recycle right newsletter

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



FOGO COMPOST GIVEAWAYS AROUND PERTH

The Recycle Right team have spent the last few months attending events and giving away FREE bags of FOGO compost to residents around Perth. You may have seen us at the Freo Farmer's Market, APACE Open Day, Perth Maker's Market, and the Perth Home Show. Thanks to our Recycle Right Rangers who came along to give us a hand.

To those of you who were lucky enough to grab a bag, we hope that you have found the product to be of a high quality and a great addition to your garden! We'll be contacting people soon the gather feedback from you.

The FOGO compost is made from the contents of FOGO (Food Organics, Garden Organics) kerbside bins collected from households. This includes food waste and kitchen scraps as well as garden organics such as leaves, twigs and grass clippings.

The 3-bin FOGO system was introduced to residents in the City of Melville, City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle in 2019 and is gradually being rolled out to other councils across Perth/Peel and the rest of WA.

The raw FOGO material is collected weekly from residents and transported to the FOGO Processing Facility (FPF) at the Resource Recovery Group's Canning Vale Centre for preprocessing. Here it is sent through a slow-speed shredder to gently break open caddy liners, and then screened depending on size. Visible contamination is physically removed by pickers and a slow-speed trommel. Once FOGO material is pre-processed, it is sent to external FOGO composting partners, Purearth and GO Organics where it is composted over the next two months via windrows. It is then turned into various products such as compost, mulch or soil improver, which are now available to purchase in bulk or in bags. recycleright.wa.gov.au/what-is-fogo/

The 3-bin FOGO system provides residents with more options for separating their waste with the aim to improve recovery rates, increase diversion from landfill and reduce costs of processing material. Diverting organic waste also reduces the amount of harmful greenhouse gas (methane) that would usually be produced by organic waste breaking down in landfill.

You can view a video of the FOGO process on YouTube – **bit.ly/3yTO5vd**.







WINNERS ARE GRINNERS!

SUCCESS AT WASTESORTED AWARDS



L-R: Cr. Karen Wheatland, Laura Monisse, Teresa Belcher, Libby Eustance, Sarah Dimmock and Elizabeth Wilkerson

Resource Recovery Group (RRG) and the Western Metropolitan Regional Council (WMRC) are thrilled to be joint winners of the 2022 Local Government WasteSorted Award for their GREAT games and School Waste Education Day.

The top performers in Western Australia's recycling and waste industry were celebrated at the 2022 WasteSorted Awards in May, which acknowledge innovative solutions to reduce waste and celebrate the champions whose efforts assist with achieving the targets in Western Australia's Waste Strategy. This year, 38 finalists competed across 10 categories, showcasing the achievements of individuals, businesses, government, schools, community organisations and not-for-profits.

The two Regional Councils worked collaboratively to co-create the GREAT Games education materials to communicate positive waste behaviours to the community in fun and engaging ways. The games are based on the WasteSorted "Be a G.R.E.A.T. Sort" campaign and can be standalone or used in a school

incursion program where up to 400 students rotate through game activity stations in just one day. Each year group's session commences and concludes as a whole group to consolidate student learning and key takeaways.

Resource Recovery Group Deputy Chair Cr. Karen Wheatland said between the two regional councils, the GREAT Games are currently reaching over 172,000 residents and are available to 63 schools.

"By educating beyond kerbside bin recycling, GREAT Games encompasses messages of gifting, recycling, earth-cycling, avoiding, and taking items to be safely disposed of or recycled," she said.

The activity stations consist of:

- 1. The GREAT Gifting Game
- 2. The Responsible Recycler Game
- 3. The Excellent Earthcycler Puzzle
- 4. The Awesome Avoiders Game
- 5. The Terrific Taker Relay
- 6. Landfill is the Last Resort Activity
- 7. Containers for Change Game



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MODERN CLOTH NAPPY WORKSHOPS



Are you looking to make the switch to cloth nappies? Join Kam Andrews "The Nappy Guru" for a series of online workshops to learn about using and maintaining cloth nappies. Kam will demonstrate different cloth nappies available and explain the benefits of each. For dates visit bit.ly/3yRgBh7



PLASTIC FREE JULY 2022 **BE PART OF THE SOLUTION**

Plastic Free July® is a global movement (which started here in WA) that helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution – so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free July by choosing to refuse single-use plastics?

Resource Recovery Group and our Member Councils City of Melville, City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle have signed up again to participate in Plastic Free July. During the month of July, we'd like to encourage everyone to think about their waste consumption and attempt to reduce their use of single-use plastics. Here are some ideas:

- Avoid single-use plastic packaging
- Target takeaway items (bags, bottles, straws and cups)
- Go completely "plastic free"

Get your friends and family involved as well. Sign up and make a plastic free pledge at **plasticfreejuly.org/take-the-challenge/**

There are many events on during the month of July. Check them out at plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/find-events-near-you/

Local events include:

Plastic: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly 13 July 2022 at Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre

Beach Clean Up: Sea Shepherd Marine Debris Campaign – 17 July at South Fremantle

Let's Go Circular: An introduction to Circular Economy – 20 July at Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre

A webinar **for businesses** to help them 'ditch the disposables' will take place on 26 July. 1 July also signals the start of the Single Use Plastic Ban in WA.

Join millions of people reducing their plastic waste!







Business Engagement Program

To reduce plastic pollution, the WA Government is implementing a ban on certain plastic items.

From 1 July 2022, it is illegal to supply:



Any Plastic Shopping Bag with Handles



Disposable **Plastic Straws** & Stirrers



Disposable Plastic Cutlery



Disposable Plastic Plates



Disposable Plastic Bowls (without lids)



Disposable Plastic Food Containers (without lids)



Expanded Polystyrene Food Containers & Trays



Disposable Plastic Cups for Cold Drinks*

*Banned from 1 Oct 2022

Releases of balloons will also be banned in WA from 1 July 2022.

*Some exemptions and other banned items apply. See plasticsbanwa.com.au for details



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IN-PERSON TOURS RECOMMENCE



We're pleased to announce that our in-person tours at Resource Recovery Group's Canning Vale Centre (that were suspended due to Covid-19 precautions) are recommencing in July.

Why not join a tour of our facility to see first-hand what happens to your waste when it leaves your kerb?

On the tour you will:

- have a short presentation about the Resource Recovery Group;
- view the Materials Recovery Facility where recyclables are separated, baled and sold for reuse;
- see the Green Waste Facility, where garden waste is turned into mulch;
- learn about our very own Community Garden;
- visit the biofilters outside the FOGO Processing Facility; and
- view a video of the complete FOGO process.

We will then return to the Education Centre for questions. For upcoming tour dates, visit bit.ly/3NXXG8T

WHICH BIN? COFFEE CUPS





The Takeaway coffee cup is one item that causes a lot of problems in recycling.

Most single-use coffee cups are a combination of materials, which means they cannot go in the recycling bin.

Then, to add to the problem, those that are 'compostable', 'biodegradable' or 'biocups', cannot go in the FOGO bin as they do not break down sufficiently in the composting process. Plus, they look the same as plastics cups, so items can be mistaken.

The best solution is to take your own coffee cup when you get your takeaway coffee!

Bring a reusable cup or dine in







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RESOURCES TO HELP YOU TO 'RECYCLE RIGHT'

Our Recycle Right website and App continue to help you—the people of WA—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 educational worksheets, how-to guides, fact sheets and templates. **Resource Recovery Group** are leaders in providing best practice resource recovery solutions with a proven supply chain and high recovery rates. We:



Recycle materials to their highest practical value.



Innovate and implement new approaches to recycling and resource recovery.



Educate by providing tools to recycle right, reduce waste and live more sustainably.



Find out more resourcerecoverygroup.com.au/



Recycle. Innovate. Educate.

LIKE US ON <u>FACEBOOK</u> AND <u>INSTAGRAM</u> OR VISIT OUR <u>YOUTUBE CHANNEL</u> FOR MORE NEWS, TIPS AND TRICKS ON ALL THINGS WASTE, RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY!





