

WA Clean Beach Challenge

Celebrating WA's beach culture – keeping our beaches beautiful, environmentally friendly and litter free

Overall Winner:

Cleanest Beach Award

Consider a beach's geographic, environmental, economic and cultural circumstances and assess how efficiently and effectively the beach uses the resources available to it.

Consider: visitor friendliness, resource conservation, waste mgmt, community-local govt partnerships, youth enterprise and activity, community action, litter prevention and mgmt, fauna and flora protection, dune protection.

Outstanding Accomplishment Awards:

1. Friendly Beach Award

This award recognises the importance of visitor hospitality and safety, and instructive and easily understood local information facilities. Judges look for evidence of a commitment to, and active promotion of, visitor friendliness, including:

- ◆ Adequate, well placed directional signage for parking, amenities, information services, tourist attractions, beach access and beach usage
- ◆ Well placed and adequate beach and water safety signage
- ◆ Life savers/life guards on duty during swimming season
- ◆ Multi-lingual signage, and/or universal symbols for non-readers and non-English readers
- ◆ Commitment to maintenance and good presentation of signage
- ◆ Genuine visitor information centres displaying the new tourism "i" (information) sign
- ◆ Appropriate access to and from beachside public facilities for the disabled and elderly
- ◆ Appropriate access to and from the beach for the disabled and elderly
- ◆ Visitor and tourist facilities, including toilets, picnic areas, barbecues, shaded playgrounds, carparks, information boards/signs
- ◆ Clean and tidy beach
- ◆ Tidy, well presented surrounding beach area, including care and maintenance of footpaths, playgrounds and parks
- ◆ The existence or development of a tourism strategy for the beach/area
- ◆ (Where competent, recognised data is available) ongoing compliance with Australian water quality standards for ocean bathing

2. Community Action Award

This award recognises outstanding community organisation and pride – expressed through civic, cultural and environmental activities. Judges look for evidence of strong partnerships between the local beach community (including clubs and organised groups), local business and the local council, including:

- ◆ Organised beach clean-ups and ongoing litter management activities
- ◆ Community involvement in the preparation and maintenance of management plans/strategies for the beach
- ◆ Involvement of youth groups, schools and clubs in positive beach community management activities
- ◆ Community celebrations associated with the beach
- ◆ Cultural heritage celebrations/projects associated with the beach and initiated by the community
- ◆ Beachside fauna and flora protection and/or rehabilitation activities initiated by the community

- ◆ Community initiated/managed beach and foreshore enhancement such as weed eradication, dune revegetation and habitat improvement
- ◆ Community-led resource recovery, reuse and recycling activities at the beach
- ◆ Visible/measurable outcomes achieved as a result of community initiative and action

3. Resource Management Award

This award recognises outstanding accomplishment in resource conservation and waste management. Judges look for evidence of community, business and/or local council initiatives in the conservation of natural resources, the recovery and reuse of "waste" materials and the appropriate disposal of non-recyclables, including:

- ◆ Mulching and reuse of suitable green waste
- ◆ Adequate, well placed recycling bins/facilities
- ◆ Appropriate directional signage to recycling facilities and/or services
- ◆ Collection and re-use/recycling of glass, paper, cardboard, aluminium, plastic, oil
- ◆ Collection and appropriate disposal of non-recyclable materials
- ◆ Incorporation of waste management activities into a broader waste management strategy for the beach
- ◆ Water minimisation practices and/or devices (eg automatic shut-off taps on public toilets and showers)
- ◆ Energy minimisation practices and/or devices at public facilities (eg long-life light globes, solar-heated/powered public facilities or services, automatic light shut-off switches - where safety is not compromised)
- ◆ Community education and/or consultation activities with regard to resource conservation and waste management at the beach
- ◆ Partnerships between council, community and/or business in effective resource conservation and waste management activities at the beach

4. Protection of the Environment Award

This award recognises outstanding accomplishment in the protection of the local natural environment and, specifically, the preservation of fauna and flora. Judges look for evidence of the community's and/or council's commitment to the protection and sound management of local fauna and flora, including:

- ◆ Weed eradication policies and programs
- ◆ Partnerships between council and the community which are designed to identify, rehabilitate and/or protect local fauna and flora
- ◆ Development and implementation of vegetation management plans for the beach, dunes and surrounds
- ◆ Installation and use of dune protection measures, including stairs and/or wood and chain slats at beach access points (pedestrian and vehicular), visible and appropriate access/no access signage for vehicles and pedestrians, fencing of sensitive dune areas
- ◆ Coastcare, Dunecare, Land for Wildlife, Voluntary Conservation Agreements and other activities/commitments for the protection of local flora and fauna
- ◆ Established beach conservation and/or environment group(s)
- ◆ Commitment to the maintenance and protection of coastal/dune vegetation

5. Litter Prevention Award

This award recognises outstanding accomplishment in litter prevention, management and education. Judges look for evidence of sound and proactive litter management and abatement activities, including:

- ◆ Anti-litter education and awareness programs, literature and/or signage by local council, schools, community groups, Surf Life Saving Clubs
- ◆ Litter management strategy for the beach
- ◆ Adequate, well placed litter bins in beachside commercial areas
- ◆ Adequate, well placed litter bins in public parks and playgrounds
- ◆ Frequent and adequate collections from litter bins and recycling bins
- ◆ Appropriate directional signage to litter bins and recycling bins
- ◆ Accessible dog-litter bags and disposal facilities, or dog prohibition on the beach
- ◆ Cigarette butt disposal facilities in public parks/rest areas
- ◆ Personal cigarette “butt bins” available for/distributed to beach users
- ◆ Regular beach clean-up activities by the community and/or local council

