

March 2020

recycle right newsletter

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



AGREEMENT REACHED TO DIVERT RECYCLABLES



In mid-February, the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) and Cleanaway reached agreement on a contract for SMRC to receive and sort at least 50,000 tonnes per annum of kerbside recyclables commencing Monday 17 February 2020.

The recyclables, previously processed at the South Guilford materials recovery facility, will be managed by SMRC's facility until Cleanaway is able to rebuild its facility that was destroyed by fire in November 2019.

Cleanaway has advised it will implement an interim processing solution for the remaining collected recyclables at several processing sites in the Perth and Peel region, primarily using hand sorting.

The WA State Government has indicated it will provide funding support in recognition of the additional maintenance costs associated with the SMRC increasing its throughput for this period. SMRC is providing information to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) in order to finalise the funding agreement.

Depending on the final quantities of collected recyclables provided by Cleanaway to the SMRC, there may be an additional 25,000 tonnes per annum of spare processing capacity at SMRC. This could be made available to local governments that do not have a recyclables processing provider at present.

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'WREN' COMMUNITY GROUP

Are you interested in waste and recycling and want to help make a change in the community? The Waste and Recycling Education Network (WREN) are looking for new members to join!

You need to live in the Fremantle, East Fremantle, Kwinana or Melville Council areas and be available to attend regular meetings (6pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month in Booragoon) and help spread the word at community events.

Please contact SMRC@SMRC.com.au or SMRC Waste Recycling Education Network, P.O. Box 1501, Booragoon, W.A. 6154. The next meeting is on Thursday 12 March.



BIN TAGGING HELPS RESIDENTS TO RECYCLE RIGHT

Bin tagging commenced mid-February in selected households across the region to help educate residents to 'recycle right'.

Community Waste Education Officers make a visual inspection of the bins' contents prior to pick up on collection day. For each inspection, Officers record details of any contamination present in each bin and the level of contamination. They then place a 'happy' or 'sad' tag on the handle of the bin providing feedback about how well residents are using the bins, or what can be improved. The feedback can help to clarify any misconceptions or confusion residents may have about the new bin system and offers positive reinforcement to households sorting their waste correctly.

After data is collected from each round of tagging it will be analysed as a whole and results reported on a community rather than individual scale. This information is important for us to understand the key issues that need to be focused on when educating the community. Incentives will be offered for households that consistently 'recycle right' with no contamination, as well as households that show the most improvement.

Bin tagging is part of the rollout of the new 3-bin FOGO system that was implemented during 2019 in the City of Melville, City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle. The SMRC is undertaking the education program on behalf of the three Councils, with funding support from the state government, administered by the Waste Authority.

Educating residents will enable better recycling, reduce processing costs, send less waste to landfill, and in the case of FOGO—produce a high quality, clean compost. By everyone working together to ensure they put the right thing in the right bin, we can help create a less contaminated waste stream.

More information

Watch video about bin tagging on You Tube: youtu.be/wdQfTKBryyM

Contact: **Elizabeth Wilkerson**

Waste Education & Projects Officer, Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC)

Phone: **9329 2700** | Email: ewilkerson@smrc.com.au



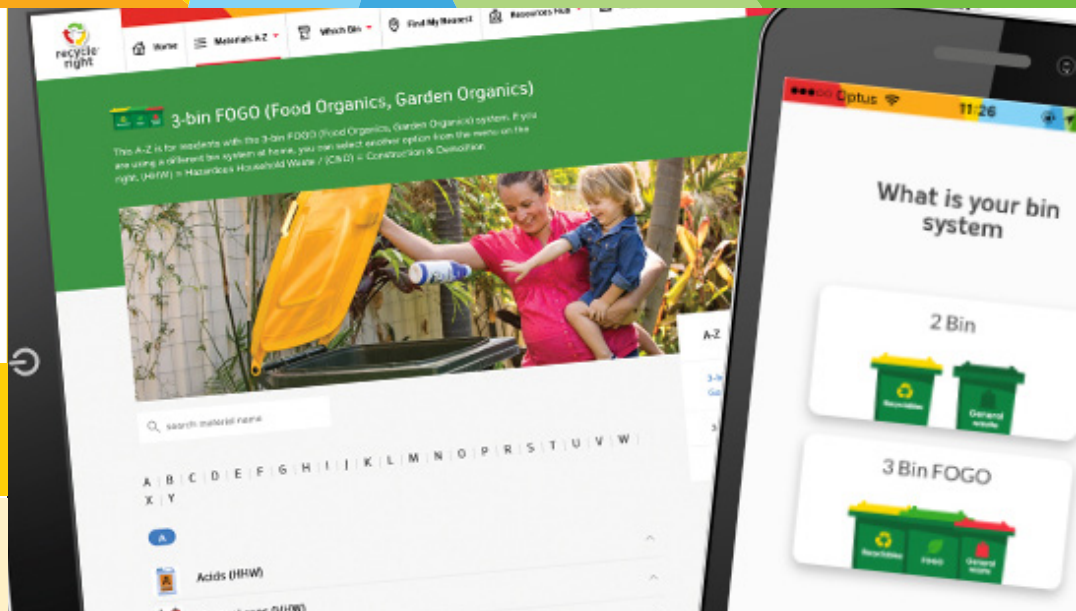
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EASTER EGG WRAPPERS

Once the Easter Bunny has gone, what about all those wrappers? They're made of aluminium, so surely they can go in the recycling bin right?

Unfortunately, the small foil wrappers are just too small to be recovered by Materials Recovery Facilities.

But there's something you can do to help. By packing those pieces of foils into balls, the size of a tennis ball, your aluminium can now be recovered and might come back as a new aluminium can or more Easter egg wrappers for next year!



RESOURCES TO HELP YOU RECYCLE RIGHT

Our new Recycle Right website and App (re-launched in November 2019) continues to help you—the people of Perth—to Recycle Right. Information on both the app and website is tailored to the full assortment of bin systems found in the Perth metropolitan area: 3-bin FOGO (Food Organics, Garden Organics), 3-bin GO (Garden Organics) and 2-bin. Visit recycleright.wa.gov.au/ to find out what goes in which bin, access an ever-growing A-Z list of items and what to do with them, Find My Nearest database of drop-off locations and Bin Day Reminders to alert you on your bin days.

The website also provides a Resources Hub of worksheets, how-to guides, fact sheets and templates.

WHICH BIN? TIPS TO HELP YOU RECYCLE RIGHT





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If you would like to see what happens to your recycling bin once it leaves the kerb, why not come and join a tour? It's a perfect opportunity to learn a little more about an everyday activity.

Our next community tours will be taking place on Saturday 4 April at 9.00am. Bookings essential.

For more information, or to register contact
tours@smrc.com.au.



INFINITY AWARDS NOW OPEN

Will you be the next Waste Champion? The Infinity Awards are back for 2020 to find the best of the best! The Infinity Awards are an annual event which recognise inventive ways and solutions to reduce waste and meet the reuse and recycling targets in Western Australia's Waste Strategy.

Nominations are now open for the 2020 Infinity Awards, so if you have some great innovative ideas about recycling then put your name down to win one of 12 awards!

Nominations for the Infinity Awards will close at 5:00pm on Tuesday 10 March. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on Wednesday 6 May. For full details including award list, entry forms and criteria, visit www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/submissions/view/infinity-awards

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE KICKING OFF IN JUNE

WA's Container Deposit Scheme kicks off on 2 June. This means WA residents will be able to drop off empty bottles, cans and cartons at refund points, and claim a 10 cent refund for each one. Eligible containers include most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard beverage containers which are typically consumed outside the home. The City of Fremantle will operate a refund point as part of the Containers for Change scheme at the Fremantle Recycling Centre and Reuse Shop opposite the golf course on Montreal Street. For more information visit the Containers for Change website containersforchange.com.au/wa Watch this space! Not-for-profits, schools and community groups can apply for a grant of up to \$2000 to help infrastructure at donation or refund points. Visit dwer.wa.gov.au/cds/information for more information. Applications due by 27 March.



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through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account