



Rob Stokes MP

Minister for the Environment
Minister for Heritage
Minister for the Central Coast
Assistant Minister for Planning

MEDIA RELEASE

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Bankstown Council gets \$124,585 to cut litter in half

NSW Environment Minister Rob Stokes today announced \$124,585 for Bankstown City Council to slash litter problems in local parks and public spaces.

Mr Stokes said the 'We Like Our Park Litter Free' project aims to tackle littering through new bins, cleaning regimes, litter bag giveaways and employing litter officers on weekends to engage and educate park users.

The project aims to cut litter by up to 50 per cent, focusing on East Hills Park, Lake Gillawarna, Kelso Beach, Garrison Point Park and Shortland Bush Car Park.

"The 'We Like Our Park Litter Free' project builds on the successful work of an earlier anti-littering project in Bankstown City Council's recreational reserves," Mr Stokes said.

East Hills MP Glenn Brookes said the project would be of great benefit to the community.

"Initiatives that combine education and innovation like this help the community understand the importance of disposing of their rubbish correctly when enjoying the city's parks and reserves," he said.

The grant was awarded under the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Waste Less, Recycle More initiative for litter prevention.

The cost of litter prevention and clean up services nationally is between \$300 and \$500 million a year. EPA research indicates 88 percent of people think the issue of litter is 'very' or 'extremely' important.

Bankstown City Council Deputy Mayor, Scott Parker, welcomed the announcement.

"The initial 'We Like Our Park Litter Free' project proved a real hit with our residents and visitors when we piloted it at our popular city parks and reserves," Councillor Parker said.

"We found with a little face-to-face education from our helpful litter officers, visitors to our parks are more than happy to do the right thing, and the results have been fantastic!"

The \$20 million Litter Prevention Program is one of several initiatives under the NSW Government's \$465.7 million Waste Less, Recycle More to transform waste and recycling in NSW.

For more information, go to www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/WasteLess.htm.