September 2018

recycle right newsletter

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



WHAT GOES IN THE YELLOW-TOPPED BIN?

In recent times, there has been a lot of coverage in the media about a co-ordinated effort to reach consistency among councils, to ensure only materials that can be recovered through a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) are to be placed into your kerbside recycling bin.

This has led to some changes for many residents throughout Western Australia, but in the long run, it will lead to better outcomes for recycling.

So, what exactly should you place into your recycling bin?

- ✓ Paper (excluding shredded paper)
- Cardboard (flattened)
- ✓ Glass (clean and empty)
- ✓ Plastic containers and plastic bottles (clean and empty)
- ✓ Aluminium cans (clean and empty)
- ✓ Steel cans (clean and empty).

All items should be clean, dry and empty with lids removed and placed in the bin loosely.

What shouldn't you place into your recycling bin?

- ★ Plastic bags and plastic film
- **X** Nappies
- Clothes and textiles
- **★** Garden and food waste
- **★** Gas bottles and aerosol cans
- Electronic waste and batteries
- * Ropes, cables and hose
- * Materials in bags

We are currently working to update all of our resources to be reflective of the changes. In the meantime you can find out more more by visiting **recycleright.wa.gov.au**.

2017-18 SMRC ANNUAL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The 2017-18 Annual Report is now available on the SMRC website. The Annual Report provides an overview of some of our highlights and achievements throughout the last financial year.

To view or download the report, visit **smrc.com.au/ corporate-information/key-documents/**





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STATE GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES 'OWN YOUR IMPACT' CAMPAIGN



The State Government has launched its 'Own Your Impact' campaign, aimed at supporting households and industry to reduce their waste.

The campaign consists of a website promoting waste reduction messages and is designed to encourage West Australian's to own their impact and get thinking more about the waste they generate. The website has lots of useful information and is aimed at being complementary to all of the other great initiatives being undertaken around the state, such as Recycle Right!

To find out more you can visit ownyourimpact.com.au and you can also find them on Facebook at facebook.com/ownyourimpactWA.



3-BIN FOGO TRIAL UPDATE

The trial of a three-bin Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) system to around 7,000 households in the City of Melville has been underway for almost a year.

Since October 2017, residents in the City of Melville's 3-bin FOGO trial have gone from strength to strength in separating their waste and contributing to strong environmental benefits and community support.

Over the past month, the findings have been presented to a number of key stakeholders including at a briefing session held at the City of Melville on 27 August attended by Local MP's, State Government representatives and Mayors and Elected Members from SMRC Member Councils.

On the 6th of September, SMRC Communications Manager - Patrick Hay alongside City of Melville Manager Waste and Resource Recovery - Steve Wacher, presented some of the findings and experiences at this years State Waste and Recycle Conference.

The final independent review of the trial process undertaken by MRA Consulting will be put forward to the SMRC Council at its October Meeting and will subsequently be made available to the public on the SMRC website.

⊋national **science** week

AT FREMANTLE PRIMARY

During National Science week we visited Fremantle Primary for a day filled with enquiry and all things science. Classes throughout all age groups completed activities from a range of presenters, with this year's theme focused on 'Game Changers and Change Makers'.

Children were entertained with a waste sort game to find the right bin to put the materials in and discussed real items that children use and are familiar with, finding out how can we dispose of these and what happens to them once we have finished using them. The early years were read a story about the small changes they can make that can help them in making a big difference.



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GARAGE SALE TRAIL



Become a part of the reuse revolution and join around 400,000 Australians at the world's biggest garage sale on the weekend of the 20th & 21st of October.

Every garage sale has a unique name and its own sale page that provides clues to who's involved, what's on offer and anything else that's going down. Likewise, shoppers can search for sales, items of interest and make your own Trail of favourite sales to checkout.

To register as a seller, or to find out more information about how you can get involved as a buyer, visit garagesaletrail.com.au/



Keith and Bebe doing their bit to help out.

KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL WEEK AT THE RRRC

The SMRC prides itself on ensuring our operations are of the best possible standards and during this years Keep Australia Beautiful Week we decided to get everyone involved.

As part of the initiative, staff at the Regional Resource Recovery Centre downed tools, working together to help tidy up the site and do their bit.

In order to cover as much of the 12-hectare site as possible, staff were split up into a number of different groups and as with all good events the staff where treated to lunch as a reward for their efforts!

COMMUNITY WASTE GRANT SUCCESS







Our very own Waste and Recycling Education Network (a.k.a the WREN) has been successful in a grant application as part of the Waste Authority Community Grants Scheme. The WREN is the community advisory group of the SMRC and made up of residents from our member councils.

The grant project is part of a partnership with the Fremantle Men's Shed and funds will be used to assist in the building and installation of recycling collection stations within the SMRC catchment area.

If you are interested in getting involved in the group, you can find out more by visiting **recycleright.wa.gov.au/get-involved**.

This project is funded by the State Government through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account, and administered by the Waste Authority.



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Spring has sprung and now is the perfect time to come and find out where the contents of your wheelie bins are taken, after you put them out on the verge.

The next community tour scheduled for Saturday October 6th is filling up fast, with another tour on Saturday November 6th. Both tours commence at 10:00am and bookings are essential. If you're interested, contact Isabelle at tours@smrc.com.au or on 9256 9528.



WA MARINE DEBRIS PROJECT

Tangaroa Blue is calling on citizen scientists, schools, community groups, corporate groups and all ocean lovers to participate in the 2018 Marine Debris Project.

Formerly named the WA Beach Clean-up event, our new name reflects the important role of data collection in the clean-up process. The clean-up data collected assists with the tracking of litter to its source and prevent it from entering the waste stream and harming our environment and marine life.

All materials, volunteer insurance and logistical support will be provided, all that is needed is lots of energy and many hands to help remove marine debris from the coast.

The event will be running over the weekend of the 13 & 14 of October and you can find out more by visiting **tangaroablue.org**.



2018 INFINITY AWARDSOPEN FOR NOMINATIONS

Acknowledging and celebrating outstanding achievements of Western Australians working towards a better waste future, nominations for the Infinity Awards are now open.

Nominations are open to both organisations and individuals and cover a total of 9 categories. Applications for the awards close at 5pm (WST) on Tuesday 9 October 2018.

The awards are an initiative of the State Government of Western Australia and you can download a nomination kit by visiting wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/programs/cie/infinity-awards/.



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