



15 November 2017

Media Statement

Less littering a win for WA

- Lowest litter volumes recorded since the National Litter Index began in 2006.

Western Australia has achieved a 22.7 per cent reduction in littered items across the State according to Keep Australia Beautiful WA's National Litter Index (NLI) 2016–17.

The volume of litter recorded was also down by 32 per cent, the biggest one-year reduction since the NLI started in 2006.

The NLI measures litter levels across 151 sites within 50km of the Perth CBD, and includes seven site types – highways; beaches; retail and shopping areas; car parks; recreational parks; residential; and industrial.

The significant decline is a positive step forward for the State, with previously highly littered items including cigarette butts and takeaway food packaging down on the previous year's levels by 35 per cent and 15 per cent respectively.

Significant reductions were recorded at five of the seven site types, with recreational parks and beaches recording a small increase in litter levels.

Keep Australia Beautiful Chairman Michael Aspinall said the results showed the anti-litter message was spreading across the State.

"The results of the 2016–17 NLI are encouraging and mark a positive move forward for WA's environment and all those who live here," he said.

"Everyone in the community has a role to play in keeping WA litter-free and it is positive to see people taking this responsibility seriously and striving to make a difference.

"I would encourage people to become involved in our programs such as Adopt-a-Spot, the Litter Report Scheme, Tidy Towns and Clean Clubs which rely on community members helping reduce and prevent litter in our State."

Full details of the National Litter Index can be found at www.kabc.wa.gov.au.

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