

November 2023

recycle right newsletter

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



BOTTLE TOP HILL

Bottle Top Hill has cemented itself into the heart of its community. Run by Emma, this monthly community event sees residents from across Perth converge in an effort to collect materials that cannot be recycled in their kerbside recycling systems. There are pill packets, gift cards and of course, bottle tops – millions of them.

Every time I meet Emma she is in a whip frenzy of action yet laser-focused on connecting with residents, regaling all ears with the narrative of Bottle Top Hill and reminding everyone of the overarching principles of her vision of sustainability.

A day before the start of National Recycling Week, Bottle Top Hill accomplished a great feat – they recovered their two millionth bottle top. I pulled Emma aside and tried to articulate the beauty of what she and her community had accomplished but I did not remark about the sheer number of bottle tops. I spoke to Emma about the community coming together, the shared laughter, their sacrifice of time, a united vision of sustainability and her pure altruistic actions.

I was bubbling over with gratitude and admiration. My awe, in retrospect, was hard to keep a lid on. [Visit Bottle Top Hill here.](#)

LONG ROPE **SHOULD NOT BE PLACED** IN EITHER OF YOUR RECYCLING OR GENERAL WASTE BINS!



REMEMBER TO SAY
NOPE TO ROPE

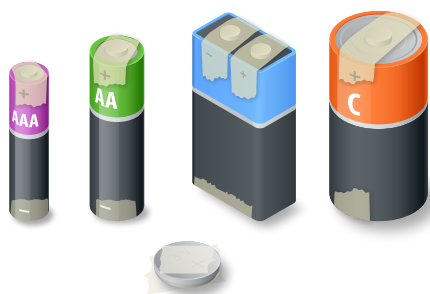


COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS

Nope to Rope: Are you keen to be in the know when it comes to waste and recycling, but don't have time to delve into long industry articles or new stories? Well follow Recycle Right on Instagram for short and snappy posts and reels and expand your knowledge!

Recently, Recycle Right launched a “Nope to Rope” campaign, highlighting the importance of keeping ropes out of kerbside recycling, showing viewers how rope damages sorting machinery at material recovery facilities and puts staff safety at risk. It's a challenging and physically demanding job to stop operations and cut out these contaminants with power tools. Every time operations are stopped, it affects productivity and quality control. Take a look for yourself here: tinyurl.com/mr2zx52x

RECYCLE RIGHT TIPS TAPE YOUR BATTERIES!



Did you know there are numerous drop-off points for a range of household batteries?

Batteries of any kind (including toys or devices that may contain embedded or hidden batteries), should always be taken to a drop-off location. Batteries are hazardous and can cause fires inside waste trucks and waste and recovery facilities. They can also release toxic materials into the environment.

The best way to manage your used batteries is to tape them before you drop them to a collection point! Take a piece of clear adhesive tape and stick it over each end or terminal of the battery – this reduces the risk of batteries generating a spark when placed in the collection tub. For small 'button' batteries, the whole battery can be taped.

To search for your nearest battery drop-off locations go to: recycleright.wa.gov.au/find-my-nearest/

Watch this video to see what happens when a battery ignites: tinyurl.com/msvz95y8



The City of Wanneroo and City of Vincent Residents Tour

NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK A WRAP

Between November 10 and 19, Recycle Right hosted a number of tours for residents within member council regions at Resource Recovery Group's Canning Vale Centre, supported by council staff, as part of National Recycling Week.

Across these tours, 53 people came along to connect with others, learn more about waste and recycling, and see first-hand how kerbside food organics and garden organics (FOGO) and recycling are received and sorted on-site. Luke and Bron also filmed a series of short livestreams on Instagram to highlight recycling achievements, while addressing some of the most common contaminants posing risks to staff and community safety, operational efficiency and the quality or recovered materials.



EMRC Residents Tour by a Moodja, or Native West Australian Christmas Tree in the Banksia Woodland Conservation Area



The City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle Residents Tour at the Education Centre overlooking the Material Recovery Facility

To recycle right here in WA, stick to these 5 materials only in your kerbside recycling bin:

1. **Paper** – flat, dry and clean
2. **Cardboard** – flat, dry and clean
3. **Plastic bottles and containers** – clean and empty (no lids)
4. **Glass bottles and jars** – clean and empty (no lids)
5. **Steel and aluminium cans** – clean and empty





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FESTIVITIES AND **FUROSHIKI**



As we approach the end of the year, many of us will be preparing to find gifts for friends and family, or stock up on food and supplies for festive celebrations and end-of year social gatherings. Now is a great time to think smarter and more sustainably! Below is a short-list of ideas to kick-start your preparations:

- Browse your local charity stores and second-hand markets to look for bargains early
- Seek to swap or trade gift items through your local Buy-Nothing online gifting community
- Have a go at making your own biscuits, cakes, jams, and preserves and repurposing old jars, tins and bottles to give as home-made gifts
- Try repurposing old newspaper or magazine pages as wrapping paper- there are lots of creative ways to make decorative paper bows out of this material too!
- Alternatively, find some nice fabric scraps, scarves or decorative tea-towels and give the traditional Japanese art of Furoshiki a go! Here's an example of how you can use this method to wrap a few different items:
tinyurl.com/3pbwbea8

JACARANDA FESTIVAL

WASTE WARRIORS IN ACTION



Bron represented Recycle Right as part of the Jacaranda Festival held along Ardross Street in Applecross on Sunday 19 November. The event, coordinated by Applecross Rotary with support from the City of Melville, included approximately 150 different stalls for residents and visitors to see throughout the day. Attendees braved the hot weather and took advantage of the many food and drink vendors and family-friendly activities, market stalls, live music performances and roaming entertainers.

Recycle Right engaged visitors in a few waste education games and chatted with people about their kerbside bin systems as well as the adjacent event bin station. Volunteer Waste Warriors helped event attendees sort their waste correctly across the 4 different bin types at the event: the FOGO bins for food organics and garden organics, Recycling bins, Containers For Change bins for eligible drink bottles, cans and cartons, plus the general waste bins.

Event organisers engaged the services of reusables supplier, Go2Cup, to provide more sustainable service-wear as an alternative to single-use cups, plates, bowls and crockery. Customers were able to purchase food and drink in Go2Cup's reusables, then return them to the drop-off point after emptying any remaining food scraps into the FOGO bins provided. Go2Cup washes and reuses all their service-wear, reducing single-use waste items and items destined for landfill.



Funds earned through the Containers For Change collection bins at the event will be donated to Applecross Rotary to support their ongoing work in the community.

While not all visitors had a kerbside FOGO bin where they lived, many were already familiar with and in the practice of diverting food waste and garden cuttings from landfill through composting at home.



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REMAINING TOURS FOR 2023



Recycle Right has two more tours of Resource Recovery Group's Canning Vale Centre as listed below. Please read the full tour requirements and eligibility at the relevant Eventbrite link prior to booking.

Community Tours

DEC 7 (open to any residents of Western Australia)
Thursday 7 Dec, 10:00am:
bit.ly/3rwWooW

Community Tours

DEC 13 (open to any residents of Western Australia)
Wednesday 13 Dec, 10:00am:
bit.ly/3SLelm4

City of Melville Residents Tour

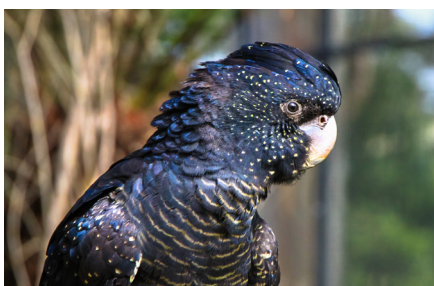
DEC 12 (open to residents within City of Melville only)
Thursday 12 Dec, 10:00am:
bit.ly/3F2oVKr



SUMMER HEAT MEANS SLOW DOWN!

The Canning Vale Centre includes a remnant patch of Banksia Woodland, an important and threatened ecological community that includes a number of endemic native plant species found nowhere else in the world! The vegetation here also supports many species of animals, including endangered black cockatoos, shingleback skinks or bobtail lizards, brown snakes, dugites and quenda.

Reptiles may become more visible as the weather continues to heat up in the summer months so it's a good reminder for visitors and staff coming and going from the Canning Vale Centre to be mindful of wildlife activity near Bannister Road leading to the gate. Shingleback skinks are particularly slow-moving and can become roadkill if they are out basking on or near the roadside so please keep an eye out for them. Can you spot the shingleback in the vegetation in the photo? This one was recently spotted under the flowering native Western Australian Christmas Tree or Moodja, by the Audit Shed at Canning Vale.



Cockatoos are also often seen feeding on seeds by the roadside, outside the entrance gate.

WATER TOP TIP!

RECYCLE RIGHT WEBSITE & APP

All West Australian residents have access to the Recycle Right website or smartphone App to help them identify what to do with residential waste and recycling, no matter which kerbside bin-system your local council uses.

Check it out today, by visiting recycleright.wa.gov.au/ or download the App here: recycleright.wa.gov.au/download-the-free-app/



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

