#### November 2019

# recycle right newsletter

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



## NEW-LOOK BOARD FOR **WA'S WASTE** AUTHORITY

The SMRC's CEO, Tim Youé has been appointed for a three-year term on the Waste Authority Board. The Board will guide implementation of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030, as well as drive key programs and offer advice to the Minister for Environment.



Photo (left to right): Minister Stephen Dawson, Dr Joshua Byrne, Tim Youé, Reg Howard-Smith, Kelly Howlett and Lee Broomhall

The new-look Board was announced by Environment Minister Stephen Dawson in early July. Tim joins Former Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia chief executive officer Reg Howard-Smith who has been appointed as the Waste Authority's chairperson and Lee Broomhall (Chief Executive Officer, Workpower) as deputy chairperson, along with members Kelly Howlett (Chief Executive Officer, Bloodwood Tree Association) and Dr Joshua Byrne (Director, Josh Byrne & Associates).

"There was an extremely strong field of applicants, so I'm pleased to welcome the team of people who will help realise the McGowan Government's vision to reuse or recycle at least 75 per cent of waste generated in WA by 2030," Minister Dawson said.

## NEW RECYCLE RIGHT WEBSITE AND APP TO LAUNCH SOON

The team at SMRC are currently busy testing the exciting new RecycleRight website and app prior to their launch this month. The much-anticipated redesign will feature an improved 'Find My Nearest' function with an extended list of materials to dispose of, along with increased 'drop-off-locations'. The A-Z list is now more extensive, and users are able to choose the relevant list for their area, whether that's 3-bin FOGO, 3-bin GO or 2-bin system. It will be quick and easy to select a different bin system if you change your location too. The app will feature a new and much requested bin day reminder tool. This allows you to set reminders, so that you never forget which bin goes out on what day for your area – no need to check which bins the neighbours have put out! Stay tuned.





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#### SMRC COMMUNITY GROUP

Are you in the Fremantle, East Fremantle, Kwinana or Melville Council areas and would like to take part in making change? Why not join an enthusiastic group doing just that?

The Waste and Recycling Education Network (WREN) meets in Booragoon once a month at 6pm. The next meeting is on 14th November.

Members engage in issues regarding waste and recycling. We act as a conduit between the public and the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) and spread the word at community events.

The group is small and free thinking, we thrive on using our left brain and like to get things done. We would love to have you join us.

Email **SMRC@SMRC.com.au** or contact: SMRC Waste Recycling Education Network,

P.O. Box 1501, Booragoon, W.A. 6154





## UPCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS ZERO WASTE PARENTING WORKSHOP

Discover Modern cloth nappies for newborns to toddlers and tips to make using them easy, as well as other handy items to help reduce your waste in this zero waste parenting workshop.

Did you know a baby uses upwards of 4,000 disposable nappies before they are toilet trained and that they all end up in landfill? What a relief that reusable cloth nappies have been updated!

Disposable nappies will cost you around \$3,000 per child while modern cloth nappies are substantially cheaper and can be used for multiple children.

Presented by Aline Brion from Green Skills.

This free community event is for residents living in the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council catchment area – City of Melville, City of Fremantle, Town of East Fremantle and City of Kwinana.

10am-11am on Wednesday 13 November 2019 at Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre, corner of Leach Highway and Murdoch Drive, Winthrop 6150. Book at https://bit.ly/2oCoUw8 via EventBrite.

# RESHAPING THE RRRC

The Food Organics Green Organics (FOGO) initiative, in line with our comprehensive Strategic Waste Management Plan (SWMP), started in October 2017 with a trial of 7,000 households. After that successful trial, all RRRC participants commenced their 3-bin collection service by July 2019. This strategy sees the transition of the Waste Composting Facility (WCF) to a Food Organics Green Organics (FOGO) processing facility, which will be completed by 1 July 2020. The divestment strategy of the RRRC is aligned with the SMRC's strategic objectives and its regional purpose by delivering waste management solutions on behalf of its member local government communities.

The WARR Strategy 2030 requires that a consistent 3-bin kerbside collection system, including separation of food organics and garden organics (FOGO) from other waste categories, is provided by all local governments in the Perth and Peel region by 2025. It also introduces challenging targets for material recovery of 70% by 2025 and a target of only 15% of waste generated in Perth and Peel is landfilled by 2030.



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#### GET BEHIND NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

National Recycling Week runs from 11-17 November 2019. There are many local events being run, so check out your local councils for more information. Get involved with your friends, family and work colleagues. Host a swap party or set up a workplace recycling system.

Your recycling efforts really do make a difference. When you recycle, not only to you give material a chance to become something new, but you divert it from landfill!

In the last year, some items have been removed from the recycling collection (such as aerosols and soft plastics).

Key messages for your yellowtopped recycling bin are:

- 1. Place items loose in your bin
- 2. Rinse and clean items
- 3. Remove lids
- 4. Sort before you go to your bins
- 5. Take hazardous wastes (batteries, aerosols etc) and electronics to your closest drop-off point
- 6. Repurpose or donate textiles



### 12 RULES TO RECYCLE RIGHT THIS CHRISTMAS

# With the Christmas season fast approaching, here is a good reminder on how to Recycle Right!

- 1. Give the gift of knowledge by downloading and sharing the Recycle Right app, from your app store.
- 2. Give gifts that create minimal waste, have a long life-span or can be easily recycled.
- 3. Give someone an experience or homemade gift.
- **4.** Buy locally made products and support your local community.
- **5.** Buy quality Christmas decorations that can be stored and re-used or even try making your own.
- **6.** Use paper wrapping rather than foil or plastic and save wrapping you've received for reuse next year.
- **7.** When entertaining guests, provide labelled bins to help them separate their waste.
- **8.** Try to minimise food waste, only buy what you need, serve smaller portions and store and use leftovers.
- **9.** Ensure all recyclable materials (including broken glass) are placed into your yellow-topped bin.
- **10.**Be sure not to bag or box your recyclables by placing all items loosely and separately into your yellow-topped bin. Flatten your cardboard boxes.
- **11.** Donate unwanted gifts or items that have been replaced to charity.
- For more great tips and information on how to Recycle Right this Christmas visit recycleright.wa.gov.au



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### 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 tours will be taking place on for Saturday 23 November at 10.00am.

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



# NEW COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT TEAM

#### Teresa Belcher

I'm a science communicator with a background in biology and environmental science. In my career I've worn many different hats—I've worked as an environmental microbiologist, an environmental consultant, a tour guide, science journalist, promotions officer, webmaster, trainer, corporate communication specialist and marketing manager in both the public and private sectors in Perth, Canberra, Switzerland and the UK. On a personal level, I've always been passionate about waste recycling, reduction and living sustainably. I hate to throw things out, so I'm very focused on recycling, reusing, repurposing, selling or giving things away. I've got an amazing garden full of fruit trees, have five chickens and an indoor (Bengal) cat called Fang.

#### **Elizabeth Wilkerson**

Having spent the past three years working in community education and behaviour change for sustainability, I am excited to have the opportunity to work directly with the community to improve our waste and recycling as the new Waste Education and Project Officer at the SMRC. Perth born and bred, I achieved a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Management and Sustainability at Murdoch University and have been lucky enough to work with organisations such as Perth City Farm, Trillion Trees, the City of Cockburn, and Chris Ferreira's The Forever Project. I have a great passion for sustainability, particularly regarding the food we eat and the move towards a lower waste lifestyle, and enjoy sharing practical strategies that really work.





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through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account