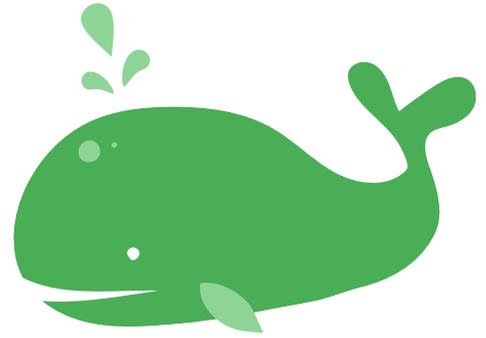


Waste Reduction Tips for Rural Residents

Did you know that if every person in WA reduces what we discard by just 5%, we'll each throw away about 120kg less per year – or the equivalent of 7500 adult humpback whales all together!



Our rural residents are more aware than most about the need to reuse, reduce and repurpose. If you are finding that your general waste is building up, here are some tips to help you minimise what your household throws away. Remember, it's a condition of using your rural waste passes that recyclables and hazardous waste are removed from general waste.

Recycle as much as you can

There are lots of things you can keep out of landfill with a few easy steps:

- Take household quantities of recyclables to Fossicker's Tip Shop any day of the week or to your closest Rural Transfer Station. Just make sure you use the recycling bins for only these 5 things:
 - Glass bottles and jars
 - Plastic bottles and containers
 - Cans
 - Paper and magazines
 - Cardboard (flattened)



Items must be rinsed, lids removed and loose in the bin (not in bags).

- Take your eligible drink containers to Containers for Change for a refund of 10-cents each. Visit www.containersforchange.com.au/wa for details.
- Rinse your eligible agricultural and veterinary chemical containers for recycling through the DrumMUSTER program. Visit www.drummuster.org.au for details.
- Separate your scrap steel for free recycling at Hanrahan Road Waste Facility and some Transfer Stations.
- Take motor oil to Hanrahan Road Waste Facility (25c/L) and some Transfer Stations.
- Take E-waste (TV, computers only) to Hanrahan Road Waste Facility and Kronkup Transfer Station.

Check over the page for what to do with other items that should NOT be disposed of in general waste or recycling.

Make the most of your organics

Many of our rural residents are already champions at this! Chooks are the ultimate food recyclers and give delicious eggs in return. Composting or worm farming at home is another way to reduce your waste and benefit your garden.

You can recycle vegetable scraps, fallen leaves, lawn clippings and other kitchen and garden waste into a fantastic organic material to improve your garden soil.

Take a look at the composting and worm farming fact sheets available at recycleright.wa.gov.au/fact-sheets for more information.

Creating valuable biochar is another option to explore. For tips to get started check out www.torbaycatchment.org.au/the-benefits-of-biochar-how-to-make-it-on-a-small-scale/

Please remember it is against Albany's local health laws to set fire to food scraps (and other general waste) and green (unseasoned) garden cuttings on the ground or in an incinerator.

Avoid it or Swap it out

- Look for package-free or low packaging alternatives when you shop. Fruit, vegetables and other food items can be bought loose and you can take them home in reusable bags.
- Put a 'no junk mail/no advertising' sticker on your letterbox, and switch to paperless billing wherever possible.
- Choose reusable options to replace many day-to-day products like coffee cups, water/drink bottles, shopping bags, cutlery, picnic plates, face wipes and straws.
- Use reusable containers or beeswax wraps to package school and work lunches.
- If you have young children, try giving modern cloth nappies a go. The City is currently offering a rebate of 50% (up to \$100 per household) on the purchase of reusable cloth nappies with the Reusable Nappy Incentive.
- Choose fruit and veg without plastic packaging (buy loose or take reusable produce bags) and buy in bulk to avoid excess packaging.

Everyday plastic items can last longer in the environment than four generations of your family!

Take it away

Some items don't belong in any of your bins.

Certain items can be hazardous in waste and recycling facilities. Take the following items to Fossicker's Tip Shop for free recycling or safe disposal through the Household Hazardous Waste Program:

- Aerosol cans
- Mobile phones & accessories
- Cooking oil
- Household batteries
- Needles & syringes
- E-waste (computers, monitors, TVs, printers, cables)
- Printer cartridges
- Smoke detectors
- Light globes & tubes
- Gas bottles and cylinders
- Pesticides/herbicides
- Paint
- Household chemicals
- Flammables

NOTE: This service is for residential waste only (up to 20kg or 20L per material type). NO commercial waste will be accepted.

Give second hand a go

Your trash could be someone else's treasure.

- Gift unwanted items to friends and family, try selling online or have a garage sale.
- Give old clothing or household items that are still in good condition to second hand or charity shops.
- Before you buy new, see if you can borrow first or look for a second hand option.

**Take a look at www.freecycle.org or some of the local Pay It Forward and Buy & Sell groups on Facebook the next time you need to buy something*

Thank you for caring for our environment and correctly managing your waste. Regulations are in place to prevent inappropriate disposal or burning on private properties. It is an offence to put domestic or business rubbish in public place bins or to dump waste.