

June 2023

# recycle right newsletter

A publication helping Western Australians to reduce their household waste, recycle right and live more sustainably.



## PLASTIC FREE JULY®

All of Resource Recovery Group's Member Councils came together in a joint Plastic Free July pledge to promote reducing waste and living

sustainably. A video pledge will be published by the City of Fremantle, Town of East Fremantle and City of Melville on the first of July and will focus on reducing our use of resources.

Resource Recovery Group thank the elected members for their time to commit to Plastic Free July. Keep your eyes peeled for more media throughout the month!



Pictured from left to right: Deputy Mayor of East Fremantle, Tony Natale, Mayor of Melville George Gear and Mayor of Fremantle, Hannah Fitzhardinge.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Rebecca Prince-Ruiz on being awarded the Order of Australia for service to conservation and the environment. This award recognises Australians who have demonstrated outstanding service or exceptional achievement.





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## RECYCLE RIGHT'S CLAW VISIT



From left to right:  
**Luke Stewart** (Recycle Right),  
**Belinda Cass** (CLAW),  
**Bronwen Veale** – (Recycle Right) &  
**Kelly Levisohn** (City of Fremantle)

Recycle Right teamed up with the City of Fremantle, East Metro Regional Council and West Metro Regional Council to create an educational video on plastic recycling.

Keep your eyes posted to our socials where you will find Bron and Belinda hosting CLAW Environmental's Kate Cameron. Kate explains the process of turning bottle caps into spacers for the concrete industry.



## RECONCILIATION WEEK

Cr. Karen Wheatland of the City of Melville attended our Community Garden as an ally for Reconciliation Week. Councillor Wheatland spoke of her recent time in Shark Bay, where she deepened her knowledge about caring for country and Indigenous links to land.

The City of Melville and Councillor Wheatland are key drivers of the FOGO system that creates compost derived from residents' waste. It is carbon negative. It replenishes the soils. It is a system that takes what would pollute our country and turns it into what cares for our land.

As Joelwyn Johnson, Nantawarrina ranger, said, "Looking after Country is more than just a job for me, it's part of who I am. The trees, the soil, the water, the animals – we're responsible for keeping them healthy. And when we keep Country healthy, it sets us right too."



[Click here to watch the YouTube video](#)



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**The State Government has embarked on a Plastic Reduction Campaign by placing bans on single use plastics such as drinking straws and helium balloon releases.**

**As WA's Plan for Plastics reaches Stage Two, the following items are soon to be banned:**

**Expanded polystyrene packaging (loose)**  
1 September 2023

**Cotton buds with plastic stems**  
1 September 2023

**Microbeads**  
1 September 2023

**Expanded polystyrene cups and trays for raw meat and seafood**  
1 September 2023

**Degradable plastics**  
1 September 2023

**Produce bags**  
1 March 2024

# RRG COMMUNITY GARDEN

The RRG Community Garden is a project designed as an example of sustainable practises and to showcase FOGO as a product to enrich our gardens. The garden comprises beds of herbs, perennials and fruit trees along with local art, worm farms, recycled furniture and upcycled/recycled products.

A casualty of time, the garden is in need of some maintenance and as can be seen on Instagram, the RRG team are hard at work pulling weeds, getting rid of citrus gall wasps, fixing art, repairing reticulation, and getting the aesthetics just right.

But, this is not just a puff piece of architecture, but a sort of symbol of purpose and place. We see the FOGO feeding the flora and the end of a circular process. It is sort of humbling to think that the very food that was scraped off our plates is the food feeding these plants that will in turn feed us. The circular economy is what underwrites Recycle Right and Resource Recovery Group's purpose- promoting a circular economy. Reusing. Recycling – keeping it in the system.

On the other side of the coin, the community garden celebrates place. A sense of place is created here for employees and the community. A place where workers can share food, pick herbs and fruit, mingle and laugh. It is, in a way, an attempt to canvas to other workplaces how to enliven, create sense of community and connection by investing in place and therefore people. This community event, organised by Nadia from Human Resources, clearly builds on Resource Recovery Group's focus on mental health by getting our hands dirty with FOGO and building connections with colleagues.



The sped-up video of our good work can be watched on Instagram. Scan your phone and see the soil that supports life being replenished with FOGO compost and cast your eyes over some hard work from our team.

[Click here to watch on Instagram](#)



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### TIM ON ABC'S PERTH DRIVE



On ABC's Perth Drive with Jo Drilling, Western Australia's community posed excellent questions to Tim Youé, the CEO of Resource Recovery Group.

It was encouraging to hear residents' questions, as it shows Western Australia's commitment to recycling right.

Tim Youé reminded listeners of Recycle Right's app and website, which provides information on which bin to use and where to recycle items that cannot be placed in kerbside bins.



## THE GREAT GAMES AT CAPEL

Recycle Right Members are passionate about the waste hierarchy and what better way to introduce the concept than playing WMRC and Recycle Right's GREAT Games? Sally-Ann Garrett of the Shire of Capel attended John Calvin Christian School in Capel with the GREAT Games and treated K-12 students in activities designed to minimise waste and to educate 'what goes in what bin'.

The Shire of Capel, the City of Busselton and Shire of Augusta Margaret River are Recycle Right Members and have access to our GREAT Games, our APP and Website so that their residents can... RECYCLE RIGHT!



Sally-Ann Garrett with John Calvin Christian School pupils



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW WASTE ED OFFICER

Our new Waste Education Officer, Bronwen Veale

Bron recently joined Resource Recovery Group in June, having previously worked as an educator and event coordinator in schools, science centres and museums within Australia, Canada and Japan. Bron enjoys fostering supportive and sustainable communities and has worked with diverse groups of people of all ages, from early learners to adults. She is excited about engaging with people about waste avoidance and recycling and is looking forward to commencing tours of the Canning Vale Centre from July! When not at work, Bron volunteers with a local bushcare group- caring for a remnant patch of Banksia Woodland, just like the conservation bushland at Canning Vale, and managing the group's social media and newsletters. She is also a die-hard swing dancer, and can regularly be seen dancing to live jazz and blues gigs across Perth.



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### COMPOSTABLE CUPS

We are all pretty excited about W.A's phase out of plastic! However, it is important for coffee lovers out there to remember that the new compostable coffee cups, that are replacing their plastic lined cousins, cannot be placed in GO or FOGO bins (for now).

At this stage, Perth Metro waste facilities cannot differentiate plastic lined cups from compostable cups. That means that any cup that is disposed of in the FOGO/GO bin will be processed as contamination. This makes the process of turning FOGO or GO into compost inefficient and therefore more expensive for our residents. The only way that compostable coffee cups can be submitted to the FOGO or GO waste streams is if businesses and events deposit their cups as a separate 'stream'.

Unfortunately, if you wish to place your compostable coffee cup in your home waste bins, it will have to be your general waste (for now)

[business.gov.au/news/the-phase-out-of-single-use-plastics](https://business.gov.au/news/the-phase-out-of-single-use-plastics)

# TOURS RECOMMENCING

Ever wanted to see what happens to your recycling once you place it into your bin?

Well, if you attend one of our tours, you will find out!

Of course, the highlight of the show is seeing our MRF (material recovery facility) but you will also experience sustainable local art, gaze in wonderment at our recovery leading FOGO Processing Facility, have your brains buzzing at our edifying Ed Centre, and relax in green at our FOGO infused community garden!

Check out our Community Tours: [tinyurl.com/5cfhbr96](https://tinyurl.com/5cfhbr96)



Residents of City of Fremantle, City of Melville and Town of East Fremantle all contribute to contents of these bags through their own FOGO kitchen caddies.

What better way to treat your plants to give them the nutrients from your scraps and into your garden's soils.

FOGO compost is safe, carbon negative and every time you use it, you are a part of the circular economy. Check out Resource Recovery Group's [FOGO compost bags for sale in O'Connor, Fremantle](#).

**LIKE US ON [FACEBOOK](#) AND [INSTAGRAM](#) OR VISIT OUR [YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#) FOR MORE NEWS, TIPS AND TRICKS ON ALL THINGS WASTE, RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY!**

