

For Immediate Release

Ekka Goes Green

The biggest and most anticipated Show in Queensland, the Ekka, is just around the corner and its Royal National Association (RNA) organisers are making sure that this year's ten days of non-stop fun and entertainment are as environmentally friendly and 'green' as ever.

The Royal Queensland Show begins next Thursday, 5 August and is expected to once again draw hundreds of thousands to the RNA Showgrounds in Brisbane along with hundreds of tonnes of rubbish and waste.

Over 100 cleaning staff have been preparing for next week's Ekka where approximately over 300 tonnes of rubbish will be accumulated throughout the ten days of the Ekka. An enhanced initiative by the RNA with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has meant further improvements to waste disposal methods at this year's Show.

Improved waste disposal methods including connected animal wash bays leading directly into the sewerage system will mean the efficient and environmentally friendly removal of unwanted sewerage from the inner-city RNA Showgrounds.

Recycling efforts will be increased at this year's Show with an added 250 recycling bins and over 1000 general bins brought into the Grounds. The expected hundreds of tonnes of animal manure will be deposited to the Botanic Gardens and the Kandy Soils at Wacol for reprocessing.

A Cleaner, Greener EKKA

The RNA will grow initiatives introduced in 2004 to reduce waste and encourage recycling, ensuring a clean, green EKKA, including:

- A two-bin system similar to the one used by many people in their own homes.
- A greater number of cardboard balers and bins.
- All organic materials including animal waste, straw and sawdust will be collected and recycled as high quality landscaping and garden products, for use in the city's gardens.
- All caterers on site are being encouraged to supply food products in recyclable packaging.