



Committed to change in Livingstone Shire Council

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

Our vision is that our Livingstone Shire residents transition to a circular economy for better health, environmental and sustainability outcomes.



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Contaminants in the Recycling Bin

Learn more about Council's fortnightly recycling service

Council provides a fortnightly recycling collection service for certain acceptable materials only.

Your kerbside recycling bin (yellow lid) is taken to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) where it is sorted into material types based on the properties of the materials.

The materials are then sold to be recycled. The more contamination that is placed in the recycling bin, the harder it is for the MRF to sort the materials. Contamination includes items that are not accepted in your kerbside recycling bin such as soft plastics, garden waste and lawn clippings, shredded paper, batteries, laminated paper, food waste or hazardous materials and bulky items.

Contamination affects the efficiency of the MRF and if a hazardous item such as a battery is placed in the recycling bin it can cause both MRF and recycling truck fires due to the battery contents.

The MRF in Rockhampton burnt down in November 2020 due to a fire starting from a suspected battery, our recycling collection is currently transported to a Mackay MRF for sorting. Not everything recyclable can go into your recycling bin. Other recyclable materials can be taken to one of Council's waste management facilities or to other designated drop off sites.

A handy A-Z list of items to be disposed or recycled can be found on the Livingstone Waste Wise App on your device.

RECYCLE THESE ITEMS

Remove lids, rinse containers and place items loosely in the yellow-lidded bin. Don't put them in plastic bags.

- Aluminium cans, steel cans and aerosols
- Paper, cardboard and magazines
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles and containers (numbers 1-6)
- Milk and juice cartons

DO NOT RECYCLE THESE ITEMS

- ✗ Garden waste
- ✗ Disposable nappies
- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Food scraps
- ✗ Ceramics and ovenware
- ✗ Lightbulbs, mirrors and window glass
- ✗ Clothing
- ✗ Pots, pans and large steel items
- ✗ Garden hoses
- ✗ Batteries



Love Your Leftovers

Learn to love what you already have in the fridge.

In most households, food waste starts before you even head out to the shops. Why buy more when you can use what you already have? Using your leftovers is one of the easiest ways to cut food waste. Australians waste approximately one in five bags of groceries a week. The foods most wasted in Australian households include bread, bananas, vegetable salads, cooked rice and cooked beef. What a waste!

Make it easier to find the food that needs to be used up by creating a shelf in your fridge for your leftovers or other food that needs to be eaten. A great idea to stop food waste is to cook one meal each week that combines the foods that need to be used up or a member of your households take the leftovers as lunch the next day.

Find more suggestions on reducing food waste at home here - <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/>



[management/waste/recovery/reduction/reduce-food-waste-at-home](https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/waste/recovery/reduction/reduce-food-waste-at-home)

Make a Pledge for the Environment

Make a small pledge this quarter 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 single-use food and drink containers and utensils;

Compost your fruit and vegetable scraps, eggshells, coffee grounds, grass clippings and leaves in a backyard compost bin;

Shop at local farmers markets or produce stalls and buy in bulk to reduce packaging. and into the future.

Recycle Your Unused Mobile Phone

More than 90% of the components found in a mobile phone can be recycled, but there are around 23 million stored unused around Australia!

If they were all recycled, the greenhouse benefits created would be equal to planting 114,000 trees and the aluminium recovered would be enough to make 1.8 million cans. Did you know:

- There are at least 30 million mobile phone subscribers currently in Australia. That's the equivalent of 2,450 tonnes of metals, minerals, plastic, and glass.
- The average person replaces their mobile phone every 18-24 months
- Mobiles should never be thrown out. They are not biodegradable.
- Recycling 50,000 handsets can replace the need to mine 110 tonne of gold ore, 123 tonne of silver bearing ore or 11 tonne of copper sulphide ore.
- When recycled, over 90% of the materials in mobile phones can be recovered and used as raw materials for new products.

Contact your phone provider to see if they offer a trade-in service. You can also recycle your old mobile phones at Yeppoon Town Hall. Woolworths has partnered with Mobile Muster in their recycling units at their stores which is freely accessible to anyone in the community. More information is available at their site <https://www.woolworths.com.au/shop/discover/sustainability>



WTF - It's Not What You Think - Waste the Facts!

Manufacturers need to design products in a way that minimises the need for packaging and what packaging is required, use single-material formats that can be more easily recovered through domestic kerbside recycling as this is where most of it will end up. A good example of this is Dyson, which creatively uses simple recycled cardboard in place of polystyrene to protect the product during shipment, which is one of the easiest materials to recover through kerbside. Many other organisations use cardboard as packaging also, Dyson being only one example. Better design standards help to phase out all single-use plastics and bioplastics to be replaced by reusable alternatives. For packaging that cannot be avoided (i.e. for the purpose of preserving food where there is no other alternative), trials are underway in metropolitan areas to collect soft plastics from Australian homes through domestic kerbside recycling services. The plastics are then taken to an advanced recycling facility where they are turned back into oil to produce more plastic packaging. Cracking the nut of kerbside soft plastics collection would enable higher volumes than in-store drop-off and enable brands to dramatically increase recycled content in packaging. *Excerpt from Insidewaste 14 February 2023.*

Change of Hours for Waste Facilities

There was a change in Council's waste facilities hours of business on 31 July 2023.

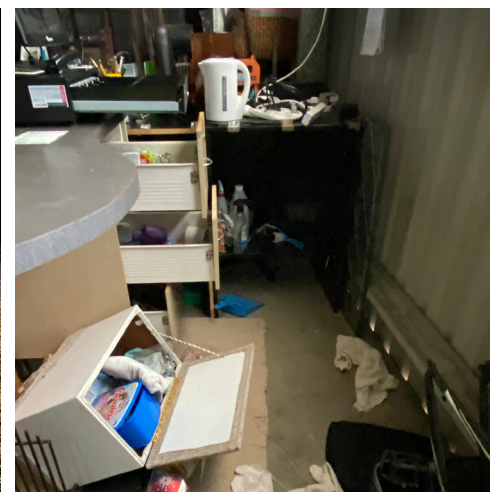
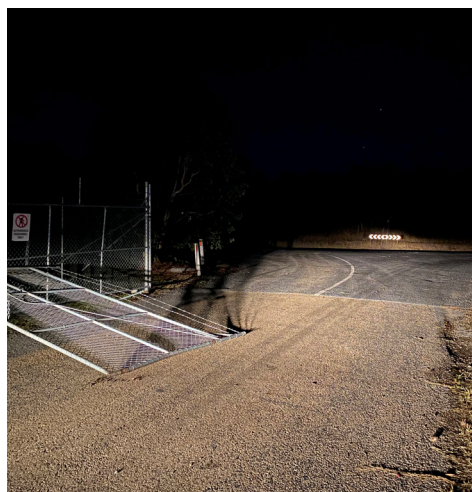
All waste facilities now close at 5:00pm which will allow for safer working practices late in the day, especially in the Winter months.

Livingstone Waste Facilities to go Cashless

Due to several break-ins at the Yeppoon Landfill and transfer stations, Livingstone Shire Council will be implementing a card-only payment system at all waste facilities from Monday 4 September 2023.

Waste vouchers will still be an acceptable form of payment. While it is disappointing that the break-ins have resulted in property damage, destruction, and theft at sites around the Shire, Council is taking these steps to reduce the risk of further break-ins and to ensure the safety of our employees and our ratepayer assets.

We appreciate the assistance of the Queensland Police Service and local businesses who repaired extensive damage at waste facilities so all our sites were still operational and our community could continue to dispose of their waste without any inconvenience. Gladstone Regional Council also went cashless on 21 July 2023 due to the break-ins they were experiencing. Thank you to the community for supporting our members and we thank the community for their patience and understanding.



To read all of Council's Clean & Green waste eNewsletters go to Council's website at www.livingstone.qld.gov.au/newsletters

