

'VEGGIES' CATERING CAMPAIGN



Rainbow Centre volunteers crushing cans for recycling.

'Many businesses are failing to take note of the current environmental collapse'. This is the view of Patrick Smith, a co-ordinator and director of Nottingham's Rainbow Centre and Veggies Catering Campaign. The major incentive, Patrick states, is 'to still be operating in a future which may be less achievable if the business community doesn't make changes in its practices here and now.' Rainbow's basis is to set an example, in a modest way, of what any company, voluntary group or individual can do by working within financial and practical abilities to minimise their impact on the environment. The centre provides resources for groups and individuals campaigning on human and animal rights, environmental issues, peace and co-operation worldwide.

Much of the funding for the Rainbow Resource Centre is raised by the in-house catering system, providing frozen vegan food and running a daily take-away stall in the city centre. Heat generated by the freezer service part of the operation is vented through to the recycling cellars to keep them dry and usable. This warmth also rises through the whole building, thus controlling heating costs.

As well as selling a wide range of eco-friendly cleaning and household products, the Rainbow shop also encourages customers to bring empty containers back for refilling from bulk supplies. Volunteer input is valued, with access to cut-price wholefoods and organic vegetables, and all are encouraged to address environmental issues in their individual lifestyles. The centre shares its many resources - newspapers, journals, computer and video usage - with both its workers and the wider community.

Patrick believes there are 'considerable savings to be made for larger businesses by reducing and diverting waste disposal costs. Also, using recycled paper and envelope labels can be tastefully done with a company logo and conservation message. The public goodwill generated by a green image would also be positive for any corporation's community status.'

Gareth Thompson. *The Rainbow Centre (180-182 Mansfield Road) is open from 10am-5pm, Monday to Saturday. Contact Patrick Smith or Bill Knight on 958 5666.*

EMBEC

Continued from previous page.

- * to promote an environmentally aware business culture which seeks to reduce stress on the environment,
- * to provide a network whereby members can exchange ideas and information and engage in co-operation and collaboration to further these goals,
- * to educate business in the area of benefit in good practice and environmental awareness thereby increasing competitiveness and efficiency.

regulations for its members, as well as a library service and a programme of events. Those planned for 1997 include -

- * 'What is this new Packaging Regulation going to cost me?' (February 18th)
- * 'Local Agenda 21 & Business. What does it mean?' (April 15),
- * The 'EMBEC Green Road Show' (May 13th).

Membership of EMBEC is open to all who have an interest in greening business. The subscription rate is £30 per year. For more information contact Keith Wood (EMBEC Chairman) on 981 9911 ext 320.

EMBEC provides information about new

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Business Environment Association East Midlands (BEAM) was launched in 1993, as a business-led organisation which could help small and medium sized firms to improve their environmental performance. The organisation has been established to provide an 'honest broker' response to companies who want to know they are meeting all the environmental demands which are increasingly being placed upon them.

BEAM's success is based upon a network of partnerships with a range of organisations - both statutory bodies and individual larger companies which are ready to make their contribution. As a not-for-profit Association, BEAM seeks to reinvest all the resources available to us for the benefit of business across the region.

The Association initially operated in the Derbyshire area, but has now expanded to cover more of the East Midlands, including Nottinghamshire.

Many of the services provided by BEAM are either free or heavily subsidised. These are the key services provided -

- * an Environmental Helpline
- * Fact Sheets on key issues
- * Environmental Management Systems Advice
- * Staff Education and Training
- * Environmental Reviews and Audits - including the BEAM Healthcheck
- * One-to-One Consultancy Projects
- * Help with Legal and Technical Issues
- * Design of Bespoke Waste Minimisation and Energy Management Projects

BEAM has now carried out more than 60 environmental healthchecks in companies in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and many other firms are keen to take advantage of the scheme. The initial check addresses health and safety and environmental compliance; subsequent checks are geared more towards environmental issues.

Alistair Walker - Environmental Assessor for BEAM Services in the Nottingham City area stated 'I believe our role in helping local businesses to get to grips with environmental issues is vital. We can give information and advice about all kinds of situations and help them meet their own business needs while at the same time responding to the requirements of the legislation.'

To find out more contact Roger Hammond at BEAM, 2nd Floor, New Enterprise House, St Helen's Street, Derby DE1 3GY (phone 01332 206644).

Green NETWORK News

GREATER NOTTINGHAM AND SOUTH NOTTS GREEN NETWORK

NUMBER 56 December 1996 FREE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: BUSINESS FOCUS • GREEN XMAS GUIDE • AGENDA 21



Jan Key (leader) and members of Inham Nook youth club celebrate receiving the Queen Mother's Special Mention Award for environmental work.

YOUTH CLUB HONOURS

A local Youth Club in Broxtowe recently received a national environmental award for the second time. Inham Nook was one of only three Youth Clubs in the country to receive the Queen Mother's Special Mention Award for local environmental improvement, given in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy. Members of the club received the award in October - as part of a special event in London.

Inham Nook believes that their work is not just 'green', but anything that concerns its members and their living conditions - the whole of the environment.

The club's environmental work has mainly been in their own community (a Council Estate), and has included four main objectives -

- * Building better relationships within the community.
- * Raising awareness of a positive attitude by the

young people concerning environmental issues, in particular to adults and their own peers.

- * Crime Prevention.
- * Creating better living conditions for all - whether person, animal or insect!

Activities undertaken by Inham Nook's members have included -

Plan It! - the club was involved with the launch of this magazine, and took it along with a written statement of young people's concerns about the environment to County Hall and read it to local councillors and MPs. From there the group went on to the House of Commons to do the same there, and even got on TV!

An Environmental song and drama have also been produced, and presented to churches, guide groups, residential homes and other venues.

Continued inside.

Green Network News is a monthly publication aiming to share information and build links between all individuals and organisations in the Nottingham and South Notts area with an interest in the environment.

CRABTREE RECYCLING

A new kerbside recycling scheme is being launched next month, set up by Crabtree Farm Community Centre - which already has a Mini Recycling Centre operated in partnership with Nottingham City Council. The new scheme will initially cover around 60-80 houses in the area, collecting paper, glass and cans every 2 weeks. The Community Centre will be working with Bestwood Centre in Bulwell, which is running a collection scheme in Bestwood Estate.

Volunteers are needed to help with the collection, or with sorting the material to be recycled. If you live in the Crabtree or Bulwell areas and would like to help, please contact Malcolm Roseburgh on 927 2869.

FREE RADIO PUBLICITY!

Nottingham's Community Radio Team provides free coverage for community organisations, through Careline on Trent FM and Actionline on BBC Radio Nottingham. The Team can advise groups about how to get their message across in the most effective way, and confidential telephone helplines provide answers to enquiries about broadcasts.

To find our more contact Careline on 941 3121 or Actionline on 941 1222.

BROXTOWE FUNDING

Green Network would like to thank Broxtowe Borough Council for providing a grant of £250, which has helped to pay for the printing of this issue of Green Network News.

The COOPERATIVE BANK

Green Network would like to thank the Co-operative Bank for sponsoring this issue.

For details of their services please contact Stan Harrison, Senior Manager, on 0115 924 0410.

NEW COMMUNITY WOODS

Would you like to help plant a new wood in your area? The 'Woods on your Doorstep' project has been set up by the Woodland Trust, who have been awarded up to £6.5 million by the Millennium commission to help people plant 200 new community woods.

Sites need to be between 1 and 20 acres in size, & within walking distance of the local community. People also have to be able to raise funds to match those being given by the Millennium Commission.

Contact the Woodland Trust, Autumn Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL (phone 01476 581111).

GNN UPDATE

Green Network has recently moved to a different address - Groundwork Greater Nottingham have kindly agreed to provide us with office space. The phone number remains the same, and any mail which has been sent to the Rainbow Centre address will be redirected.

Articles are usually needed around one month in advance of publication, and can be sent on paper or 3.5 inch disk (pc format). We welcome stories about any current events or issues each month, as well as information about events to go in the Green Calendar; please write or phone if you would like to contribute.

Contact me on 941 7849, or write to me at Green Network, c/o Groundwork Greater Nottingham, 35-37 St Mary's Gate, Nottingham NG1 1PU.

Adam Woodward.

GNN ON-LINE

Green Network now has a presence on the Internet's World Wide Web, at the new *Sustainability in Nottinghamshire* site: <http://www.ccc.nottingham.ac.uk/~lqzjf/>. You can now get GNN on your computer!

The site has been created by Change Works and the University of Nottingham to make information about sustainable development initiatives in Nottinghamshire available to a world-wide audience of Net users. It's currently at the first stage, with material from just a few organisations, but there are plans to expand it into a major resource for the local and wider community. Watch this space.

The University of Nottingham is providing free computer space, and funding has come from Nottinghamshire County Council and Newark & Sherwood District Council.

GREEN CHRISTMAS GUIDE

Friends of the Earth have produced a free 'Green Guide to Christmas' leaflet, which is full of simple ideas about how to be more environmentally-friendly during the festive season.

These are just a few of the ideas -

* **Christmas Trees** - If you want to buy one you can plant out afterwards, it will need watering, and should be kept in the coolest possible place. If you can't plant it out, your local council may be operating a scheme to shred trees for use in parks.

* **Cards & Wrapping Paper** - Re-use cards from last year, or make sure new ones are made

from recycled card. Many cards carry claims such as 'from a sustainable source' - but many of these have little evidence to back them up.

* **Paper, Bottles and Cans** - Throwing out paper packaging adds to the size of landfills, and puts more pressure on forests like those in Scandinavia to supply new paper.

Paper, bottles and cans can be recycled at the nearest recycling centre operated by your local council.

To order a copy of the 'Green Guide to Christmas', contact Friends of the Earth Publications on 01582 482297.



YOUTH CLUB HONOURS

Continued from front page.

A **Path and Garden** was created at Sunnyside School - in partnership with school students, the site manager and volunteers - to produce a path for easy access for wheelchairs and pushchairs, but also for community safety. The garden surrounding the path is a 'peace' area where anyone can sit quietly and reflect or study. This idea came also as a memorial to the events at Dunblane.

A **Hedge Planting** project was planned to replace vandalised wire fencing with bushes of different assortments - helping to prevent further crime and providing a 'greener' boundary for St Barnabas Church, where the youth club is situated.

This is just a sample of the wide variety of projects Inham Nook have developed. Other activities have included Coppicing Weekends,

litter picks, and setting up recycling bins for the local school and community. A group of young and older people also meet together regularly to share in different activities - which came about through older people feeling intimidated by the young.

The Director of the Tidy Britain Group (Professor Graham Ashworth CBE DL) commented 'Tidy Britain Group are delighted that Inham Nook Youth Club has achieved royal recognition for their positive contribution to the local environment. Their nomination rewards their active, long-term commitment to the local environment - an award which is truly well deserved'.

For more information about the Queen Mother's Birthday Awards for environmental improvement contact the Tidy Britain Group on 01942 824620.

A 'GREEN' VISION FOR NEWARK & SHERWOOD

Despite having to sacrifice a Saturday, around 80 people attended the visioning and action planning event at Kelham Hall on 2nd November. Representatives from many community groups were there. Many were - for the first time - meeting local government agencies, businesses and Councillors. There were three aims of the day: to mark the launch of the Making SENSE initiative (Sustainable Enterprise for Newark and Sherwood's Environment), to create a vision of a sustainable future for the District, and to set the priorities for action to turn the vision into reality.

With the help of Technical Aid for Nottingham Communities, the visioning went smoothly. Delegates went on a flight of fancy to imagine Newark and Sherwood in the year 2050 - and how we would want to find it. People produced hundreds of ideas and these are now being turned into a short vision statement with the generous help of the Newark Writers Group.

In the afternoon, workshops began the long job of making sustainable development a reality and Richard Donoyou, the Director of Peterborough Environment City Trust, was on hand to give us the benefit of their experience.

Many people had envisaged a close-knit and crime-free society, and they got together to identify the priorities for action to bring this about. Other groups focused on transport, the natural environment and food, energy and power, where we live and work, waste and pollution and issues relating to the community, education and lifestyle.

The stars of the show were undoubtedly the Brownies - their energy, ideas and enthusiasm inspired us all.

A strategy will be developed to address the issues that the conference highlighted. The strategy will be circulated widely - if you get to see a copy please let us know what you think. The working groups will be encouraged to meet again to build on the good work started at the conference. They will refine the strategy and develop the partnerships we need to move towards a sustainable District.

For more information about the conference, the strategy or the Making SENSE initiative, contact Robert Benington, Environmental Co-ordinator, Newark and Sherwood District Council on 01636 605111 ext. 562.

FULL OF GREENS

'Full of Greens' is a free magazine published by Bright Sparks, full of stories and pictures about individuals and groups involved in allotments and gardens in Sneinton and St Ann's - including the Ecoworks Permaculture Garden, the St Ann's Allotment Campaign and Nottingham Garden Holder's Association.

Bright Sparks is a local community group which supports *Sneinton in Bloom* - which supplies a free fitted window box on request to

terraced houses, encouraging residents to add their own hanging baskets and replant each season. 500 boxes have been provided, funded by Nottingham City Challenge, with plants and compost from Nottingham City Council, planted out at Stonebridge City Farm by horticulture trainees.

'Full of Greens' is available free from Sneinton & St Ann's Libraries, Green's Windmill & the City Challenge office (Carlton Rd).

GREEN NETWORK AGM

The 1997 Green Network AGM will take place at Nottingham County Library from 7pm on 23rd January. Members and Non-Members are welcome to attend.

Local Speakers
'Networking' opportunities
Discussion of Future Plans
Displays from Local Groups
Food from 6.30pm

If you would like to book display space, or find out more, contact Adam Woodward on 941 7849.

GEDLING LEAF RECYCLING

Gedling Borough Council is repeating its annual autumn leaf recycling project. The Council is collecting the fallen leaves, storing them while they decompose, and then in the Spring-time giving away the resulting leaf-mould to gardeners in the borough.

The scheme reduces the need for landfill sites and peat extraction, as well as helping gardeners to suppress weeds and improve soil.

Contact Rob Crowder (Gedling Borough Council Environmental Protection Officer) on 967 5258.

WINTER CONSERVATION

With the chill of winter upon us, what better way to keep warm than to join the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) on their practical conservation winter tasks?

Whether you've just got the occasional day to spare, or a bit more time on your hands, BTCV has something that you'll be interested in.

To find out more, ring Stuart at the BTCV office on 931 3316.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

The rates for one year are -
* Unwaged individuals - £3
* Waged individuals/ Voluntary groups/ Businesses (up to 5 staff)/ Schools - £6
* Businesses (over 5 staff)/ Local Authorities - £15

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Green Network members receive -
* Free subscription to GNN
* A free copy of our Environmental Directory, with details of over 160 local organisations involved in the environment.
* A £10 discount voucher for advertising in Green Network News.
* Voting at Green Network Meetings

These are the fees for one year -
* Voluntary groups/ Businesses (up to 5 staff)/ Schools - £10
* Businesses with over 5 staff/ Local Authorities - £25

Please send cheques to Green Network, c/o Groundwork Greater Nottingham, 35-37 St Mary's Gate, Nottingham NG1 1PU. ☎ 941 7849.

DECEMBER 1996

- Day Tasks *Tue, Wed, Thur, Sun's* **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)** activities: a variety of practical tasks. ☎ 931 3316.
- Day Tasks *Sun's (& other days)* **Notts Wildlife Trust** conservation activities at wildlife reserves around the county. ☎ NWT on 958 8242.
- Monthly **Nottingham EIA (Environmental Investigation Agency)**. 7.30pm. Nott'm Knight, W.Bridgford. ☎ Lesley Peasant, 01509 235885.
- Sun 1st **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 5169 for details.
- Mon 2nd **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Peacock, Mansfield Road. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
- Tue 3rd **'End of the Great Car Culture? Implementing a Green Commuter Plan'** - a talk by Sue Flack of Nottingham City Council. 12noon in the Arkwright Lecture Theatre, Arkwright Building, Shakespeare Street.
Part of the Nottingham Trent University Environmental Studies Open Lecture Programme.
- Tue 3rd **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm, upstairs at the Bell Inn, Market Square.
☎ David Eminson at the Oxfam Campaigns office on 942 3892.
- Wed 4th **Real World Coalition** meeting. 7.30pm. Venue to be arranged. ☎ Nigel Lee on 978 8059.
- Fri 6th **Greenpeace Youth Group**. 7.30pm. Trent University library, Shakespeare St. ☎ Megan MacFarlane, 921 2246 to confirm venue.
- W/E 6-8 **BTCV Countryside Weekend - Hedgerow Planting**. Cost £11.
Pick-up from Nottingham BR station at 8pm. *To book a place* ☎ 0113 274 2335.
- Mon 9th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.
- Tue 10th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 1.15pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Tue 10th **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ Rob Williams on 922 8617.
- Tue 10th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Mon 16th **Pedals** meeting. 7.30pm, at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.
- Wed 18th **Wollaton Natural History Society** meeting, from 7.30pm at Wollaton Church Hall. £1 entry. All Welcome.
- Thur 19th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Ron Gillott on 920 1238.
- Fri 27th **Critical Mass** Cycle Ride to protest against traffic congestion. Meet in the Market Square at 5.15pm.
Contact Box CTM, Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HW.

JANUARY 1997

- Day Tasks *Tue, Wed, Thur, Sun's* **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)** activities: a variety of practical tasks. ☎ 931 3316.
- Day Tasks *Sun's (& other days)* **Notts Wildlife Trust** conservation activities at wildlife reserves around the county. ☎ NWT on 958 8242.
- Monthly **Nottingham EIA (Environmental Investigation Agency)**. 7.30pm. Nott'm Knight, W.Bridgford. ☎ Lesley Peasant, 01509 235885.
- Fri 3rd **Greenpeace Youth Group**. 7.30pm. Trent University library, Shakespeare St. ☎ Megan MacFarlane, 921 2246 to confirm venue.
- W/E 4-5 **Christmas Tree Recycling** events. ☎ Sarah Weightman at Groundwork Greater Nottingham on 979 9227 for more information.
- Sun 5th **Leen Valley Conservation Volunteers** meeting. 10.30am at Rise Park Community Centre. ☎ 975 5169 for details.
- Mon 6th **Greenpeace Support Group** meeting at the Peacock, Mansfield Road. ☎ David Meatcher on 925 7186.
- Tue 7th **Oxfam Campaigning Group** meeting. 7.30pm, upstairs at the Bell Inn, Market Square.
☎ David Eminson at the Oxfam Campaigns office on 942 3892.
- Mon 13th **Nottingham Churches Environment Network** meeting. 7.30pm, St Andrews with Castlegate URC Hall (corner of Chaucer & Goldsmith Streets). ☎ Paula Reynolds on 948 3500 ext 6123.
- Mon 13th **Nottingham Permaculture Association** meeting. ☎ Phil Corbett on 947 4977 for details.
- Tue 14th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 1.15pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.
- Tue 14th **NOGS (Nottingham Organic Gardeners)** meeting. ☎ Rob Williams on 922 8617.
- Tue 14th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Wed 15th **Wollaton Natural History Society**, from 7.30pm at Wollaton Church Hall. £1. All Welcome.
- Thur 16th **Notts Transport 2000** meeting. 7.30pm at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Ron Gillott on 920 1238.
- Mon 20th **Pedals** meeting. 7.30pm, at the Tom Hoskins pub, near Nottingham BR Station. ☎ Hugh McClintock on 981 6206.
- Thur 23rd **Green Network AGM** - with local speakers. 7pm (food available from 6.30pm). Nottingham County Library, Angel Row.
All welcome. ☎ Adam Woodward on 941 7849.
- Fri 24th **Critical Mass** Cycle Ride to protest against traffic congestion. Meet in the Market Square at 5.15pm.
Contact Box CTM, Rainbow Centre, 182 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HW.
- Tue 28th **Friends of the Earth** meeting. 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street. ☎ Tim Gray on 922 3439.
- Tue 28th **Nottingham Women's Environmental Network** meeting. 8pm at 5 Meynall Grove, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. ☎ 960 5843.

Green Network thanks Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council for their support.
Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of other contributors, or of the Editorial Group.
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GPT BUSINESS SYSTEMS

GPT Business Systems, the Beeston based telecommunications manufacturer, has recently been awarded certification to BS 7750 - the British Standard for Environmental Management Systems.

Over the past four years the company has undertaken improvements in line with its Environmental Policy. The policy makes a commitment to reducing the overall impact of the business on the environment, and to a process of continuous improvement with regard to environmental issues.

The policy was drawn up to address the various pressures on the business resulting from changes in the global perspective on the environment. Mainly these pressures have been applied to the business through the introduction and strengthening of environmental legislation and regulations. Changes in customer perceptions and increased interest of employees and environmental groups have also been taken into account.

As a priority, the company undertook a programme of education and training for the whole workforce. This was essential to ensure that sustainable improvements and changes could be identified and implemented across the whole business.

Many improvements have been implemented as a direct result of increased employee understanding and awareness. An example can be drawn from the manufacturing area, where the flow solder process was changed to eliminate the use of CFCs. The modifications to the process went beyond the legal requirements regarding CFCs and eliminated the need to use solvents to clean printed circuit boards altogether.

Similarly, reviews of waste streams have not only identified materials that can be segregated for recycling, but have also resulted in changes to processes that have eliminated the waste completely. As a result, the overall waste going to landfill is now about a quarter of what it was four years ago. The impact on the environment has been lessened and the costs to the business have been reduced.



Toton Primary School receives a new can crusher - provided with funds raised from GPT paper recycling.

Materials used on site are recycled whenever possible. Segregation and sale of different grades of waste paper and cardboard has generated over £20,000. This money has been used to support employee nominated schools and organisations in practical projects. Can crushers are a popular request for schools.

The company recognises the necessity of good environmental stewardship. With an effective Environmental Policy and an Environmental Management System that continually encourages employee involvement in highlighting and resolving environmental issues, the company has confirmed its responsibility to protect the local and global environment.

Eddie Orchard (Environmental Manager, GPT Business Systems).

EMBEC

The East Midlands Business & Environment Club (EMBEC) is a self-financing and non-profit making organisation based upon self-help. It runs seminars, meetings, exhibitions and visits of interest to business - with an environmental bias.

The Club has been operating for 2 years, and now has 90 members. EMBEC covers the 5 East Midlands counties of Nottinghamshire,

Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire.

The club's constitution includes the following purposes -

* to promote the use of ecologically sound and sustainable business practices,

Continued overleaf.

THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The Environment Agency came into existence on 1 April by the merger of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution, the National Rivers Authority and the Waste Regulation units from the County Councils. It has inherited a wide range of powers concerned with the regulation of the water environment, the processes with the most polluting potential and the storage, transport and disposal of waste and radioactive substances. The Agency is also concerned with the direct operation of flood defences, water resources and fisheries, and advising Government on Air Quality and Waste Management Strategies.

This integration enables the Agency to take a more holistic approach to environmental management and achieving sustainable development. As well as regulating industry, etc by issuing authorisations, licences and consents and enforcing compliance with legislation, the Agency aims to provide advice and information to help others to understand the issues and achieve environmental improvements. It also intends to foster partnerships which will contribute towards these aims and to lead to an enhanced environment.

The Agency is managed locally in 26 areas of which the Lower Trent Area includes Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. General enquiries are dealt with by the Customer Services Department, which can be contacted on 0115 945 5722. From outside Nottingham 0645 333111 will connect you to the nearest Agency office for the cost of a local call. The same department will deal with enquiries for public register information and is responsible for providing the Local Environment Agency Plans (LEAPs).

LEAPs will take the place of the NRA's Catchment Management Plans, identifying issues in specific areas that are of concern to the Agency. They will appraise options for environmental improvement and lead to a plan, hopefully in partnership with others, to remedy identified problems. Wide public consultation will take place on each of these plans as they are produced over the next few years.

The Agency is also responsible for responding to pollutions, fish kills, floods and other environmental threats. A freephone number (0800 807060) can be used to report events at any time ensuring a quick response.

For further information about the Agency and specific issues there is a range of leaflets available. These can be obtained from the local customer services office on 0115 945 5722.