

# RECYCLE BETTER AT HOME

Recycling is a key component of any modern waste reduction system – and it starts with you at home.

## THE FACTS

- Western Australians generated 5.4 million tonnes of waste in 2016-17.
- More than a quarter of all waste comes from our homes.
- We're underperforming when it comes to recycling and recovering our household waste – only about a third of household waste is diverted from landfill.
- Targets are in place for the amount of waste we will divert from landfill by 2020:



## WASTE DIVERSION FROM LANDFILL

*Metro household waste*

NOW 40%  
TARGET 65%

*Regional household waste*

NOW 26%  
TARGET 50%

*Commercial and industrial waste*

NOW 56%  
TARGET 70%

*Construction and demolition waste*

NOW 57%  
TARGET 75%

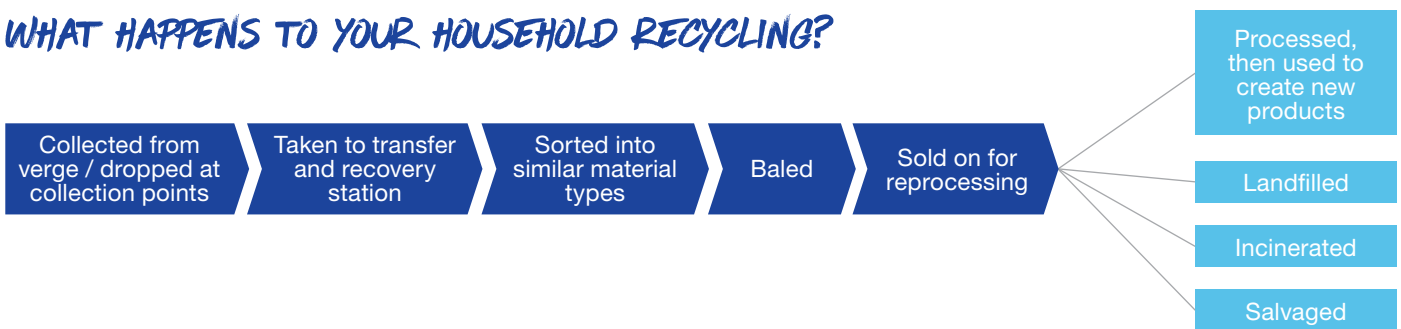
## WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR RECYCLING?

Everyone has a role to play in waste reduction and recycling including you, as a member of the local community.

- **Your job** → dispose of waste in the correct way. This includes via your council-supplied bin collection service and also at drop-off points for specialist materials or through privately-run recycling programs.
- **Local government's job** → to provide waste collection services and work with regional government to educate you about what can and can't be recycled.
- **Regional government's job** → to sort and recover recyclable waste, processing it, where possible, or otherwise selling on to third parties for reprocessing.
- **State Government's job** → to lead governance and funding in relation to household waste.
- **Industry's job** → to reduce packaging, investigate production methods that make use of recyclable materials, and help fund waste removal.

If everyone owns their impact we'll reduce waste in WA.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING?



## WHAT GOES WHERE?

### Your yellow-topped bin

So long as these items are empty and clean, they can go in your recycling bin at home.

Item	Examples
Aluminium and steel	Cans, tins, foil
Cardboard boxes and cartons	Milk and long-life cartons, cereal and pizza boxes, toilet paper rolls
Ceramic and Pyrex	Broken plates, pots
Glass bottles and jars	Beer and wine bottles, cosmetic items, food and sauce bottles and jars
Paper	Newspapers, magazines, print-outs, books, wrapping paper
Plastic containers	Margarine tubs, takeaway food containers, yoghurt pots, sauce bottles, shampoo bottles, seedling containers

### Special collection or drop-off

Item	Examples
Batteries	Household batteries (both non-rechargeable and rechargeable varieties), industrial batteries, vehicle batteries
Coffee pods	All brands
Electronic waste	Computers, printers, TVs, mobile phones
Flammable liquids	Paint, solvent, fuel
Hard waste	Fridge, washing machine, dryer, mattress, furniture
Lightbulbs	Fluorescent tubes and bulbs, halogen, LED, neon
Plastic packaging and soft plastics	Plastic bags, plastic wrap, trays, cellophane
Printer cartridges	Domestic and industrial varieties
Textiles	Clothing, shoes, towels, linen
Tyres	Car, truck, bike, wheelchair varieties

## COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ *Failure to place items in the correct bin or to dispose of them via the proper channels*
- ✗ *Recyclable products may end up in landfill rather than enter the sorting process – resulting in lost resources.*
- ✗ *Large volumes of recyclable materials may be contaminated by items that should have been placed in the general waste bin and sometimes even ruin processing equipment.*
- ✗ *Not rinsing items that previously contained food*
- ✗ *This can contaminate other recyclable materials resulting in more being sent to landfill.*
- ✗ *Not removing lids of bottles or placing items in plastic bags*
- ✗ *This hinders the sorting process and may result in items being incorrectly sorted or being unnecessarily diverted to landfill.*
- ✗ *Overfilling bins*
- ✗ *Litter, which can make its way into our waterways and oceans, can occur when a bin's lid is unable to close.*
- ✗ *Most household waste collection trucks can only lift bins containing less than 70kg – heavier bins may damage the trucks' hydraulics.*
- ✗ *Putting batteries and electronic waste into your general waste bin*
- ✗ *Batteries contain toxic materials, these can leach into groundwater supplies if they are sent to landfill.*
- ✗ *E-waste is largely recoverable – meaning it can be reprocessed and reused again – sending to landfill wastes resources.*