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recycle right newsletter

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



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Recycle Right at the Royal Show 2016

The 2016 Perth Royal Show saw Recycle Right make a return to Trevor Cochrane's Waterwise Garden from the 24th of September to the 1st of October. This year we were located in an awesome display that featured a vertical pallet garden and decking area, aluminium and plastic bales, furniture and items made from recycled plastic and cans, as well as bench seats and tables made from timber collected at the SMRC's Green Waste Facility.

Recycle Right team members, alongside staff from our member councils and volunteers from the Waste Recycling Education Network (WREN), engaged in a number of different activities, including origami seed pot making, creating fridge magnets out of old milk bottle lids. They also provided and collected information about all things waste and recycling.

The mixed weather didn't scare off visitors and the Waterwise Garden display saw in excess of 247,000 visitors throughout the course of the show.

In addition to the display in the Waterwise Garden, the SMRC contributed at the 'Is plastic fantastic?' stand, a collaboration with the other metro regional councils to provide collaborative information about sustainability.





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DID YOU KNOW?

Rottnest Island works very hard to help you recycle right by providing lots of recycling bins around the island. All those precious aluminium cans, paper and plastic products that you put in the right bin are brought back to the mainland by barge and then sorted at the MRF at the Regional Resource Recovery Centre in Canning Vale.

The Recycle Right Education Team and members of the WREN spent the day at Rotto for the Rottnest Carnivale, teaching visitors about recycling and giving families some ideas for how to reuse their old bottle tops. Thanks to everyone who stopped by!



Good stuff

**What to do with
unsold stuff**

Credit: Garage Sale Trail

Garage Sale Trail 2016

This year's Garage Sale Trail, held on the 22nd of October, proved again to be a great success and saw a total of 15,329 garage sales and stalls registered nationwide. Within the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council there were a massive 679 Garage Sales and stalls, with the weather providing a fantastic day for Australia's 'big day of good stuff'.

What to do with leftover items?

While sellers made some extra money for their unwanted goods and buyers found lots of great bargains, unfortunately not all items ended up sold and people are left with unwanted items. It's important to remember that many of these items cannot go into either of your household bins. Instead of disposing of leftover goods, consider:

- Having another garage sale
- Fixing or upcycling broken items to extend their life
- Selling your goods online
- Donating to your local charity
- Storing items for use down the track

If you can't find a better way to repurpose leftover unsold items, download the Recycle Right app from the App store or Google Play, or visit recycleright.wa.gov.au to find out how to recycle or dispose of goods correctly.





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Problem Waste

Organic Material

Food scraps and garden waste do not belong in your recycling bin. These items rot, creating an unpleasant environment for our staff and potentially contaminate clean recyclables.

Empty containers – While we prefer your containers rinsed, if you've removed as much food residue as possible, you can still recycle your food containers and bottles. Don't forget – lids off!

Bin it correctly – Place food scraps, garden waste and other organic material in your green-topped bin. The SMRC composts the contents of your general waste bin, meaning that these items can be recovered when you put the right thing in the right bin.

Recover it at home – Have you considered composting or worm farming? By composting your organic waste, you can use those precious nutrients back on your own garden.

Reduce your food waste – Roughly one third of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year or approximately 1.6 billion tonnes gets lost or wasted. Download the Recycle Right app to discover easy recipes to transform your leftovers into exciting and delicious meals.



National Recycling week

National Recycling Week (NRW) 2016 runs from 7 to 13 November. Planet Ark founded National Recycling Week to bring a national focus to the environmental benefits of recycling. Now in its 21st year, this established and highly regarded annual campaign continues to inspire behaviour change, by promoting kerbside, industrial and community recycling.

The initiative also gives people the tools to minimise waste

and manage material resources responsibly. There's a range of activities you can take part in at home, work or school. These include the Friday File Fling which involves recycling tonnes of paper, de-cluttering offices and ensuring paper goes back into the recycling stream. Other activities include a Schools Recycle Right Challenge and the Big Aussie Swap Party. For more information and a list of events near you, visit: recyclingweek.planetark.org

Competition Winners

Over the course of the past two months, Recycle Right ran competitions at the Waste and Recycle Conference and the Perth Royal Show.

2016 Waste and Recycling Conference Winner

Visitors who stopped by the Recycle Right stand had the chance to go into the draw to win an Onya gift pack consisting of a reusable Onya water bottle, a set of weigh bags and a reusable shopping bag simply by signing up to our e-newsletter by placing their business cards into a bowl and this year's lucky winner was Lynda Nottle!

2016 Perth Royal Show

At this year's Perth Royal Show, we offered visitors to the Recycle Right stand a chance to win a

worm farm by answering one simple question: 'How do you reduce waste at home?'

We had a huge amount of great entries however there could only be one winner and that winner was Daniel Balgarnie! Daniel's answer was to "Buy as much fresh meat and produce from markets to limit the amount of packaging used and rubbish created. We consume very little processed food due to this (and it's unhealthy)".

Congratulations to all of our winners and keep a look out for us at future events for your chance to win more awesome prizes.



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Would you like to join **The Waste Recycling Education Network?**



If you are interested in waste and sustainability, educating the community and making a difference, the Waste Recycling Education Network needs you!

All it takes is a few hours of your time to attend a meeting and assist with a community waste education project. Everyone is welcome to join.

The group meet on a Thursday every two months and will be involved in some exciting projects in the community in 2016. If you have any questions or would like to talk about joining, you can contact Taryn Davis at the SMRC on **9329 2700** or email **tdavis@smrc.com.au**



Jacaranda Festival

On the 26th of November, the Applecross Rotary Club will hold its annual Jacaranda Festival in the heart of Applecross Village in what promises to be a fantastic, family-friendly day of fun and entertainment.

Recycle Right will be attending the festival alongside more than 130 stalls, providing information and advice about waste and recycling, as well as free kids recycling activities. The Southern Metropolitan Regional Council,

in conjunction with the City of Melville, will also be providing public place recycling for the event, to help festival goers do the right thing and Recycle Right!

The event will run from 10am-3pm and entry is free, although Rotary will be accepting donations on the day (bring a gold coin or two!) Funds raised will be reinvested in local groups and initiatives over the coming year. For more information, visit applecrossrotary.org/stories/rotary-jacaranda-festival.



Recycle Right on the Garden Gurus

Continuing our partnership from previous years, Recycle Right will be featuring in three upcoming episodes of the Garden Guru's on Channel 9. Filming commenced on the 21st of October and will provide you with everything you need to know to Recycle Right.

The episodes will be airing on the following dates:

- Saturday November 12th, 2016 – 5:30pm
- Sunday November 20th, 2016 – 5:30pm



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Tours Of The Regional Resource Recovery Centre

Our next community tour is scheduled for Saturday 12th November at 10am.

What better way to celebrate National Recycling Week than by seeing first-hand the machinery that sorts your co-mingled recycling and to discover alternatives to landfilling.

Bookings are essential. If you'd like to organise a visit to find out what happens to your waste, call Emma on **9256 9528** or via email **tours@smrc.com.au**



Win our vertical pallet garden from the Perth Royal Show

Calling all Primary and Secondary schools in Melville, Fremantle, East Fremantle, Kwinana and Cockburn!

Would your school benefit from some extra space to grow plants? We had so many schools come and ask us about our pallet garden at the Perth Royal Show this year, we decided that this National Recycling Week we should give you the chance to persuade us to pick your school to be the lucky recipient.

Tell us how the pallet garden will add value to what you're already doing at your school

to reduce, reuse and Recycle Right. You get to pick the best way to convey your message and convince us of the hard work your school does.

More information will be sent directly to schools via email, but if you can't wait, contact Emma via **tours@smrc.com.au** to be sent entry information.

*Prize includes pallets to be assembled into a vertical garden and five 25L bags of compost, thanks to our compost partners Nutrarich.



Catchments, Corridors and Coasts

Catchments, Corridors and Coasts (CCC) provides a 'snapshot' of environmental education in WA from catchments, through corridors to the coast. It provides a rich experience, facilitating the development of networks with and between practitioners, and an awareness of the resources and support across WA to help address core environmental and sustainability issues in the State. Learn about environmental issues, what is being done by community groups and various levels of government, what resources are available and how we can all work together for a better environment.

The program is suitable for tertiary students or new graduates; community members & groups; youth organisations; teachers; student teachers; Sustainable Schools Initiative participants; private sector personnel, Environmental Officers; Local Government Officers; and State Government Department Officers.

Contact Catherine Baudains: email **c.baudains@murdoch.edu.au** or call **0409 374 231** for further information or to register.