



THE 'OTHER' RECYCLING

Have you ever wondered how to dispose of your old microwave, printer cartridges, mobile phone or your old clothes? Did you know that many items we would classify as 'waste' can actually be recycled? Over the past decade, concerns about the environment have caused many people to change their attitudes regarding waste disposal. Thankfully, rubbish tips are no longer seen as the only method of disposing of our waste and the potential to recover valuable resources in our waste is becoming recognised.

Batteries (Including Lead Acid)



Lead acid batteries are 98% recyclable and are hazardous if not handled correctly. There's no one answer to where car batteries (lead acid batteries) can be recycled. NetWaste Councils offer a number of different approaches, so contact your local Council for more information. Drop off points are also located at most Repco Auto or Super Cheap Auto Stores. Visit www.recyclemybattery.com.au for more information.

Electronic Items (E-Waste)



E-Waste is a fast growing waste stream that we need to deal with. Some NetWaste Councils offer a collection service to their communities. Residents are able to drop off things like televisions, monitors, laptops, scanners, landline phones, electronic games, CDS, DVDs and tapes, cameras, speakers etc. Visit www.netwaste.org.au/projects/EWaste for further details.



Household Chemicals



Most of us have these at our place, just look under your kitchen, bathroom or laundry sinks or in your garden shed and garage. They include paint, pesticides, poisons, solvents and household cleaners, household batteries (not lead acid), gas bottles, fire extinguishers, pool chemicals, acids and alkalis, hobby chemicals (e.g. photography chemicals), fluorescent tubes, smoke detectors and pharmaceuticals. Some NetWaste Councils are involved in an annual 'Clean Out' of household chemicals. Go to www.netwaste.org.au to find out if your local Council participates. Or you can call Chemclear on 1800 008 182 to find out about the collection service they offer.

Mobile Phones



Over 1 billion mobile phones will be sold world wide in the next 12 months. It is estimated only 3% of these are recycled, wasting precious resources. There are a number of mobile phone recycling programs available and one of the most common in regional areas is 'Mobile Muster'. Go to www.mobilemuster.com.au for details of where you can drop off your old phones and encourage your friends to do the same.

Clothing



Old clothes or blankets and sheets you no longer use can be donated to a charity store! Simply collect all your old clothes in a bag and drop off at any of these stores: St Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army or The Smith Family. Check your phone directory for other possible drop off points.

Scrap Metal



By collecting and processing scrap metal, we reduce the ecological impacts of mining raw materials from the ground and reduce up to 97% of mining wastes. NetWaste has a scrap metal contract that provides a pick up service at most Councils within the NetWaste area. Contact your local Council to find out if they participate or go to www.netwaste.org.au for further information.

Chemical Containers



NetWaste Councils are active in working with drumMUSTER to provide a collection service for chemical drums. For details on collection drop offs and cleaning requirements in your local area go to www.drummuster.com.au

Printer Cartridges



You can drop off your used or empty laser and inkjet cartridges at participating Australia Post, Dick Smith, Tandy, The Good Guys, Harvey Norman and Officeworks stores. Go to www.closingtheloop.com.au to locate your closet drop off point.

GET CREATIVE! Make your waste into ART!

A NetWaste initiative and proudly sponsored by SIMS Metal, **WASTE 2 ART** is a community exhibition and competition that shows creative works made from reused and recycled waste materials. The purpose of the project is to encourage the concept of REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE whilst changing attitudes about 'rubbish' and the waste we all create on a daily basis.

The 2010-2011 Waste To Art regional final was held in late June and exhibitions will be held over the following months.

Please check with your local Council to see if they are participating for 2011/2012 Waste to Art.

Or Visit <http://www.netwaste.org.au/projects/wastetoart.htm>



Waste Hotline 1300 725 415

Community Waste Education Program. For enquiries please contact: Sue Clarke NetWaste Environmental Learning Advisor on 6393 8772.






CONGRATULATIONS

During the months of January through to July 2011, residents from Blayney, Cabonne, Forbes, Orange and Parkes have recycled over 3205 tonnes of material. The environmental savings are equal to saving:

 **21** Olympic swimming pools of water

 Greenhouse gas savings equal to removing **387** cars off the road

 Energy savings equal to the annual electricity needs of **247** households

How does recycling REALLY help the environment?

We all know recycling benefits the environment, but do you actually know why? Recycling not only helps to minimise the amount of waste we send to landfill, but recycling plays an important role in reducing the environmental impacts of industrial production by conserving and protecting our diminishing natural resources. By incorporating recycled materials into the manufacturing process, rather than new resources, which are extracted from forests or mines, helps the environment by saving energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing pollution.

Saves natural resources

All of our modern day items come from natural resources. Recycling allows for materials to be re-used and minimises the need to extract raw materials from the earth. This conserves land and reduces the need for deforestation and drilling for oil and minerals.

Recycling also reduces the need for landfills and other disposal facilities. The earth's supply of natural resources is limited and by substituting recycled materials for the use of virgin resources such as trees, metal ores, minerals and oil, recycling can aid in reducing the pressure to expand forestry and mining production.

Saves energy

The steps in supplying recycled materials to industry including collection, processing and transportation use less energy than the steps in supplying raw materials to industry which includes extraction, refinement, transportation and processing. Using raw materials to produce new items requires a greater consumption of fossil fuels for energy which in turn emits many air and water pollutants.

How much energy is saved by recycling the following materials into new products?

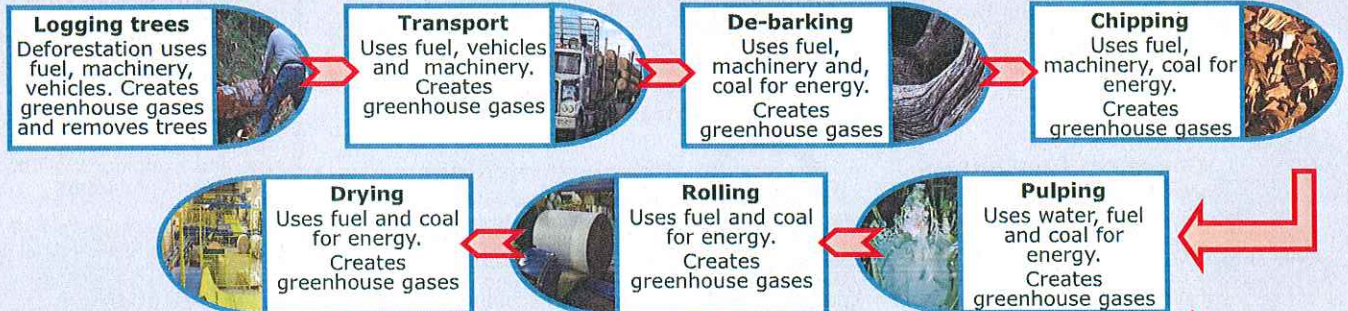
- aluminum saves 95%
- steel saves 60%
- newspaper saves 40%
- plastics saves 70%
- glass saves 40%

Reduces greenhouse gases

When oil, gas and coal are used, they emit dangerous greenhouse gases. By recycling materials, the amount of energy used by industry is greatly reduced, saving greenhouse gas emissions involved in the transportation, extraction and refinement stages of the production process.

It is estimated that most greenhouse savings are made by avoiding the production of methane gas which occurs at landfill sites as waste breaks down. Greenhouse gases are also saved by the avoidance of raw material production. Therefore, if a product is made from raw material rather than recycled material, more CO₂ and other greenhouse gases are generated.

So what is involved in the paper making process?



By recycling 1 tonne of paper (40,000 A4 sheets) you save...

- ✓ 13 Trees
- ✓ 2.5 barrels of fuel (oil)
- ✓ 4,100 kw of electricity (power)
- ✓ 4 cubic meters of landfill space
- ✓ 31,780 litres of water

Paper made from recycling starts here!
Therefore, all the energy and resources in the first four stages are saved!

Want to learn more?
Visit www.netwaste.org.au to check out all the environmental projects happening in your area!