December 2018

recycle right newsletter

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





Top tips for the festive season

Christmas can be a stressful and busy time – it's one thing to worry about organising gifts and food for guests, it's another to keep up your good recycling or composting efforts at home during the festive season! We've made it easy for you with our top tips right here:

When giving gifts:

- Give experiences rather than items, such as a voucher for a dinner out, tickets to a show or the gift of time together
- Try to avoid items that come with excess packaging
- When wrapping gifts, use a bag or fabric which can be used again and again

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- Make it easy for everyone to put the right thing in the right bin by putting signs on your bins
- Don't let excess food go to waste Boxing Day is also National Leftovers Day and a chance to get creative with recipes from leftovers
- Avoid single use items like disposable plastic plates, try a sturdier option which can be washed and reused, or try paper plates which can be composted
- When storing any leftovers, use a reusable plastic or glass container or a beeswax or silicone wrap rather than cling wrap

6 Out and about

- Remember to take your reusables such as water bottles, travel mugs and even cutlery
- Choose drinks in an aluminium can over a plastic bottle, as these are more easily recycled
- Dine in rather than take away take the opportunity to spend time with friends!



New Life for old items at **Fremantle Reuse Shop**

The City of Fremantle has recently opened a reuse shop at the Fremantle Recycling Centre, providing a second chance for a range of items that may have otherwise been otherwise destined for landfill.

You can head down and find yourself a bargain on Saturdays and Sundays from 8am-4pm at the Recycling Centre, opposite the Fremantle Golf Course on Montreal Street, Fremantle.

We wish you a

Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

from

THE SMRC CHAIRMAN
REGIONAL COUNCILLORS,
CEO AND STAFF

Please remember to Recycle Right this Christmas! Visit **recycleright.wa.gov.au**



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PROBLEM WASTE - SYRINGES -



We recently received two full 8 Litre sharps containers in the recycling facility. These items are considered clinical waste and need to be disposed of correctly, as not only are they unable to be recycled through the recycling facility for the kerbside bins, they are dangerous for the staff that work at the facility. One of the containers didn't have a lid by the time it reached the conveyor belt, creating a serious hazard for the sorters.

Please remember to put the right things in the right bin, this helps us recover more of the materials we receive.



Members of the FOGO Project Steering Group inspecting the cabin



FOGO Sort Cabin Goes Live

The Waste Composting Facility (WCF) has received an exciting new piece of equipment, with the recent installation and testing of a sort cabin for Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) materials.

The commissioning of the cabin is an important feature in the steps towards the full-scale implementation of a three-bin Food Organics Garden Organic (FOGO) collection system across the Cities of Fremantle, Melville and Town of East Fremantle, and will help deliver a cleaner compost through removing contamination from the contents of residents' FOGO bins.

The sorting process works as follows:

- 1. Materials are fed into a rotating trommel, which acts like a giant sieve, separating out the smaller, finer material, which is then ready to be on-processed.
- 2. The oversized items then travel on a conveyor into the sort cabin where sorters manually remove any items which can't be composted, such as plastic, glass and metals.
- 3. The decontaminated materials pass by a magnet to remove any metal that was missed and what is left is clean, oversized material ready to be further processed.

Further monitoring and improvements will be made over the coming months as the cabin processes materials collected from the 6,700 households which participated in the FOGO trial in the City of Melville, ahead of the full-scale rollout in the second half of 2019.



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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 final community tour for 2018 will take place on the 18th of December.

Following this date, the next community tour will take place on Tuesday 15th of January at 10.00am. For more information, contact tours@smrc.com.au.



GET YOUR FIX AT THE FREMANTLE REPAIR CAFÉ

Once a month a group of around 20 volunteers get together at Stackwood Café in White Gum Valley to help the community by repairing items and encouraging the 'how to' of repairing. The initiative aims to help people see that plenty of items can be easily repaired and used again, helping to reduce waste.

There are several workstations set up around the venue where you can take your items to be fixed. Items range from clothing/textiles, small furniture, wooden objects, toys, bicycles and low voltage electrical appliances with an adapter or battery operated. While there is no charge, donations are accepted with gratitude.

The Fremantle Repair Café is part of a global group of Repair Cafés in over 30 countries that began in 2009 in the Netherlands. The next repair day is scheduled for Sunday February 3rd, 10am-12pm at Stackwood in White Gum Valley.

You can find out more details by visiting the Fremantle Repair Café Facebook page **facebook.com/repaircafefremantle** or **repaircafeperth.org.au** for a list of other Repair Cafés operating throughout Perth.



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through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account