# CLEAN & GREEN





Livingstone Shire Council is committed to diverting waste from our Landfill and encouraging behaviour change with the reuse and recycling of materials by residents in our community.

Our vision is to guide the Shire in the continual improvement of its waste management practices through innovation, education, and to promote avoiding, reducing, reusing, and recycling of waste before disposing of it.

#### **The New Community Resource Recovery Centre (CRRC) at Yeppoon Landfill**

The facility will divert waste from landfill by increasing the level of sorting and capturing of reusable, recyclable, or recoverable materials. Landfill volumes at the current rate will fill the existing landfill cell by October 2025 therefore investment in a new cell is crucial and costly.

The CRRC will help expand the lifetime of the current cell due to the diversion of waste. It's estimated more than 2,700 tonnes of waste per annum will be diverted from landfill.

Our gatehouse operations contractor, Outlook (Aust.) Limited, will weigh all the waste diverted at the CRRC which will enable us to track exactly how much waste is being diverted from the landfill face.

#### Find out more over the page!



# CONNECT WITH YOUR COUNCIL

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Cr Rhodes Watson rhodes.watson@livingstone.qld.gov.au 0448 403 243 The CRRC will be set up with bays for our residents to place their steel, cardboard, eWaste, car batteries, greenwaste, cooking oil and items that can be sold in the Yeppoon Reuse Market (previously known as the Tip Shop). This helps our community to divert as much waste as possible, to make this easier when you arrive at the Yeppoon Landfill, to save time and resources, we encourage you to sort your load at home, refer to the section Sort your Load and Save below for useful tips.

The CRRC will be easy to use although at first it may be a little confusing. There is a big sign at the Yeppoon Landfill entry point which explains the coloured lines to follow to dispose of your waste it's simply "drive on the lines and follow the directional signs"! The lines you will see on the bitumen are red to take your waste to the transfer bins, follow the yellow to the CRRC to place your recyclables in a bay and follow the green lines to the green waste bay.

## The CRRC was officially opened on Wednesday 16 November 2022.

Members of Council were present, as well as representatives Outlook (Aust) Pty Ltd, Civil Haulage and Mining and Paynters who were all important parties in the construction and commissioning of this facility.



#### REMEMBER TO SORT YOUR LOAD AND SAVE!

At our Landfill and Transfer Stations you can drop off a wide range of items for recycling free of charge, but only if you sort them before arrival. Sorting means separating items into similar groups in your car, ute or trailer, rather than having them mixed all together.

Recyclable items are transported to Brisbane and recycled into new products so it is important to keep them separated from your general waste, the items include flattened paper and cardboard, light scrap metal, E-Waste, clean glass, plastic bottles, steel and aluminium cans, other metals including car bodies (all fluids and tyres must be removed), domestic oil (maximum of 20 litres), domestic car batteries (limit of 5) and re-saleable items (determined by the Gatehouse staff).

**SAVE Money** - the more we can recover, the less you'll pay...

**SAVE Time** - quickly unload different materials into designated areas

**SAVE Our Environment** - keep waste out of landfill

Previous editions of our Clean and Green Waste eNewsletter can be read on Council's website here <a href="https://www.livingstone.qld.gov.au/downloads/download/149/waste-and-recycling-newsletter">https://www.livingstone.qld.gov.au/downloads/download/149/waste-and-recycling-newsletter</a>

## Being a good sort just got easier!

YOU CAN RECYCLE THESE ITEMS AT THE YEPPOON COMMUNITY RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE



Furniture (AS APPROVED BY SITE STAFF)

Electronic Waste

🔼 Cardboard

Oil

**Vehicle Batteries** 

🚺 Tyres

Comingled Recyclables

Metal Waste

## REMEMBER TO SORT YOUR LOAD AND SAVE!





Yeppoon Landfill (07) 4939 1809



## REDCycle

Australia's largest soft plastics recycling program REDcycle has announced they are temporarily pausing their program from 9 November 2022 due to an inability in the short term to balance the supply and demand aspects of the operation.

While this is a frustrating and disappointing outcome for many of us, it also provides a timely reminder that while recycling is an important step in waste reduction, it is not the only solution. We encourage our community to shop sustainably by buying less or avoiding single-use soft plastic packaging and products wherever possible.

Instead of using plastic bags take mesh fruit and veg bags with you shopping, avoid the plastic wrapped fruit and veges on foam trays, if you have made a purchase of an item and it is delivered by the company to your home have them take the plastic, foam and cardboard waste back with them, after all you purchased the product and not the packaging. More details can be found on the REDcycle site <a href="https://redcycle.net.au">https://redcycle.net.au</a>.







#### The smart way to load...

- 1. Group similar materials together (e.g. putting scrap metal in a separate pile to cardboard).
- 2. Place green waste at the back of the vehicle so it can be unloaded at the greenwaste pile first.
- 3. Place scrap metal, timber and recycling on top of the load as it will be unloaded in the Shed next.
- 4. Place general waste to the front of the vehicle, this will be unloaded last.
- 5. Cover your load during travel to the Landfill/Transfer Station.
- 6. Don't exceed the vehicle/trailer load limit.

# Waste Not, Want Not - Food for Thought!

Almost half of the food produced in the world gets thrown out and taken to landfill. While sitting in landfill, it produces methane; a gas which speeds up climate change. But there is good news!

By making a small change in your routine, you can have a major positive impact on the environment and that change starts with composting. A lot of people think "composting takes too much work, smells awful, and attracts unwanted animals into my house and yard." But are those things true?

As Kathy Kellogg-Johnson says in The Need To GROW, "The soil is starving for organic matter." So, how do we feed it? With compost. Composting is literally making new soil. You can take "trash" and turn it into earthly treasure. And it might just be one of the answers to a healthier future.

The largest study on the 100 top solutions for climate change is called Project Drawdown. The researchers found that reducing food waste was the #1 solution to stop the harm of greenhouse gases and heal our planet. And the best part? YOU can be part of the solution by starting your own compost today, even if you don't have much space. For some great ideas on where to start when composting watch some of Costa Georgiadis's, the composting gury video clips here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uw5JVZSzMUA

### Plastic Free CQ - Have you heard?

Hello Livingstone! Santa is nearly here and that got us thinking about the upcoming Secret Santa's and what could be a useful gift. Here at Plastic Free CQ, we recommend purchasing your Secret Santa a reusable coffee cups or water bottle. A practical gift that can be purchased in multiple colours and styles so that it can be unique to the person and their personality.

Why not send someone a reusable item purchased from your favourite cafe for Christmas? Your local business will really appreciate the purchase, and your friend or family member will have a token of where you go and what you enjoy. You are also supporting and encouraging theuse of a circular economy. By doing this action, you are influencing a solution to a bigproblem in Australia and across the world, that problem being single-use cups and waterbottles.

Right across CQ, reusable cups and water bottles are accepted, welcomed and even available for purchase! If you own a small business, encourage your patrons and staff to dine in, no single-use cups. Engage a swap-and-go cup system (ask us how), sell your own reusables and practice what you preach. Use your reusable cup systems, which are part of who you are. Encourage staff to bring their own reusable water bottles and set up a water station for your community, so they don't need to engage with single-use as a first option or at all. Water stations are so easy to set up. We have some of the cleanest and best water available across Australia and maybe the world. So, tap it, chill it and serve it - no single-use bottles, no waste, no \$ to dispose of unnecessary waste, keeping costs down for business and the community.

If you would like help or tips in setting up water refill stations, engaging in a swap-and-go cup system, implementing your own reusable system, engaging with a reusable cup program or just reducing your single-use plastic by eliminating those items or seeking Australian Certified compostable options, contact Jo, Co-ordinator of Plastic Free CQ on 0408 873 047. The most important thing of all is to have a Merry Christmas with those who are dear to you and you to them. Enjoy the festive season but try to make it safe and sustainable.

#### Make a Pledge

Make a small pledge this Christmas to avoid or refuse certain items. A little bit of effort by us all will make huge changes and create less waste this season. Some examples are:

- Avoid sales and buy only what you need; there is always a lot of excess consumption this time of year creating financial hardship and food waste.
- Instead of wrapping your gifts in tinsel paper and ribbons, place your gifts in a reusable gift bag, a fabric bag or a piece of clothing that can be reused.

"Australians
use more than
150,000km of
wrapping paper
during
Christmas –
enough to wrap
around the
equator nearly
four times."













