



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release – April 09

From the Goldfields to Waste Management Sovereign Hill Excels

Sovereign Hill Museums Association has been presented with their **Silver Level Waste Wise** certificate by Rosemary Angus, Manager Education Programs, Highlands Regional Waste Management Group.

“The presentation of this certificate reflects the ongoing commitment to excellence in all areas of Sovereign Hill’s operations” said Rosemary Angus when presenting the certificate.

Sovereign Hill was first certified as **Waste Wise** in November 2005 and have now been re-certified at the Silver Level. Since 2005 they have achieved 58% diversion of waste from landfill and a reduction in litter.

Key actions that have led to this significant reduction are:

- providing clearly labelled public place recycling bins, cleverly contained in wooden surrounds so as not to upset the image of the 1850’s
- putting the **Waste Wise** logo on visitor information brochures
- providing china mugs for all staff
- provision of skips, back of house, for the collection of scrap steel, and
- arranging for the 150 tonnes per annum of stable straw and manure to be composted

“Visitors to Sovereign Hill recognise the importance of keeping the museum clean and support our environmental initiatives by putting their waste and recycling in the appropriate bins,” said Jarrod Page, Manager Operations.

Waste Wise actions that will support a further reduction in waste to landfill include:

- development of an environmental purchasing policy
- refresh signage for visitors and staff to improve participation in waste and recycling and provide ongoing education
- working with suppliers to reduce packaging waste, and
- continuing to keeps the chooks, pigs and goats happy with food scraps from the kitchens

Waste Wise is a program of Sustainability Victoria www.sustainability.vic.gov.au and is managed locally by the Highlands Regional Waste Management Group.

End Release

Further information / Photo opportunity: Jarrod Page, Operations Manager – 53292314