

Multicultural Recycling Festival spreads the word about recycling

Do you want to reduce waste and help the environment but aren't quite sure how to do it? You'll find all the answers at Marrickville Council's Multicultural Recycling Festival at Marrickville Metro Shopping Centre from Thursday 6 – Tuesday 11 November 2008.



household items can be recycled and which bin recycling should go in. There will also be information in these languages on display.

"It is important that the whole community is included in Council's recycling initiatives to create less waste in our area, and people from the Greek, Italian, Arabic and Portuguese speaking communities comprise 13.5% of people in the Marrickville local government area, according to 2006 census data," Mayor of Marrickville Sam Iskandar said. "If someone from another non- English speaking background needs assistance, Council will arrange for them to be contacted by a

recycling expert who speaks their language."

Residents can also enter Council's Recycling Quiz and receive a free Marrickville Metro envirofriendly bag and mini recycling bin. There is a limit of one prize per person.

"Visy is proud to be associated with the Marrickville Multicultural Recycling Festival," Visy Recycling Marketing Manager Ainslie Kenny said. "Recycling diligently is one of the most effective actions Australian householders can take against greenhouse gas generation - it cuts methane from landfill and it also dramatically reduces the energy required

to produce packaging and other materials."

The Multicultural Recycling Festival is an initiative of Marrickville Council, Visy and Marrickville Metro Shopping Centre. Marrickville Metro employs recycling practices in its centre, which mean approximately 80% of cardboard waste is diverted from landfill and converted into energy, while the remaining 20% of waste is recycled.

The event leads into National Recycling Week from 10 – 16 November 2008.

For more information phone Council on 9335 2222 or visit www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au.

Abducted Children: Conventional Photos Alone Don't Aid The Search

People's ability to recognise abducted children is impaired when they view a photo of a smiling, clean child, but come into contact with the same child whose appearance is very different because he or she is upset, crying, dishevelled or unkempt. This is the key finding of a study published today in Applied Cognitive Psychology.

When a child goes missing the police often rely on photographs provided by his or her parents, but the photos they usually provide, often school pictures, may not be as useful as they would like. The purpose of this new study was to identify what type of photo is most likely to help in the recognition of a missing child.

Two experiments were conducted to test the ability of adults to recognise children from photos. Over 150 adults were shown pictures of children that were either "cleaned up" as they would typically appear, in school photos, happy and clean, as well as a "dirtied up" picture, where the child looked dirty, tired, sad or angry.

Results from the study show that recognition is best when the original appearance of the child matched the appearance when memory is later tested.



"My question was, if you happened to see a missing child with their perpetrator and the child is dirty or has been physically abused, would you be able to recognise that child from a photo of him or her smiling, clean and happy?" said lead researcher, Dr. Vicki Gier, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Mississippi State University. "If an adult is shown two pictures of a child with similar appearance, both 'clean' or both 'dirty', recognition is good. However, if an adult sees two pictures of the same child but with differing appearance, then recognition is poor."

These findings could prove beneficial in the search for children who are abducted or reported missing, as typically the picture given by parents and distributed by the police is a school photo, in which a child is smiling and clean.

To combat this, the researchers have strongly suggested that parents have both types of pictures available (clean and dirty) in case their child is abducted or missing. "If both types of facial appearance were shown to the public or possible eyewitnesses, the chances of recognising the child may increase," said Gier.



Neighbourly relations

Disputes with neighbours can be distressing, and frankly no one wants nasty neighbours, so it makes sense to try to avoid confrontation and explore the options. In today's article we look at a common cause of friction, fence disputes.

My neighbour wants to build a fence which is too expensive

The law in NSW says that owners of neighbouring land must share the cost of building and maintaining a sufficient dividing fence. It is only natural to expect your neighbour to check with you and obtain a quote. If the fencing suggested is too expensive then make your own suggestions and obtain your own quote.

Keep copies of any quotes given to you and notes of your conversations recording the date, time and what was said by whom.

If you are renting the property give the quote to your landlord or the managing agent since they will typically be responsible for the cost.

If you are unable to agree with your neighbour then they can ask the Local Court to order you to contribute towards the cost of the new fence. If you receive a notice from the Court see your solicitor or a local Chamber Magistrate. Chamber Magistrates are at most Local Courts and can give you free advice.

My neighbour wants to build a fence outside the true boundary between our land.

This is a common worry, and most times can be resolved quickly. Check with the solicitor who helped you with the contract when buying the property whether the contract contained a survey report. A survey report shows where the fences lie with reference to the title boundaries.

If you do not have a survey you can ask a surveyor to do one. The cost is relatively small and you can ask your neighbour to share the cost.

You could always discuss the matter with your neighbour and agree where the fence is to be placed. If you do so, make sure that you do not lose land which rightly belongs to you.

My neighbours wants to build an ugly fence.

If there is a dispute which cannot be resolved then the Local Court can make orders as to the type of fence to be built. The Court will generally consider your views as well as any existing fence, privacy concerns, the usual kind of fence and other factors applying to your neighbourhood.

This article is intended to provide a general overview on matters of interest. It is not intended to be comprehensive nor does it constitute legal advice. You should seek legal or other professional advice before acting or relying on any of its content.

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