

A Quarterly newsletter that is aimed at communicating the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Branch: Chemicals and Waste Management projects

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Welcome to the 44<sup>th</sup> issue of *waste information today*.

In this issue, we present the launch of the Good Green Deeds programme and Operation Phakisa: Chemicals and Waste Economy. We also provide a report back on the 2018 Health Care Risk Waste Treatment Figures and feedback on the accredited partnership training of Municipal Waste Support and PETCO for municipal councillors and the small and medium-sized enterprises.

Please feel free to forward any comments to [sawic@environment.gov.za](mailto:sawic@environment.gov.za)  
We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,  
*Waste Information Team*

## THE PRESIDENT LAUNCHES THE GOOD GREEN DEEDS PROGRAMME AND OPERATIONS PHAKISA: CHEMICALS AND WASTE ECONOMY IN EAST LONDON

President Cyril Ramaphosa officially launched the Good Green Deeds program (GGD) in Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM) - Eastern Cape on the 8th March 2019.

The GGD is a national program which aims to combat waste management challenges such as illegal dumping and littering. It also seeks to mobilise citizens, business, industry, labour and civil society at large towards a common goal of ensuring that the country is clean and healthy. The day commenced with clean-up campaigns in different areas within BCMM. Similar initiatives also took place across various provinces in South Africa.

Following the clean-up campaigns, the President officially launched the Operation Phakisa: Chemicals and Waste Economy (Waste Phakisa). The Waste Phakisa contains a number of detailed action plans aimed toward delivering results by 2023.

The objectives include increasing the total contribution of the waste economy from R24.3 billion to R35.8 billion and creating 127,000 new direct and indirect jobs.

It also includes plans to provide support to 4,300 SMMEs with 70% targeted at youth and at least 30% targeted at women; and ultimately seeing more than 20 million tonnes of waste diverted away from landfill towards reuse, recycling and recovery.



Above: President Cyril Ramaphosa participating in the clean-up campaign

Partnerships between government departments and the private sector are key not only to the success of the Waste Phakisa initiatives but also to the GGD program. During the Waste Phakisa launch, pledges were received from a number of companies outlining their commitment to the green economy initiatives.

Following the launch of the Waste Phakisa, the President visited Afriwaste, a plastic Pelletisation plant in Fork Jackson. The final activity of the day took place at the Sisa Dukashe Stadium in Mdantsane. During his address, the President acknowledged the role that the late Minister of Environmental Affairs, Dr Edna Molewa played in the initiative. He mentioned that she was a true champion of the environment and that the GGD was her concept. She was active in driving its conceptualization.

The President also indicated that littering, illegal dumping and the pollution of air, streams, rivers and oceans have had negative effects on our health, our quality of life and on the appearance of our country. He also emphasised that it is time for change, a change of attitude and of behaviour towards waste. He then called on all South Africans to respond to the radical change that Government is bringing on how waste is managed and to explore opportunities that see waste as a resource.

The President also launched the Mascot, Billy Bin. Billy Bin is our reminder that it is our responsibility to keep our environment clean. He further encouraged South Africans to perform just one Good Green Deed a day. This can be done by separating/recycling waste, or conducting clean-up activities in your street, neighbourhood, school, or municipality. "You must be the agent of change we want and need."

Article by: General Waste Directorate

For more information on Good Green Deeds and on how you can contribute toward the initiative, kindly contact the officials below:

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Right:  
Launch of mascot:  
Billy Bin

## 2018 HEALTH CARE RISK WASTE TREATMENT FIGURES

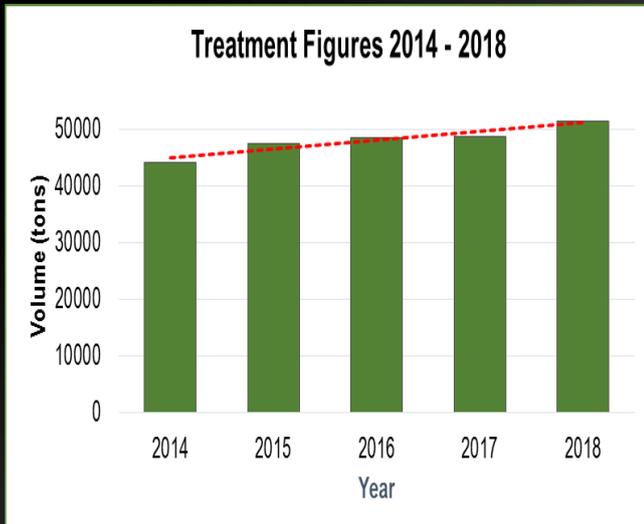
In 2018 there were 18 licensed health care risk waste (HCRW) treatment facilities in operation, utilising incineration or non-burn technologies as indicated in the table below. The discrepancy in numbers is where a facility has installed and operates two different technologies on site.

Based on monthly reports submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs, the total volume of waste treated at the licensed facilities was approximately 51400 tonnes, indicating an annual increase of approximately 5.5%.

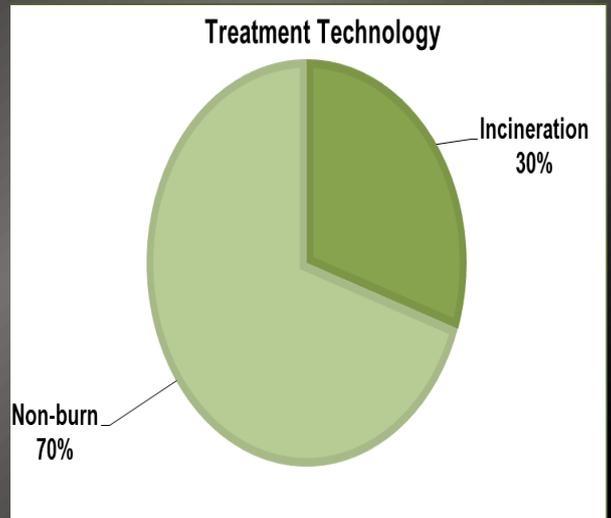
However it must be noted, that due to the outbreak of Listeria and the potential contamination of food products, 1600 tonnes of recalled food items were sent for destruction via treatment.

Hence if this is taken into consideration, the approximate volume of HCRW treated in 2018 would be 49800 indicating an increase of 2% of the volume of HCRW treated since 2017.

PROVINCE	NUMBER OF NON-BURN TECHNOLOGIES	NUMBER OF INCINERATION TECHNOLOGIES
Eastern Cape	1	
Gauteng	5	6
KwaZulu-Natal	2	
Limpopo	1	
North West		1
Western Cape	1	2



The majority (70%) of the waste was treated by means of non-burn technology, the remaining 30% was treated by means of incineration.



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### ACCREDITED PARTNERSHIP TRAINING BY DIRECTORATE: MUNICIPAL WASTE SUPPORT AND PETCO FOR MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS AND SMALL, MEDIUM AND MICRO ENTERPRISES (SMMEs) ON BUSINESS SKILLS TO UPSCALE RECYCLING

The South African State of Waste Report 2018 reveals that in 2017, South Africa generated 55.6 million tonnes of general waste, with only approximately 35% being diverted away from landfills. The percentage of waste diversion is still low compared to developed countries. Most local municipalities have no buy back centres or drop off facilities for recyclables.

The Directorate Municipal Support, together with PETCO, developed a strategy that offers accredited training (NQ level 1&2) for municipal councillors and Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises on business skills to promote entrepreneurship opportunities in waste.

The purpose of this training is to recover recyclables from the communities and to reduce the number of recyclables being disposed to landfill sites. In addition, the training aims to encourage councillors and communities to play an active role in recycling. The training will also assist councillors to develop business skills in order to pursue other opportunities in recycling once she/he is no longer a councillor. Approximately 246 attendees were trained in KwaZulu-Natal and the North West provinces during the financial year (2018-2019).

The training aimed to enhance business skills which contributes to the creation of economic opportunities, poverty alleviation and the saving of landfill air space. It is hoped that this will also contribute to an increase in the recycling rate in the country.

Municipal councillors or SMMEs that have an interest in training, can send their requests to the Municipal Waste Support Directorate on emails below:

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 Sindiswa Duma on [SPDuma@environment.gov.za](mailto:SPDuma@environment.gov.za)



Right: Training conducted at Moses Kotane Local Municipality