



## WA-WIDE GUIDELINES FOR KERBSIDE RECYCLING WIN INFINITY AWARD

The Southern Metropolitan Regional Council is part of a consortium who were crowned winners of the Waste Management Award category of the 2020 WA Waste Authority's Infinity Awards.

The joint submission from the Waste and Recycling Industry Association of Western Australia (WRIAWA), Cleanaway WA, Southern Metropolitan Regional Council, SUEZ WA and Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) was recognised for the high level of collaboration to address community communications on recycling and reducing kerbside bin contamination. The WA-wide guidelines for kerbside recycling demonstrate a collaborative approach to address the need to reduce contamination in kerbside recycling bins.

"A single list of materials acceptable for recycling across WA will reduce community confusion and, in the longer term, assist to lower contamination rates," SMRC

Chairman Cr Doug Thompson said.

"This, in turn, supports the viability of the recycling industry in WA by ensuring cleaner material is collected through the kerbside system."

A commonly agreed A-Z guide has been developed as part of this taskforce, to reduce confusion and guide householders in correctly disposing of their waste materials into the correct kerbside bin. The A-Z guide is held on the Recycle Right website ([recycleright.wa.gov.au/](http://recycleright.wa.gov.au/)) and app where it is accessible to all WA residents.

This collaborative approach has led to consistent messaging and the program of promotional activities throughout the year with nearly all local governments with kerbside recycling adopting the guidelines.

"The single list of recyclables allows for more successful and consistent education campaigns across the State, increasing their effectiveness," Cr Thompson said.

## WA'S BAN ON SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ANNOUNCED!



The Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, alongside Plastic Free July founder Rebecca Prince-Ruiz, recently launched WA's Plan for Plastics at Perth Zoo.

The Plan, to be developed and implemented between 2021 and 2023, includes a gradual State-wide phase out of single-use plastics including (but not limited to) plastic straws, thick plastic bags, polystyrene food containers, helium balloon releases and micro-beads.

The Plan prioritises avoiding single-use plastics and substituting with reusable alternatives wherever possible.

For more information visit [dwer.wa.gov.au/single-use-plastic](http://dwer.wa.gov.au/single-use-plastic)

## UPCOMING RRRC COMMUNITY TOUR



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 tour will be taking place on Saturday 16 January 2021 at 9.00am.

For more information or to register, visit [bit.ly/2LJUfZ3](https://bit.ly/2LJUfZ3)



## HOW TO 'SLEIGH' WASTE THIS CHRISTMAS (WEBINAR)

Keen to make the most of the silly season without all the extra waste? Register now! <https://bit.ly/2Kc7wcj>

Christmas day is just around the corner, along with all the extra consumerism, excess packaging, overindulgence and food babies. By rethinking some of these old traditions, you and your household can have a more sustainable and conscious Christmas with minimal waste!

Recycle Right will host a webinar on Thursday 17 December 7pm-8pm discussing the many ways your household can reduce waste and recycle right during the festive season.

Our panel of guest speakers will include representatives from the Southern, Western and Eastern Metropolitan Regional Councils, as well as the City of Canning.

This webinar event is open to all residents in the Perth Metropolitan area. Registration is FREE and a reminder will be sent out the day before the event with the Zoom link attached for all those who register.

### Topics covered:

- Food waste avoidance
- Plastic waste avoidance
- How to sort your waste
- Recycling tips for common Christmas items
- Sustainable gifting
- Hosting a conscious Christmas gathering

Register at <https://bit.ly/2Kc7wcj>





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### Be a GREAT Sort!



#### Avoid excess packaging

WA is filled with **GREAT** sorts who put less in their bins. Before throwing something away, **GREAT** sorts consider if it can be **Gifted**, **Recycled**, **Earth-cycled**, **Avoided** or **Taken** to a special drop-off point.

This festive season, why not gift your friends and family an experience and avoid creating excess waste?

Other options for avoiding waste this Christmas include remembering your reusable shopping bags, making your own Christmas crackers, or opting for reusable crockery over disposable plastic plates and cutlery.

## HAVE YOURSELF A CONSCIOUS CHRISTMAS!

The festive season is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with family and friends and enjoy a well-deserved break at the end of the year. But it often includes bountiful meals and gifts, with the potential for wasted food, unwanted presents and piles of unnecessary packaging.

This year we're encouraging everyone to be conscious of the waste we produce and the impact our purchases can have on the planet by:

- Pre-planning to avoid waste in the first place
- Using what you have – often the most sustainable option is the one you already own
- Opting for reusables over disposable plates and cutlery
- Gifting sustainable presents that won't cost the Earth, such as experiences or DIY zero waste gifts
- Ditching the Christmas wrapping paper in favour of reusable options, such as colourful fabric wrapping
- Op shopping for gifts, decorations or table settings
- Using the Recycle Right app to check which bin to put it in if you're not sure how to dispose of an item

The festive season doesn't have to be such an expensive, wasteful endeavour. Join us in rethinking some of those old traditions this year and have yourself a conscious Christmas!

### FUROSHIKI – ZERO WASTE FABRIC GIFT WRAPPING



Tired of using the same old Christmas wrapping paper and concerned about how much paper is wasted and ends up in the bin? Why not try Furoshiki? This Japanese art of fabric wrapping and tying is what was traditionally used prior to the rise in popularity of plastic bags and is a lovely no waste alternative to standard wrapping paper. As fabric comes in so many beautiful colours and patterns, it provides you with the perfect opportunity to spice up your gift and add a personal touch. Best of all, you have a great excuse to go op shopping for fabric to use and the recipient can use the fabric again to wrap presents next year.

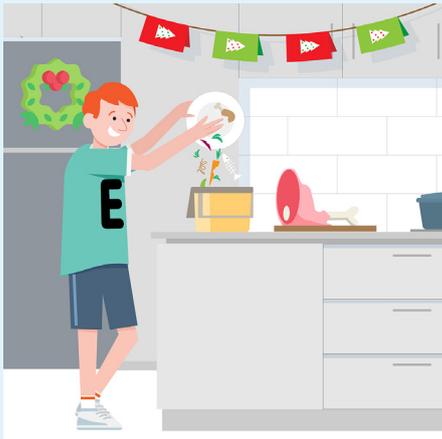
Checkout our video on YouTube to see three ways of Furoshiki wrapping – <https://bit.ly/3mlWqhj>



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## Earth-cycle into Compost



It's easy to compost your Christmas food scraps at home or through your lime green Food Organics and Garden Organics bin if your council has already started FOGO.

Visit [recycleright.wa.gov.au](http://recycleright.wa.gov.au) to find out which bin to put it in this Christmas, as well as an extensive A-Z list of items and how to dispose of them.



# DIY SUSTAINABLE GIFTS

Put your baking skills to the test this year and give the gift of a yummy Christmas treat! Whether it's cookies, rum balls, or the timeless fruit cake, baking is an affordable, low waste way to show your loved ones just how much you care this festive season. Pack it in a homemade box or cute tin.

For a demo video, visit [bit.ly/37nsVrP](http://bit.ly/37nsVrP)



A DIY coffee scrub is easy to prepare, affordable, and a great way to make use of coffee grounds. Step it up a notch by adding vanilla essence or cinnamon for a Christmassy touch!

Find the recipe here [bit.ly/3afQWD5](http://bit.ly/3afQWD5)

Have yourself a conscious Christmas this year and give the gift of a homemade succulent planter. Sustainable, easy to make and a great way to repurpose old crockery!

For a demo video, visit [bit.ly/2ISafqA](http://bit.ly/2ISafqA)



Want to give a thoughtful gift but not much of a baker yourself? Why not create a DIY choc chip cookie recipe base? These are super easy to make, simply layer the dry ingredients in to a mason jar, attached a little recipe card with instructions of how to prepare the rest, and let the recipient have all the fun baking!

Find the recipe here [bit.ly/2KolZQZ](http://bit.ly/2KolZQZ)



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## RESOURCES TO HELP YOU 'RECYCLE RIGHT'

Our Recycle Right website and App continue 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/](http://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.



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## WHICH BIN? TIPS TO HELP YOU RECYCLE RIGHT

Did you know wrapping paper can be placed in your yellow lidded Recycling bin?

### Here are our top tips:

- The bigger the better – large, flat pieces of paper are much easier to recycle
- Try to remove sticky tape where possible or use paper based tape
- Avoid wrapping paper covered in glitter or plastic as these cannot be recycled

Decorations may look great on a Christmas tree but not so great in your yellow lidded Recycling bin! Items like tinsel, beads and other Christmas decorations can tangle in the machinery at our Materials Recovery Facility where your recycling is taken to be sorted. Please make sure to place any discarded decorations in to your General Waste bin or, better yet, save them to use it again year after year.



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

