



And the winner is...

The South Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) and the City of Melville have received the Avoid Recover Protect – Waste Management Award at this year's Infinity Awards, for the first Perth Metropolitan 3-bin Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) trial.



Photo Credit: Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

From left to right: Hon Stephen Dawson MLC - Minister for Environment; Disability Services, Cr Doug Thompson - Chairman of the SMRC, Cr Tim Barling - Deputy Mayor of the City of Melville and Mr Marcus Geisler - Chairman of the Waste Authority.

The Infinity Awards acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Western Australians working towards a better waste future through improved waste practices and innovative waste solutions. This year's awards saw a record number of nominations with more than 100 entries from organisations and individuals throughout Western Australia across a range of different categories.

The 3-bin FOGO trial was rolled out to approximately 7,000 households in the City of Melville as part of a joint project between the Cities of Fremantle and Melville, Town of East Fremantle and the SMRC. The trial demonstrated that this system achieves greater than 65% diversion from landfill, reduces processing costs, produces an Australian Standard Compost and received strong support and participation from the community.

The success of the project will now see the system rolled out throughout to the remaining residents in the City of Melville, alongside the City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle in the second half of 2019.

Alongside this achievement, the SMRC and the Waste and Recycling Industry Association of WA, Cleanaway WA, SUEZ WA and Western Australian Local Government Association also received a Highly Commended recognition for the development of Statewide Guidelines for Kerbside Recycling in the Avoid Recover Protect – Waste Management category.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

If you would like to talk to the Recycle Right team in person, we have the following events coming up:



Sunday November 25

George St. Festival
East Fremantle;

Thursday November 29

Sustainable Xmas Maker event
at the Fremantle Library; and

Friday November 30

Willagee Town Team Night
Market at George Humes Park,
Willagee

RECENT EVENTS



From left to right: Stephanie Courtney (City of Melville) Isabelle Marie (SMRC) Paul Molony (City of Melville) and Isabelle Gagnon (WREN) at Little Hands Festival: Kidchella!

The Recycle Right team and the WREN have been out and about at some local events recently, starting with the City of Fremantle's Garage Sale Trail event at the Fremantle Recycling Yard on Saturday October 20.

There were plenty of people choosing to reuse by buying second hand items, and there was a huge variety of items for sale - not just clothes and trinkets but bicycles and even scuba gear! We were speaking to locals about the recent recycling changes, the upcoming FOGO 3 bin system and making t-shirt bags out of pre-loved t-shirts.

On Sunday November 4 we also joined the City of Melville to act as 'bin fairies' and talk all things rubbish. It was a beautiful day down at Tompkins Reserve by the water for Little Hands Festival: Kidchella! and a very busy event with no shortage of residents to talk to about FOGO, recycling and cloth nappies.

ARE YOU WISH-CYCLING?

In our last edition of the e-news we shared information on the recent changes to recycling in Western Australia. While these changes affect certain household items, many of the items people try to recycle still have us scratching our heads.

Many people are 'wish-cycling' – putting items in their recycling bins and wishing or hoping that they will be recycled, even though they probably know that they won't. The image to the left shows a large plush toy in good condition which has been wrongly placed into a yellow-topped recycling bin.

Textiles and good quality clothing should never be placed into a recycling bin and where possible should be reused or donated to charity. When placed into the wrong bin, these types of materials not only contaminate other good quality products, but can also lead to disruptions and damage to machinery at recycling facilities.





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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.

We have the following tour dates coming up: Tuesday December 18th 10.00am and Tuesday January 15th 10.00am.

Email Isabelle to book a place: tours@smrc.com.au.

THE FESTIVE SEASON IS NEARLY UPON US

With the festive season fast approaching, you may have noticed the stores are becoming stocked up with plenty of gifts to give this year. Instead of giving a gift that may be forgotten or broken within months, how about trying something a bit different? Let's make it memorable!

Here are 5 top tips to get you started, we will have a few more in our December edition.

- 1 Give the gift of time – teach a loved one how to make your famous pie or biscuits or offer to take them out for an afternoon. This doesn't have to be expensive. A day at the beach or playing in the park with a home-made picnic can be lots of fun.
- 2 Have a Secret Santa within your family – this way each person only gets one gift, you spend less time and money shopping and there is a higher chance of the person using and enjoying the gift.
- 3 Set some gift goals – why not ask family or friends to only give gifts that are pre-loved, no new gifts. This might feel difficult at first, but it will make you turn up your creativity and really give something different with the bonus of saving resources.
- 4 If you are hosting guests, it's the perfect time to make sure you are providing a recycling bin in an easy to access spot for any celebrations. Having an easy to find recycling bin helps your friends and family put their bottles and cans in the right bin and keeps precious resources out of landfill.
- 5 To save yourself some money and help make some space in your recycling bin, have jugs of tap water on-hand at parties or events, instead of supplying bottled water. You can add a few slices of lemon or orange for extra effect and some ice to keep it cool.



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through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account