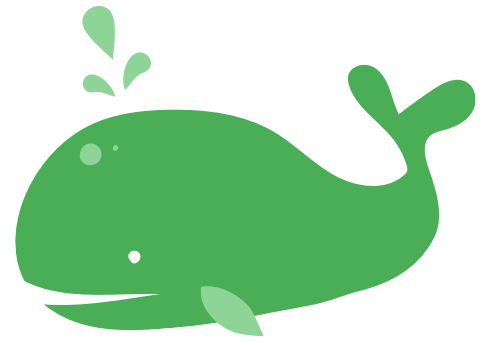


TIPS ON REDUCING WASTE



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!

If you find your General Waste Bin is filling up too quickly, here are some tips to help you minimise what gets thrown away.

Make the most of your FOGO Bin

On average food scraps make up 30% of the waste Albany residents put in kerbside bins. In landfill, this produces methane and leachate which is harmful for our environment. By using your lime-green lidded FOGO Bin, your organic waste will get a second life after being composted into a high quality soil improver product. Use your FOGO bin for garden prunings and all scraps, as well as used tissues and paper towel, shredded paper, and soiled cardboard.

Recycle as much as you can – lots of items end up in landfill that don't need to.

- Remember to use your yellow-lidded Recycling Bin for these 5 things:
 - Cans
 - Cardboard (flatten it for more space)
 - Paper and magazines
 - Glass bottles and jars
 - Plastic bottles and containers
- Items must be rinsed, lids removed and loose in the bin (not in bags).
- If your Recycling Bin is full, you can take household quantities of recyclables to Fossickers Tip Shop any day of the week
- Use the REDcycle bins at Coles and Woolworths for your plastic bags and soft plastics, including pasta and rice bags, shopping bags, net bags, cling and bubble wrap. For more information visit www.redcycle.net.au
- Take your eligible drink containers to Containers for Change for a refund of 10-cents each. Visit www.containersforchange.com.au/wa for details.

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. This can save up to 50kg of unwanted paper each year!
- 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. Modern cloth nappies are better for your baby, your wallet and our environment.
- Shop at farmer's markets 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 when put in your kerbside bins. 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: Fossicker's cannot accept unknown/unlabelled bottles of chemicals. This service is for residential waste only (up to 20kg or 20L per material type). NO commercial waste 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*

If you still have too much waste for your bin

If you are doing all you can to reduce your waste but your household still produces more than will fit in your bin, you may need to use another means of waste disposal, such as:

- Take additional waste to the Hanrahan Road Waste Facility – use the Waste Pass that comes with the annual Rates Notice or pay per load.
- Use bulk verge collections for big household items (every two years) and garden waste (annually).
- Request collection of additional bins for a fee. Contact our Rates Team on 6820 3000 or rates@albany.wa.gov.au for details.
- If your additional waste is due to a medical condition contact the Waste Team to discuss options on 6820 3000 or fogo@albany.wa.gov.au
- Investigate collection of additional waste by a commercial provider.
- For one-off occasions, consider asking a friend or neighbour if you can put excess rubbish in their bin. You must have consent of the owner before putting your rubbish in any bin belonging to another resident.

****Remember it is an offence to put domestic rubbish in public place bins or to dump waste. Make sure your bin lids are closed to avoid litter escaping into our beautiful environment.***