

October 2023

recycle right newsletter

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



CELEBRATING NATIONAL REUSE DAY



Recycle Right is proud to partner with Good Sammy to celebrate and promote re-use. When items are too good to throw away and could be treasured by someone else in the community, why not donate them to a charity like Good Sammy.

You can find the Reuse A-Z listing at the Recycle Right website here: recycleright.wa.gov.au/reuse-az/

[Click here to watch Recycle Right and Good Sammy's video](#)

E-WASTE TO LANDFILL BAN AND COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is still accepting submissions regarding the Draft Regulations for e-waste to Landfill Ban. You have until 5pm on 22 November to make a submission at the following link: consult.dwer.wa.gov.au/waste-policy/draft-regulations-for-e-waste-ban/ where you can also read the regulations and information paper.

Take this opportunity to have your say about the upcoming e-waste landfill ban set to commence in 2024. The initial phase will include common problematic household items such as televisions, mobile phones, computers, screens, data storage, refrigerators, dishwashers, batteries, medical devices, lighting and lamps.



Additional items will be included in future phases to broaden the scope to include everyday appliances like kettles, toasters, vacuums, photovoltaics (solar panels), and monitoring/control equipment.

You can read the official media release here: tinyurl.com/yy3y2c8p



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RECYCLE RIGHT TIPS

Did you know there are numerous community recycling hubs for common tricky household items?



Bottle top lids and ring-pulls are examples of such items that are a common cause of contamination at material recovery facilities (MRFs) – this includes both plastic bottle tops and small aluminium wine bottle lids and ring-pulls. These items should never be placed in kerbside recycling bins because they are too small to be separated correctly and will end up contaminating glass fines or cause damage to bales. You can collect your plastic bottle tops, aluminium wine bottle lids and ring-pulls and take them to a drop-off centre near you. A few drop-off points include:

- **CLAW Environmental**, in Welshpool (please phone ahead to arrange drop-off)
- **Bottle Top Hill** (volunteer initiative held on the second Saturday of each month)
- **Perth City Farm**
- **Environment House**, Bayswater

Go to recycleright.wa.gov.au/find-my-nearest to broaden your search for waste and recycling drop-off locations near you.

THE ARL (AUSTRALASIAN RECYCLING LABEL)

Western Australian residents refer to Waste Sorted’s ‘Stick to the FIVE’ messaging when sorting their home’s waste, but that does not mean they are not curious about labels that are on the items destined for their kerbside bins. Australasian Recycling Labels (ARL) are on all sorts of consumer products, and for good reason, but discerning which labels are accurate for your local area can be a challenge- even for residents that are becoming familiar with the ARL symbols.

But, what is ARL?

The ARL is an opt-in system for manufacturers who are members of the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO), showing the most common instructions for disposing or recycling packaging (and its component parts) across Australia and New Zealand.

It is underpinned by the Packaging Recyclability Evaluation Portal (PREP) who assess product packaging and recyclability through an evidence-based process.

Here in WA however, the ARL information does not always correctly reflect what items are accepted in material recovery facilities for recycling. An example of this are labels on some small rigid plastic medicine bottles that have a conditionally recyclable symbol and instruction label printed on them. The ARL labels state that the container and lid may be recyclable if it is accepted in your local council’s system.

In WA, small bottle lids are not accepted in kerbside recycling and should always be removed and either placed in general waste, or taken to a drop-off locations. Other examples are plastic bottles that show a recycling symbol with the instruction “crush bottle and replace cap”. Again, lids

are not accepted in kerbside recycling and should always be removed and either placed in a General Waste bin, or taken to a drop-off location. ARL labels are useful information tools for close readers and residents that are familiar with the many labels within ARL’s system of categorising waste but when it comes to kerbside recycling... the best way to be recycling wise, is to ‘stick to the FIVE’.

-  Please dispose in your recycling bin. This is recyclable.
-  Follow the instructions below the symbol and place this item in your recycling bin. If you are unable to follow the instructions, please dispose in your general waste bin.
-  Please dispose in your general waste bin. This is not recyclable.
-  This item may be recyclable. Use the interactive local recycling tool on arl.org.au to check for local recyclability options. If no options are available locally, you will be prompted to place the item in the general waste bin.

The key message here in WA is stick to these 5 materials only in your kerbside recycling bin:

1. **Paper** – flat, dry and clean
2. **Cardboard** – flat, dry and clean
3. **Plastic bottles and containers** – clean and empty (no lids)
4. **Glass bottles and jars** – clean and empty (no lids)
5. **Steel and aluminium cans** – clean and empty





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RECYCLE RIGHT FOGO LESSONS



Recently, Luke and Bron from Recycle Right tested out our new FOGO lessons. Students listened to Reece and FOGO's videos about the FOGO process, pieced together a puzzle, played a FOGO digital game and took an online informal assessment to test their learning. The FOGO lessons will soon be available to all Recycle Right Members to use in schools to ensure that students can never say that they FORGOT which bin to put it in.



TOURS DURING NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

Recycle Right is excited to be hosting tours of Resource Recovery Group's Canning Vale Centre for **residents in our member councils and Recycle Right Members**. Please read the full tour requirements and eligibility at the relevant Eventbrite link to ensure you meet the criteria before booking.

City of Wanneroo/City of Perth/City of Vincent Tour

NOV
10

(open to residents within City of Wanneroo, City of Perth and City of Vincent only)

Friday 10 November, 10:30am: bit.ly/3QkRGvh

Western Metro Regional Council Residents Tour

NOV
13

(open to residents within Town of Claremont, Town of Cottesloe, Town of Mosman Park, Shire of Peppermint Grove & City of Subiaco only. General admission tickets are available to residents from Town of Cambridge)

Monday 13 November, 10:00am: bit.ly/44NFmaE

City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle Residents Tour

NOV
14

(open to residents within City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle only)

Tuesday 14 November 10:30am: bit.ly/3Q3eakd

NOV
16

City of Melville Residents Tour

(open to residents within City of Melville only)

Thursday 16 November, 10:00am: bit.ly/3PxCHO5

Eastern Metro Regional Council Residents Tour

NOV
17

(open to residents within City of Swan, Shire of Mundaring, Town of Bassendean and City of Bayswater only)

Friday 17 November, 9:30am: bit.ly/45IMrL

Please note the minimum age requirement is 6 years of age and children must be accompanied by an adult. Registrations are essential for all attendees and places are limited, so get in quick! A waitlist system is enabled when tours book out.



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RECYCLE RIGHT RANGERS INFORMATION SESSION AND SOCIAL GATHERING



We recently held an introductory workshop for people interested in joining the “Recycle Right Rangers”, a volunteer group of passionate individuals who are keen to build community capacity and share their knowledge about waste, recycling and sustainable behaviours. These events are suitable for anyone aged 18+ with an interest in sustainability. Please spread the word amongst your networks and keep your eyes open for the next event.



recycleright.wa.gov.au

ECO ACTION EXPO A SUCCESS



Photo credit: Miles Nole Photography

Bron represented Recycle Right as part of the Eco Action Expo held at Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre on October 1. The event, coordinated by the City of Melville, saw approximately 300 residents come through the doors.

Attendees were delighted by the diverse range of engaging and family-friendly activities and stalls, all centred around sustainability. Bron spoke with visitors about waste and recycling at home and in the community, directing people to the handy Recycle Right app, informing them of tours of the Canning Vale Centre and other opportunities.



Children and adults alike challenged themselves in a recycling game to test their knowledge and understanding of FOGO kerbside collections. While not all visitors had a FOGO bin at home, many of them were proud to say they had a home compost to divert organic waste from landfill and return nutrients to the soil.

RECYCLE RIGHT WEBSITE & APP

All West Australian residents have access to the Recycle Right website or smartphone App to help them identify what to do with residential waste and recycling, no matter which kerbside bin-system your local council uses.

Check it out today, by visiting recycleright.wa.gov.au/ or download the App here: recycleright.wa.gov.au/download-the-free-app/



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



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