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**VILLAGE WASTE REDUCTION GRANT**

**An initiative of NetWaste.**

NetWaste is a collaborative waste management venture between 26 NSW Councils. Its initiatives serve a population of more than 300,000 and an area of around 317,942 square kilometres, which represents more than a third of NSW. Realising the potential benefits of investing in collaborative projects, especially for Councils with limited resources, NetWaste has a vision to implement cooperative projects to improve planning and delivery of waste management services across the region that are environmentally sustainable.

In recognition of the NetWaste Vision the 2013 to 2022 NetWaste Education Strategy has identified a new initiative as part of its Community Engagement Program: there is a significant level of community interest and activity with regard to waste management and more broadly to sustainability across the NetWaste Region but NetWaste does not have the resources available to support all of these efforts directly. The Village Waste Reduction Grant was introduced as a community engagement strategy four years ago as a way of encouraging small communities that have ideas on how they could improve waste management services or processes within their own communities.

**Funding**

A Grant of $6000 will be made available to the successful applicant.

**Aim of the Village Waste Reduction Program**

The program aims to increase awareness about the increasing problems related to waste management and to reduce the amount of waste that is being sent to landfill.

**Assessment Criteria**

* Only clearly focused local waste reduction activities will be funded through this grant
* You will need to provide a letter of support from your local Shire Council
* Identify a ‘group’ of local champions from within your community to drive activities related to this grant opportunity
* Partnerships are encouraged
* Preference will be given to activities that are likely to become self- sustaining in the future
* Agree to work with NetWaste to establish links with our NetWaste Media Program as a way of promoting your achievements. This is not intended to be a difficult or complex process as NetWaste already employs a Media/Communication person who will manage this component.
* Good Value for Money.

**The closing date for the 2021 Application is Friday March 26. If you require more information or would like to discuss an idea that you may have contact Sue Clarke, NetWaste Environmental Learning Adviser 0400336508 or email ela@netwaste.org.au**