li> <li>• A <b>mural</b> about effect of litter on waterways will be painted in trim place, Victoria Road, Ryde from next week</li> <li>• <b>Story telling session</b> at Gladesville Library- every Friday starting from 3<sup>rd</sup> term, 22<sup>nd</sup> July.</li> </ul> <p>Further info on: <a href="http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Environment-and-Waste/Waste-and-Recycling/Other-Waste-Services/Litter-Prevention">http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Environment-and-Waste/Waste-and-Recycling/Other-Waste-Services/Litter-Prevention</a></p>		
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Sustainability and Waste Update –</b></p> <p><b>Eco-Schools Grants and the Kids Teaching Kids program</b>          An overview of the \$3500 Environment Trust eco-schools grant and the popular Kids teaching Kids environmental education program and theme week was provided. A detailed brochure on the program will be sent to the REEN list. Special representatives of the program will be visiting Sydney from Melbourne in Terms 2 and 3. See <a href="http://www.kidsteachingkids.com.au/">http://www.kidsteachingkids.com.au/</a></p> <p><b>Container Deposit Scheme</b>          On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2016 the state Premier announced details of a NSW container deposit scheme (CDS) to commence from July 2017 to tackle litter across the state and improve recycling.</p> <p>This could prove to be a good fundraising opportunity for schools, scouting groups and other community groups. For more information, please visit the EPA website: <a href="http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/cds-work.htm">http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/cds-work.htm</a></p> <p><b>SWAP</b>          Applications for the Sustainable Waste to Art Prize (SWAP) are now open. For more information on the art prize please visit the council website: <a href="http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Environment-and-Waste/Waste-and-Recycling/Education-Programs/Sustainable-Waste-to-Art-Prize-SWAP">http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Environment-and-Waste/Waste-and-Recycling/Education-Programs/Sustainable-Waste-to-Art-Prize-SWAP</a></p> <p>Free SWAP incursions are also available to High Schools within the Ryde LGA, for more information please contact Cassandra Hard Lawrie on 0425 327 590 or <a href="mailto:cor.artevents@gmail.com">cor.artevents@gmail.com</a>.</p>		

<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Preserving and Fermenting From Your School Garden</b>                  The group discussed different ways to cut down on food waste and the benefits of preserving and fermenting. Margaret is a local organic gardening expert. See <a href="http://mosshouse.com.au/natural/">http://mosshouse.com.au/natural/</a> for details.</p> <p>If you would like to see the link to Margaret’s segment on Gardening Australia (titled "A Productive Paradise") please see the link below:</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/stories/s4466290.htm">http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/stories/s4466290.htm</a></p>		
<p><b>Meeting Closed</b></p>	<p>6:00PM</p>		
<p><b>Minutes Taken By</b></p>	<p>REEN Coordinators</p>		