



# COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME

## PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT



This project is funded by the Waste Authority through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account

<b>Contract number:</b>	Grant Funding Agreement 772
<b>Organisation:</b>	Jurien Bay Community Resource Centre Inc
<b>Project Title:</b>	Community Garden Compost Bins
<b>Grant Amount:</b>	excl GST \$942.30



*Overhead view showing location of Jurien Bay Community Garden (in green) on the grounds of the Jurien Bay District High School.*

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## ORGANISATION & PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- A brief overview of your organisation/group.
- A detailed description of the project, including your anticipated goals and outcomes /achievements.

**Organisation** - *The Jurien Bay Community Garden is a place where residents of our community have an opportunity to connect with each other and to develop our community. Growing fruit, vegetables and herbs is a primary focus of the garden. It will provide a chance to engage in, experiment with and promote sustainable practices.*

*The community garden will also provide the opportunity for education. Young and old community members will benefit from the multiple tasks of keeping a garden healthy. Everyone has skills to offer and the garden will provide a perfect environment for workshops in composting, planting and harvesting. Children will learn where their food comes from (not the fresh food aisle or out of a packet) and will engage in the benefits of helping things grow and develop.*

*Generally the Jurien Bay Community Garden aims to;*

- *Produce fresh, seasonal food grown locally by the community. Community gardening provides the opportunity for residents to produce some of the food they eat using gardening methods they approve of*
- *Build strong neighbourhood relationships, provide a meeting place for local people and opportunities for hands-on learning for students and residents of all ages*
- *Reduce green waste, pressure on landfill, and the food miles of the food we eat*
- *Encourage people to work together as a community to develop a practical relationship with and an understanding of our interdependence with the natural environment*
- *Demonstrate different growing and farming practices using permaculture and organic farming principles*

*The Community Garden will be based on organic gardening techniques, avoiding the use of synthetic chemical fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides because they require precautions in their application such as wearing protective clothing, applying withholding periods before crops can be eaten and care to avoid spray drift and contamination of rainwater runoff.*

*Organic, botanical chemicals also require care in their application but are considered to pose less danger to gardener and visitor health and safety and to environmental contamination.*

*Gardeners will focus on building healthy soil to reduce pest and diseases, and the use of organic practices such as crop rotation, companion planting, mulching, watering, and Integrated Pest Management.*

**Project description** - *The purpose of our Waste Authority Grant was to purchase three Earthmaker compost bins for use at the community garden, to convert waste material to friable compost for use in the garden. The waste material is therefore diverted from landfill.*



## EVALUATION / RESULTS - DATA

What kind(s) of project data/information did you collect?

*Our Community Garden currently has thirteen members, all of whom are collecting their compostable waste (diverting it from the waste stream) to add to the compost bins. Shredded paper is also being collected from the Jurien Bay Community Resource Centre, to add to the composting process; the shredded paper would otherwise go to landfill as it cannot be included in the kerbside recycle bins. Approximately 56 litres of shredded paper per week has been collected. Vegetable materials such as plant trimmings produced onsite are similarly added to the compost bins. One garden member has been appointed to oversee the composting process, utilising each of the bins in rotation.*

Please explain how you recorded / measured your results, and include all the data you've collected, whatever it may be!

*These results are from observations; as administrators for the garden, the CRC maintains the group's records and has provided copies of the user's manuals for the Earthmaker compost bins to the members. The members are working hard to establish the garden and to maintain the composting process to ensure that composted material is available for soil improvement. The compost coordinator has circulated information to all garden members on what materials can and cannot be added to the composting process. At the beginning of December, the first compost bin is almost half full and at the current rate, the second compost bin will be started soon.*

Was your project successful in the way you expected?

Did you achieve what you set out to do? (did you reuse/reduce/recycle as much as you had planned to?) If not, what happened?

YES

NO

*The Earthmaker composting system is similar to other composting systems, with three chambers that feed into each other once different stages in the process are reached. This style of bin was chosen due to it being an enclosed system which minimises the attraction of pests such as flies, rodents etc, and because the composting material travels downwards towards the bottom of the container without the need for manual turning of the compost. As many members of our garden will be elderly, minimising manual handling was a priority.*

*Whilst no final composted material has been harvested from the bins as yet, the process is well under way and the group anticipates that compost will be available in time for the autumn / winter planting season in 2019.*



Do you feel your project made a positive difference in your community and why?

YES

NO

*The purchasing of the compost bins has been instrumental in the community garden becoming a reality in Jurien Bay. Attempts to start a garden in previous years had foundered particularly as grant applications that various groups had submitted were unsuccessful; having a win with this grant gave the group confidence that they could achieve the goal of establishing a community garden after all. The project has gone from strength to strength, with one member commenting recently that at last she has found a group that she feels accepted in, performing a role that she enjoys, which has boosted her self-confidence significantly. The project has also cemented relationships between the community garden members, the Jurien Bay CRC, the Jurien Bay District High School, the Jurien Community Men’s Shed, the Jurien Bay Progress Association and the Shire of Dandaragan.*

How many people do you think your project has reached/affected?

*The group currently has a membership of thirteen, although additional membership forms have been provided to interested parties and the group is continuing to publicise and promote their activities through the locally produced Craytales Newspaper, and the Jurien Bay CRC’s social media accounts. 1,048 members on the Jurien Bay CRC’s Facebook page have seen posts about the garden, as have readers of several issues of the Craytales Newspaper, which has a distribution of 600 per fortnight. The project has also increased spending in our town, with purchases of gardening tools and equipment, mulch, soils, potting mix, seedlings and reticulation equipment.*

## LESSONS LEARNT

What lessons were learned through the project – what worked and didn’t work?

What, if anything, would you do differently if you were to do the project again?

*The grant application process was straight forward and the group is keen to tackle other grant applications as their needs evolve. Giving one member the role of coordinator for the composting process has been a positive move, with the coordinator then able to coach people in what can and can’t be added.*



Did you encounter any problems/challenges in carrying out the project? If so, what were they?

*The group has so far not encountered any problems with the composting project, however as a strong code of conduct is in place and the group is proactive with communication strategies, we are confident that any difficulties that do arise will be overcome positively.*

What advice would you give to other groups considering undertaking similar projects?

*We would encourage other groups to tackle projects such as this; it is only a small project but the small win has seen the community garden become a reality.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT / PROMOTION

Does your organisation (or project) have a website or Facebook page?  
(please provide the link(s) to your organisation's site and/or the project page)

*The community garden does not have its own Facebook page; however the Jurien Bay CRC has a Facebook page and website, which can be found at [www.jurienbaycrc.net.au](http://www.jurienbaycrc.net.au).*

How did you acknowledge the Community Grants Scheme funding you received?

*The support we received from the Waste Authority has been acknowledged in printed materials associated with the funded activity as per the attached article, and the Waste Authority has been tagged in our Facebook post.*

Did you purchase any capital equipment with your grant money? (this includes things like sheds and large pieces of equipment)

If so, what did you buy? Please include photos of the equipment

*Three Earthmaker compost bins were purchased with the grant funds.*



Were there any promotional / media opportunities for the project? (newspaper articles, photos) If yes, please ensure you attach copies or include screen prints

YES

NO

Did you produce any promotional material for the project? (flyers, brochures even screen prints of online promotion – Facebook posts etc) If yes, please ensure you attach copies or include screen prints

YES

NO



## VARIATIONS & EXTENSIONS

Were you able to complete your project in the approved timeframe?

YES

NO

If there were variations or extensions, what were the cause(s)?

## FUTURE PROJECTS

Did any opportunities or ideas arise during the project?

YES

NO

Do you now have ideas for other future projects?

*In addition to purchasing the compost bins, our success in receiving funds from this grant application has been the catalyst for the establishment of a community garden and will lead on to other activities. The community garden has received support from the Shire of Dandaragan, the Jurien Bay Progress Association and the Jurien Bay Community Men's Shed. The Shire has assisted with the delivery of soil; the Progress Association has donated funds for the purchase of gardening equipment, seedlings, soil testing kit etc; and the Men's Shed has donated labour and materials for the construction of raised garden beds.*

## PROJECT PHOTOS

Please attach project photos and brief descriptions here.



Close up of the compost bins showing the Waste Authority stickers attached.





The three Earthmaker compost bins on site after having been put together. This photo was taken before the bins have been moved in to their final position, which is underneath a shade structure being built by the Jurien Bay Community Men's Shed, using recycled materials.



Raised garden beds at the community garden constructed by Jurien Bay Community Men's Shed members from recycled materials.



Screen shot of Facebook post.