

April 2019

recycle right newsletter

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



RECYCLING INDUSTRY UNITES – KEEP RECYCLING AND BUY RECYCLED PRODUCTS



There has been concern amongst the recycling industry that Sunday's 60 Minutes program didn't paint the full picture of Australia's recycling efforts and didn't highlight the industry's contribution of some 50,000 jobs and \$15 billion in value, with real potential for more benefits.

The report included: a false claim that much of Australia's plastic waste is being disposed of incorrectly in south-east Asia; didn't sufficiently highlight recycling's many upsides, and; should not discourage the vast majority of Australians who regularly recycle to keep doing so because their efforts matter.

In response to this, a number of the industries peak bodies including the Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR), Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia (WMRR), the Australian Organics Recycling Association (AORA), Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW (WCRA) and National Waste and Recycling Industry Council (NWRIC) have issued a joint response.

You can read the full statement on the Waste Management and Resource Recovery (WMRR) website by visiting the following link <http://tiny.cc/v3m74y>.

The SMRC is a member of WMRR, ACOR and AORA the response is representative of the SMRC's views on the matter.

We would also like to reassure our community that what was shown in the report is not reflective of what happens to any of the materials processed through the Materials Recovery Facility at the Regional Resource Recovery Centre in Canning Vale.

As part of the SMRC formal tender process, recyclers are required to provide contract assurances that all laws, including importation license requirements are adhered to.

Residents of SMRC member councils and members of the public can book a free tour of the Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC) in Canning Vale to see firsthand what happens to their waste and virtual tours are also available on the Recycle Right website recycleright.wa.gov.au.



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Photo from left: Mayor Brad Pettit, Mayor Jim O'Neill, Minister David Templeman MLA and Mayor Russell Aubrey

MINISTER TEMPLEMAN VISITS THE RRRC

On the 8th of April the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. David Templeman MLA, visited the Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC) in Canning Vale as part of an announcement that the State Government's MyCouncil website will now include local government waste and recycling data.

The announcement saw a number of SMRC Member Councils, including the Cities of Melville, Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle all coming in the top 5 in the metro area for diverting waste from landfill.

Aside from the materials collected through the yellow-topped recycling bin, a strong part of this result is the recovery of materials organic waste collected through the green-topped general waste bin. This bin is currently processed through the Waste Composting Facility at the RRRC which separates out the organic materials and creates a compost suitable for use for agricultural purposes.

In the second half of 2019, each of the three councils will roll out a three-bin Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) system, which will allow for the production of a cleaner, higher quality compost, less landfill and reduced processing costs.

To view your council's result, visit
<https://www.mycouncil.wa.gov.au/>

State Government consultation on single use plastics

The Western Australian Government is seeking your input on approaches to avoid and reduce single-use plastic items. Submissions close on Friday 12 July 2019, 5pm (AWST).

You can find out more by visiting <https://bit.ly/2ImDNdZ>

RECYCLING Q&A WORKSHOP

Confused about what items can be recycled?

This workshop focuses on the new rules around recycling – what can be recycled, where to take it and correct disposal of non-recyclable materials. A Q&A session will answer all your queries about recycling in the City of Melville.

Feel free to bring in any items you are unsure about and you can get the correct information on how to dispose of it.



**There are door prizes to be won
and a light supper will be served.**

Date: Tuesday May 14th 2019

Time: 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Location: Piney Lakes,

Environmental Education Centre,

Leach Hwy, Winthrop

Cost: Free

Register via Eventbrite
<https://bit.ly/2lc8d2E>

The way we
sort our waste
is changing for
the better



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6.30pm - 8.00pm on
Tuesday May 14th at Piney
Lakes, Winthrop, focuses
on the new rules around
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UPCOMING TOURS



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 May 25th at 10.00am. Bookings are essential.

For more information, contact tours@smrc.com.au.



WIN A CUBIC METER OF COMPOST THIS MAY!

From backyard worm farms and compost bins to large scale composting processes, recycling and reuse is far more than just your recycling bin.

Whilst we are gearing up getting ready for 3 bin Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) bin system to roll out from July this year we are joining in the celebrating of how wonderful compost is and the amazing benefits it has to our soils.

To celebrate Compost in May, everyone who attends a RRRC tour in May will go into the draw to win 1 cubic metre of compost from the SMRC's compost partner Nutrarich!

NutraRich
The Fertiliser that Nature Loves



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through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account