

Waste Wise 2025



EAST GIPPSLAND HOUSEHOLD
WASTE AND RECYCLING GUIDE

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Printed by: Black Rainbow Printing on recycled paper using environmentally friendly inks.

Photo this page: Polystyrene – heat treated, shrunk and ready for transport to recyclers.



▲ Our kerbside waste contractor travels more than 19,000 km a month.

Waste services

Waste services are an essential service in East Gippsland Shire with Council managing 35 waste disposal facilities, including: landfill, transfer stations, waste trailers and bin enclosures (at some of East Gippsland's more remote locations).

Our kerbside waste contractor¹ travels more than 19,000 km each month collecting waste from our three waste streams – general rubbish (red lid), mixed recycling (yellow lid) and garden organics (green lid).

General rubbish goes to Bairnsdale Landfill; Mixed recycling goes to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Bairnsdale for sorting; and garden organics are mulched at Bairnsdale Landfill for use in Council projects.

In the 2023-24 financial year, over 8600 tonnes of general household rubbish (red lid) were collected, from over 22,000 households by our waste contractor. This is nearly 390kg of general rubbish generated per household each year, an increase of 17% from 333kg (compared to 2022-23 financial year)².

¹ Tambo Waste.

² Waste Wise booklet 2024.

Recycling is complex

While recycling can be complex, our understanding of how to recycle things right is improving.

The 2024-25 Waste Audit³ shows that while 55% of waste disposed in the general rubbish (red lid) bins could have been recycled rather than going to landfill, this is down from 76% in 2021⁴. This 21% decrease is due to improvements in the amounts of compostable (11% decrease), recyclable items (6% decrease) and textile waste (3% decrease) being avoided or correctly sorted and disposed of home compost bins, worm farms or in the mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin. Well done!

This guide is designed to help keep more of that recyclable material out of our landfill, by listing what can be recycled in East Gippsland and giving tips on where it can go instead of the general waste (red lid) bin.

Small acts make a big impact

We have joint responsibility as a community for reducing how much waste we generate and adjusting how we treat and dispose of it. Where practical, we can:

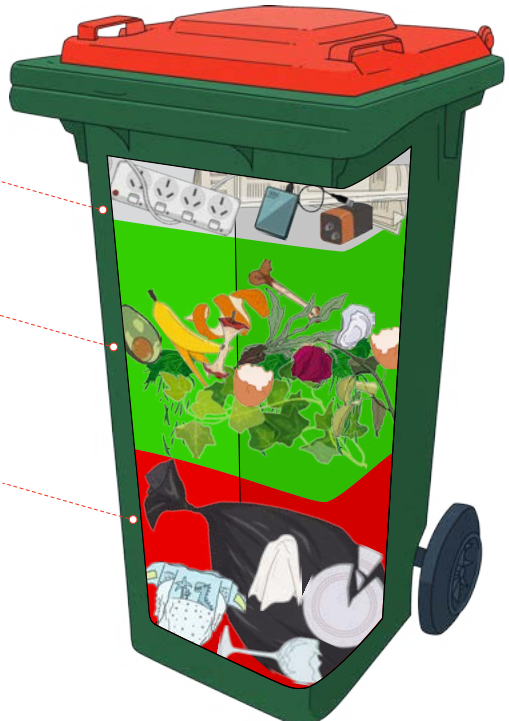
- **Prevent** – avoid waste creation
- **Reduce** – use fewer materials that create waste
- **Re-use** – reuse items many times before replacing them
- **Recycle** – turn items and materials into new products
- **Recover** – recover raw materials from waste.

22%
✗ incorrect items

33%
food and garden organics

45%
general rubbish

► *Breakdown of general rubbish bin contents, 2024-2025 Waste Audit.*



³ Conducted by B-Alternative. (www.b-alternative.com)

⁴ Waste Wise booklet 2024.

Household bin services

We offer residents a variety of waste across the region's 20,940 square kilometres.

Townships – Most households in larger towns have a three bin collection service – general rubbish (red lid), mixed recycling (yellow lid), and garden waste (green lid). Other areas have a two bin collection service – general rubbish and mixed recycling. General rubbish is collected weekly, while recycling and green waste are collected on alternate fortnights.

Rural – Residents in more remote areas can dispose of their waste and recycling via transfer stations, waste trailers and bin enclosures. See page 28 for locations of transfer stations.

New home builders / new residents

– Contact us directly to find out if you're in an eligible area for a bin collection service. Applications for collections can be made via the Waste Service Request form on our website, see link below. For those in non-eligible areas, please call us to discuss your options.
www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/forms/waste-service-request

For more information on collection times



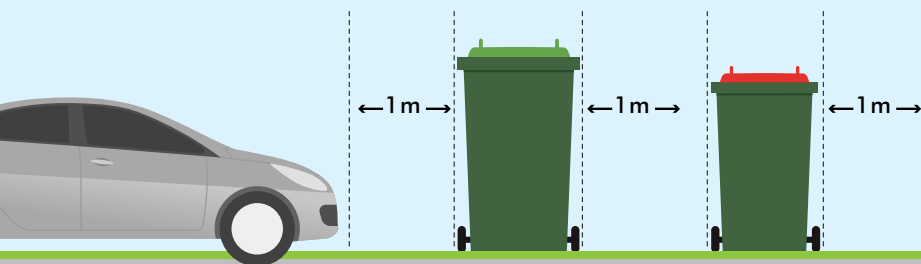
and bin services search
www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/environment-and-waste/bin-collection
or use QR code.

Spacing

Place bins with opening to street.
Leave bins 1m apart (an arm's length)
and 1m from other objects.

Overfilling

Please do not overfill bins.
Make sure the lid can close.
This prevents litter blowing
down the street. Unfortunately,
extra bags will NOT be collected.





Circular economy

Transitioning to a circular economy allows Australia to continue growing its economy while achieving net zero targets and looking after and preserving our unique natural environment for future generations.

What is a circular economy?

A circular economy is an economic system aimed at eliminating waste and continually reusing resources by designing products and processes that keep materials in use for as long as possible. It is based on three key principles: designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems.

Reducing waste and pollution – A circular economy reduces waste and pollution by valuing what is already made. Creating more efficient and more easily repairable products, materials and infrastructure means they can be reused over and over again in the economy. For example, a coffee cup that is regularly reused prevents many single-use cups from ending up in landfill.

Valuing existing resources and recirculating products

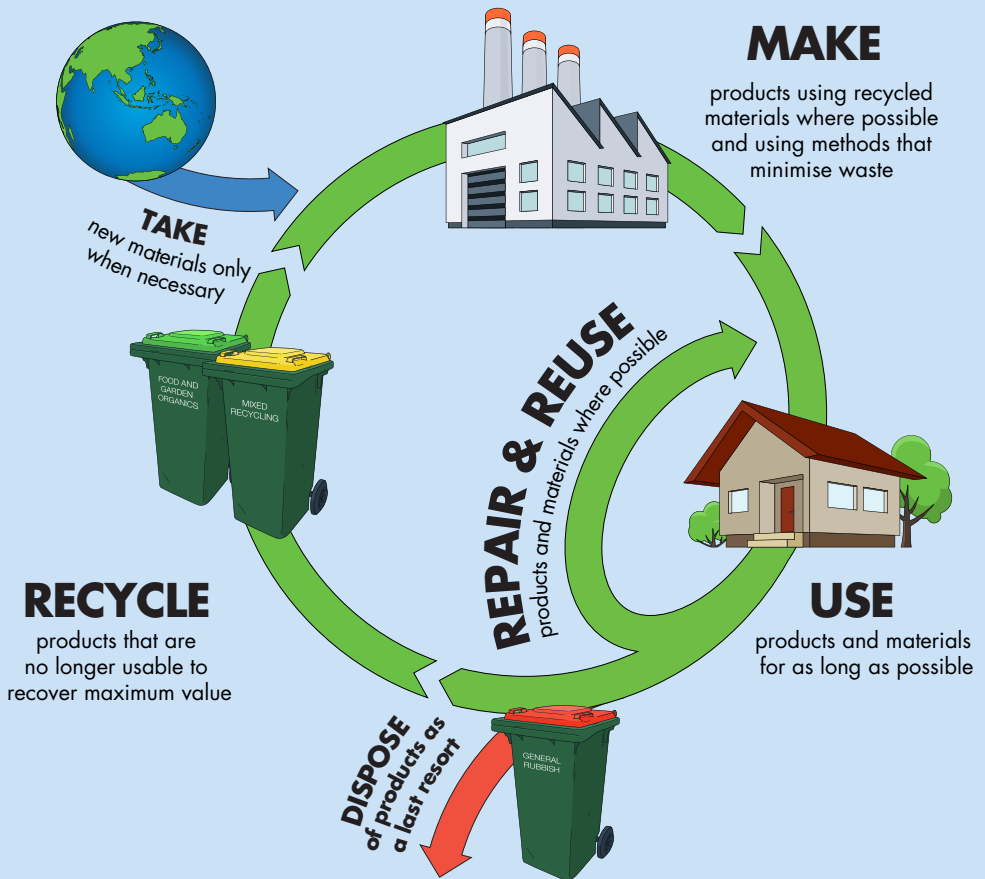
– Manufacturing is traditionally a linear system, with raw materials extracted and used to make a product which is discarded at its end of life. In a circular economy, maintaining, reusing and refurbishing existing products helps extend their life and reduces the need for new materials in the manufacturing process.

Regenerating nature – A circular economy actively regenerates natural systems by diverting waste from landfills and waterways, promoting native plant restoration, fostering biodiversity, and encouraging sustainable stewardship of our precious environmental resources. This approach not only preserves ecosystems but helps them flourish for future generations.

This guide aims to help households and businesses understand how they can be part of East Gippsland's circular economy by keeping precious resources (glass, textiles, metal, plastics and more) out of landfill and by keeping them in circulation.

◀ A great example of recycling being reused in East Gippsland is new road surfaces being created from crumbed recycled tyres blended with bitumen.

▼ A circular economy reduces waste and pollution.

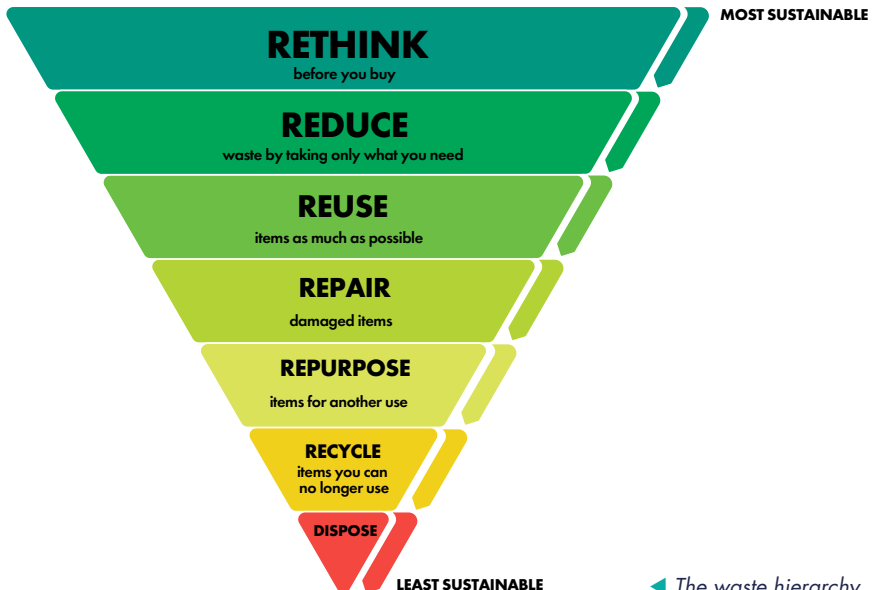


Reducing waste to landfill

We can all help reduce the amount of waste being generated and sent to landfill in our region by changing some simple daily habits. Ask yourself the following questions:

- **Avoid waste** – How much waste will consuming this item create? Does it have lots of unnecessary packaging? Is there another product I could consider? Do I really need this product?
- **Re-use** – What items can I re-use rather than buying new repeatedly? Eg. coffee cups, water bottles, glass jars, cloth nappies, shopping bags. Could someone else use what I no longer need?
- **Reduce waste** – Could I borrow an item or buy it second-hand, rather than buying new? How can I make the most of food I already have to reduce food waste?
- **Recycle** – Am I recycling as much of my waste as I can, or is there room to improve?

***Small acts:
big impact!***



◀ *The waste hierarchy.*

Reusable Product Rebate

Compost bins and cloth nappies

We are helping residents keep waste out of landfill by supporting them to buy compost bins, worm farms, cloth nappies and reusable period products. Local residents can apply for rebates.

You can apply for a rebate on these items by clicking the QR code or visiting www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/forms/product-rebate-application-form.



▲ Reusable cloth nappies help keep waste out of landfill.

Compost

Food waste

Household food waste makes up a third⁵ of the waste collected in our general rubbish (red lid) bins. While this all currently ends up in our landfill, there are many things we can do to reduce it.



▲ Keep food scraps out of landfill by composting at home.



Meal planning – Try planning a meal around what's in the fridge to use up your older veggies rather than buying new ingredients for a recipe.

Kitchen scraps – Worm farms and compost bins are a simple way to reduce the food waste going to landfill. Worm juice and castings are also super rich in nutrients and will boost the health of your garden. If you're lucky enough to have chooks (or have neighbours with chooks), why not give them a tasty snack instead of putting food scraps in the bin? They'll love you for it!

Home Composting Guide – Learn how easy composting is. The guide is available free from our service centres, or via the QR code download below.

Reusable Product Rebate – Eligible East Gippsland residents can apply for rebates when buying compost bins or worm farms to keep food waste out of landfill. (See page 9 for details.)

Kitchen to Compost – Mallacoota residents are collecting food and garden organic waste to turn into compost for use in our parks and gardens. Learn more: www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/environment-and-waste/mallacoota-kitchen-to-compost

⁵ See page 4.

Garden organics

Green waste – Ratepayers can dispose of 1.5 sq m of green waste for free each year using the Green Waste Disposal Voucher found with their annual rates notice. **Green waste disposal is FREE during November** to help residents prepare for the bushfire season.

Garden mulch – Mulching green waste at home is easy and improves your garden by boosting soil health, increasing soil moisture and reducing weeds. Simply shred or chop leaves, grass clippings and twigs into small pieces and spread evenly over ground. Over time, it will decompose and nourish the soil.

Weeds – Weeds cost Australian agriculture more than \$4b annually and can negatively impact the economy (farm productivity, control costs, eco-tourism), environment (biodiversity, water quality, fire hazard) and health (human and animal, recreation)^o. Over 65% of weeds in Australia originally escaped from urban parks and gardens.

Common garden weeds can go in the garden organics (green lid) bin.

Noxious environmental weeds (eg. agapanthus, bridal creeper, blackberry) must be bagged and disposed in the general waste (red lid) bin or disposed of at your local transfer station.

We have garden guides to help you.



Download the Sustainable Gardening guide



▲ *Mulching green waste at home adds nutrients to your garden soil.*



Learn more at
www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/environment-and-waste/weeds-in-east-gippsland



▲ Cardboard packaging can be recycled.

Recyclables

Packaging

Packaging includes materials such as plastic containers, soft plastics, steel cans, aluminium, paper and cardboard, glass jars and bottles, cling wrap and polystyrene.

New packaging takes a lot of energy and resources to create and can take a long time to break down if it ends up in landfill. It makes sense to consider the packaging used when shopping for new items.

There are lots of ways we can reduce our packaging waste, including avoiding and reusing items – see page 8.

Australasian recycling labels

These labels provide clear instructions on which parts of a product's packaging can go in the recycling bin and which should be put in the rubbish bin. See examples of the range of labels below.

They were developed by environmental organisation Planet Ark and the Australian Packaging Covenant.

See examples of the range of labels below.



► Look for recycling labels on packaging.

Look out for these labels to see how it works:



Recyclable: *Solid recycling symbol* – This packaging can go in the mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin as it is. Please place each piece of packaging with this label in the recycling bin separately.



Conditionally recyclable: *Transparent recycling symbol* – Follow the additional instructions listed before putting the packaging in the recycling (yellow lid) bin such as removing the handles or scrunching into a ball. Failure to follow the instructions such as removing the handles or scrunching into a ball means the packaging can't be recycled and it will contaminate the recycling stream. In that instance, it will need to go in the general rubbish (red lid) bin.



Not recyclable: *Bin symbol* – This packaging can't be recycled. DO NOT place in the mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin – it will not be recycled and will contaminate the recycling stream. Please place it in the general rubbish (red lid) bin.



learn more at
www.arl.org.au

Plastic waste and recycling

There are many different types of plastics and the types that can be recycled often varies between councils making it hard to navigate how to do the right thing.

In East Gippsland, we can recycle plastics with the numbers 1, 2, 5 through your mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin. We can also recycle some plastics with the numbers 3, 4, 6 and 7 through the same bin – see exceptions on page 15.

Soft plastic such as bin liners, chip packets, biscuit wrappers and plastic bags are **NOT** recyclable through your household waste collection.

Please ensure that plastic containers are clean and empty when recycling them.

▼ *Recycling plastic can be complicated. Check your labels.*



Plastic identification codes



PETE (Polyethylene Terephthalate).
Eg. soft drink bottles and water bottles.



HDPE (High-density polyethylene).
Eg. shampoo bottles and milk bottles.



PVC (Polyvinyl chloride or plasticised polyvinyl chloride) Only food grade PVC, eg. cordial bottles. NOT toys, shower curtains, plastic pipes, window frames or flooring.



LDPE (Low-density polyethylene).
Eg. squishable sauce bottles. NOT soft plastic, bread bags, produce bags or bin liners.



PP (Polypropylene). Eg. ice cream containers and take away food containers.



PS (Polystyrene). Clean, dry, white PS can **ONLY** be recycled if taken to your local Transfer Station – see page 28. **DO NOT** include polystyrene in mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin.



Other Often a mix of multiple plastic types, eg. laundry detergent containers.



Where does my recycling go?

Mixed recycling collected in your yellow lid bins comes to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Bairnsdale for sorting (into metals, plastics, glass, paper and cardboard) before being shipped to various recyclers for processing.

A great example of recycling being used in East Gippsland is crushed glass from our recycling bins being used in the base for some of our new footpaths.

Signage

Bin stickers / fridge magnets – We have created bin stickers and fridge magnets to help households better understand what items can be recycled in the mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin. They are available from our customer service centres and are designed to help reduce the level of waste contamination in recycling bins.

Recycling signage designs – A range of signs are available for schools, community groups, clubs and businesses to download and print to help with managing waste and recycling onsite.



▲ Recycling being sorted at the Materials Recovery Facility in Bairnsdale.

▼ Fridge magnet.

Get it right on bin night

A small act makes a big impact.



General rubbish	Mixed recycling	Garden organics	Not in any bin
 <p>✓ Yes</p>	 <p>✓ Yes</p>	 <p>✓ Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electronic waste or power cords• Batteries of any kind• Chemicals or hazardous waste• Building waste, soil or rubble <p>✗ No</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use this bin only for items that can't be reused or recycled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Put your recycling in the bin loose, not in bags.• Flatten boxes to save space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Garden clippings only.• Put your garden scraps in the bin loose, not in bags.	<p>Scan the QR code to find out where to dispose of these items.</p>

MIXED RECYCLING

✓ Yes



✓ Cardboard and egg cartons



✓ Glass jars and bottles



✓ Steel and aluminium cans



✓ Milk and juice bottles, other accepted hard plastics



✓ Paper, newspaper and magazines

✗ No



✗ Disposable coffee cups



✗ Broken drinking glasses, crockery, mirrors



✗ Plastic bags, other soft plastics



✗ Electronic waste and batteries



✗ Milk or juice cartons (Tetra Paks)

- Put your recycling in the bin loose, not in bags.
- Flatten boxes to save space.

- Keep bins at least 1 metre apart for easy collection.

A small act makes a big impact.



GENERAL WASTE

✓ Yes



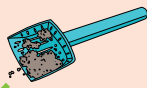
✓ Food scraps



✓ Nappies, wet wipes



✓ Soft plastic and foil packaging



✓ Kitty litter, animal droppings



✓ Broken drinking glasses, crockery, mirrors

✗ No



✗ Electronic waste and batteries



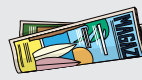
✗ Paint, household chemicals



✗ Glass jars and bottles



✗ Recyclable hard plastics



✗ Paper, cardboard

- Use this bin only for items that can't be reused or recycled.

- Keep bins at least 1 metre apart for easy collection.

A small act makes a big impact.



Container Deposit Scheme

You can receive a 10c refund for eligible cans and bottles through Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme.

Locations

Return-It operates the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) in East Gippsland, offering different refund options at sites around the region.

Depot: Tambo Waste is a container deposit depot with a high-speed counting machine for processing containers in bulk. Customers can choose a cash refund, electronic refund, or donation to a registered partner. Located at 56 McMillan Street, Bairnsdale.

Reverse Vending Machines: These self-service return points are located near supermarkets and in public spaces across Victoria. Refunds are available via EFT, PayPal, or donation.

Over-the-counter refund points: Operated by local businesses and organisations – contact them prior to arrival as drop-off conditions may vary. They will count your containers and provide a refund upon delivery.

Find your closest deposit location using the interactive map on the CDS Vic website.

Scan the QR for further information or visit www.cdsvic.org.au



What can I return?

Most aluminium, glass, plastic and liquid paperboard (carton) drink containers, 150ml to 3 litres. Keep the lids on as we recycle them, too.

✓ Yes



What can't be returned?

Some containers aren't eligible for a refund, eg. less than 150ml or greater than 3 litres. These can be recycled via your mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin.

✗ No



Check for the 10c mark

Look for the 10c mark on the label often near the barcode.



Mixed recycling bin – yellow lid

*It is important to place items loose in the mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin.
Bagged items and soft plastic cannot be recycled.*

Recyclable materials are sorted and separated at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Bairnsdale before being sent to various recyclers in Melbourne.

Metal can be melted and turned into new products, while glass is used as a sand alternative in road and footpath construction. Recycling these items helps keep them out of landfill and can support the local circular economy.

Metal

Aluminium cans and foil – Recycle in mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin. Make sure the foil is clean (rinse in warm water if needed) before rolling into an orange-sized ball.

Steel food cans, pet food tins, aerosol cans (empty) and bottle caps – Recycle in mixed recycling bin. Ensure items are clean and free of food.

Steel tools, metal containers and pipes, corrugated iron, metal cookware and camping equipment – Recycle for FREE at Council transfer stations.

Batteries and electronic waste – It is illegal to put e-waste (see page 24) in household rubbish or landfill in Victoria. Keeping e-waste out of landfill protects the environment. DON'T put it in your bins. See page 23 and 24 for disposal options.

NOTE: Not all metal can be included in the mixed recycling bin – some needs to be taken to your local transfer station (see page 28) to ensure it is recycled properly.

Glass and ceramics

Some glass can be easily recycled while other types can't as they contain materials that contaminate the recycling process.

Glass bottles and jars (food grade) – Recycle in mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin. Ensure items are clean and free of food. Remove lids. Any colour glass is OK.

Drinking glasses, mirrors and window glass

– Place broken or unwanted drinking glasses, mirrors or window glass in general rubbish (red lid) bin or take to Bairnsdale Landfill or local transfer station.

Ceramics – Put broken ceramics in general rubbish (red lid) bin or take to landfill or local transfer station. Ceramics that are not damaged can also be reused through donations at op shops.



▲ Recycled metal can be melted and turned into new products.



▲ *Paper and cardboard needs to be clean for recycling.*

Paper and Cardboard

Paper and cardboard can be recycled through your mixed recycling (yellow lid) bin, as long as its clean.

Once collected it goes to a papermill for separating into types and grades, washing to remove glue, ink, film and other contaminants, before being mixed with water to create pulp that becomes future recycled paper goods.

You can recycle items such as – White and coloured paper, letters and envelopes (even with windows), cereal boxes, shoeboxes, newspapers and magazines, and the non-greasy side of pizza boxes.

Large quantities, that won't fit in your recycling bin, can be taken to transfer stations for free.

You can't recycle items such as – Tetra Paks and multiple layered cardboard packaging.

Carboard and paper packaging can also be recycled – See pages 12 and 13.

Waxed or greasy paper/cardboard

Can't be recycled. Put in the general rubbish (red lid) bin.

Paper and cardboard can also be reused at home for wrapping paper, craft projects, gift boxes, kid's costumes and scrap paper for shopping lists.

Textiles

According to our 2024-25 Waste Audit (see page 4), textiles make up 3% of the waste collected in general rubbish (red lid) bins and 1.2% in the mixed recycling (yellow lid) bins. The good news is that this is down from 7% in our previous 2021 Waste Audit.

In East Gippsland, an average of 1 kg of clothing or other textiles per household each week is ending up in landfill.

East Gippsland has partnered with UpCycle4Better to provide a free alternative for textile recycling. Textiles can be disposed of at Bairnsdale Landfill, and Lakes Entrance, Metung and Orbost transfer stations. A wide range of textiles can be recycled, including soft toys, clothing and shoes, bags and belts, clean underwear, swimwear and household textiles.

Other ways to reduce textile waste: buying higher quality items that last longer, caring for the clothes you already own (rather than buying more), or upcycling existing clothes and textiles into fun, new wearables. You can also check if your local op shops are accepting quality textile donations or if any shelters near you need old blankets for their animals.

▼ *Textiles make up 3% of waste collected in kerbside bins.*



Visit
www.upcycle4better.com.au
or scan the QR code for more information.



Hazardous

Asbestos

Asbestos was commonly used in Australian buildings until the 1980s and is found in cement sheeting, vinyl flooring, chimney flues, window putty, skirting boards, down pipes and more.

Asbestos is a health hazard when it is broken, degraded or snapped and the disturbed fine dust is inhaled.

For a comprehensive list of materials that may contain asbestos visit www.asbestos.vic.gov.au/about-asbestos/finding-and-identifying/find-and-identify-asbestos-tool/find-and-identify-asbestos-in-the-home/a-z-asbestos-containing-materials

Steps for removing asbestos

1. Find and use a licensed asbestos removalist

Easily crumbed or powdered asbestos must be removed by a licensed asbestos removalist only. www.asbestos.vic.gov.au/licensed-removalists/find-a-removalist

2. Work safely with asbestos

Tips for removing non-friable asbestos safely yourself.

www.asbestos.vic.gov.au/about-asbestos/managing-asbestos/working-safely-with-asbestos



▲ Consider using a licensed asbestos removalist.

3. Remove, package and dispose

Asbestos (or suspected asbestos) can only be disposed of at Bairnsdale Landfill, 200 Johnstons Road, Forge Creek (03) 5152 6535. A delivery time must be booked 24 hours in advance or the asbestos waste may not be accepted on arrival at the landfill site.

Asbestos must be:

- Wrapped in two layers of polythene sheeting (0.2mm thick, eg. heavy duty builders' plastic).
- Completely sealed inside packages with adhesive tape. Make sure you can lift and move the packages yourself as landfill staff aren't permitted to help with unloading.



For more details on safely disposing of asbestos visit www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/building-and-development/asbestos or scan the QR code.



▲ Dispose of batteries properly to avoid bin fires.

Avoiding battery fires

Fires from batteries are a huge concern in waste collection. All batteries need to be correctly recycled to avoid the risk of bin and truck fires, which can have catastrophic consequences for waste workers, our community or environment.

DON'T put any batteries in your household or street litter bins.

Batteries – Includes alkaline (eg. AA, AAA, C, D), lithium, NiCAD and lead-acid (vehicle) batteries, and scooter and e-bike batteries.

Embedded batteries – These are found in many items, eg. electric toothbrushes, rechargeable children's toys, power tools, hearing aids, mobile phones, electronic devices and more.

Recycle batteries – You can safely recycle batteries at Council libraries and service centres, most waste and recycling transfer stations, many supermarkets and hardware stores, and participating battery retailers.

Car and truck batteries – FREE recycling at Bairnsdale Landfill or transfer stations.

Search for safe battery drop-off locations via
www.bcycle.com.au/drop-off or scan the QR code



E-waste

E-waste is anything electronic with a plug, a rechargeable or replaceable battery, or cord.

E-waste contains valuable resources such as metals (copper, aluminium, steel, gold, silver), plastics and glass that can be extracted and recycled.

It is illegal to put e-waste in household rubbish or landfill in Victoria.

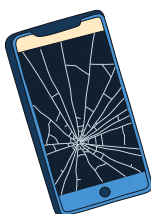
E-waste is sorted at Bairnsdale Landfill and participating transfer stations before being sent to a specialised recycling facility that shreds and sorts materials for recycling into new items. E-waste includes items such as computers, televisions, appliances, tools, phones and lights.

Recycle your e-waste for free – See page 28 for a list of our participating transfer stations.

Don't put e-waste in any of your household rubbish bins.



Learn more about recycling e-waste via www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/recycling-and-reducing-waste-at-home/recycling-at-home/e-waste or scan the QR code.



Mobile phones

DV Safe Phone

DV Safe Phone collects, repurposes and gifts mobile phones to victims of domestic violence, providing them with a vital way to call emergency services or helplines for assistance. We provide several phone drop-off points.

Bairnsdale: Council Corporate Centre, 273 Main Street

Lakes Entrance: Council Service Centre and Library, 18 Mechanics Street

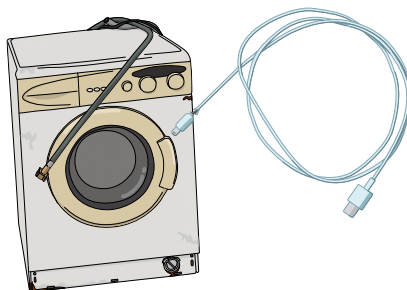
Learn more: www.dvsafephone.org

MobileMuster

MobileMuster is a free, not-for-profit recycling program provided by the Australian telecommunications industry. It helps safely and securely recycle your old, broken mobile phones, chargers and accessories.

Drop-off points can be found at Bairnsdale Corporate Centre and participating phone stores. Phones are transported to recycling facilities where various components are recycled into valuable materials for reuse.

Find a location near you: www.mobilemuster.com.au/recycle-a-mobile



Household chemicals

Detox Your Home events are a free and convenient service that allow you to safely dispose of unwanted household chemicals.

These chemicals includes weedkiller, pesticides, cleaning chemicals, cosmetics and cooking oil – which are not accepted at our transfer stations or landfills, and can't be poured down the sink. Upcoming events will be listed on Council's website, Facebook page and in local newspapers.



Medical waste

*To reduce the risk of harm to waste workers and our community, hazardous waste resulting from medical or health treatments in the home **MUST NOT** be placed in any household waste or street litter bins.*

Hazardous medical waste – Includes needles, syringes, and dressings heavily contaminated with bodily fluids.

Hazardous medical waste disposal –

Medical waste can be taken to local hospitals, including Bairnsdale Regional Health Service, Orbost Regional Hospital or Omeo District Health. Local pharmacies also have safe disposal containers for sharps.

Non-hazardous waste – This includes

nappies, incontinence and sanitary pads, empty intravenous plastic tubing and bags, and lightly soiled dressings (eg. Band-Aids or bandages). Place these in your general rubbish (red lid) bin.

Unwanted medicines – Drop off at any participating pharmacy for free disposal through the Australian Government's NatRUM Program for expired or unwanted medicines. Learn more at www.health.gov.au/our-work/national-return-and-disposal-of-unwanted-medicines-program-natrum



◀ *Medical waste has no place in household bins.*



▲ The drumMUSTER program safely recycles agricultural plastic containers.

Agricultural

drumMUSTER

The drumMUSTER program allows farmers to dispose of their drumMUSTER containers in a sustainable and safe manner.

The plastic containers are collected and sent to a materials recovery centre and made into wheelie bins, fence posts and garden stakes. The national program is supported by AgVet chemical manufacturers, industry stakeholders and state and local governments. DrumMUSTER drop off points include Bairnsdale, Lindenow, Omeo and others.

ChemClear

The ChemClear program provides safe collection and disposal of unwanted agricultural and veterinary chemicals, including safe handling, storage, transport and disposal.

Farmers can register their unwanted chemicals online and take advantage of local collection points and scheduled pickups.

For safe disposal of household chemicals, see Household chemicals on page 25.

Find a drop off point:
[www.agsafe.org.au/
dm-program-overview](http://www.agsafe.org.au/dm-program-overview)
or scan the QR code.



Find collection dates
and regions visit:
[www.agsafe.org.au/
cc-upcoming-collections](http://www.agsafe.org.au/cc-upcoming-collections)
or scan the QR code.





▲ Farmers can recycle silage wrap for free.

Silage wrap

Silage wrap is a major waste problem in the agricultural sector with over 8,000 tonnes used in Australia annually, most of which is disposed of on farms or in landfill.

We offer farmers a more sustainable solution for their silage wrap waste, inviting them to deposit their wrap at selected transfer stations in 2025.

Where to take it? Visit Council website for specific details of transfer stations accepting silage wrap for recycling. www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/environment-and-waste/landfills-and-transfer-stations

Specific disposal dates include:

High Country – June and October 2025

Far East – July and November 2025

Bairnsdale – July and November 2025

See page 28 for site operating times.

Preparing silage wrap for recycling –

Separate silage wrap from bale netting and twine. Shake the wrap to remove loose material including stones. Pack silage wrap tightly into collection bags (such as bulka bags) up to 500kg.

Netting and twine – Remove all silage net wrap and baling twine as it will disrupt the recycling process and prevent recycling.

For more information on free disposal of silage wrap, please contact High Country or Far East Landcare or Council's Sustainability and Waste Minimisation Officer on (03) 5153 9500.

Taking it to landfill and transfer stations

Hard rubbish vouchers

Ratepayers can dispose of up to 1 sq m of hard rubbish for free each year by using the Hard Rubbish Disposal Voucher found in their annual rates notice.

The waste voucher can be used for items like carpet, mattresses and bed bases, old furniture, household waste, kitchenware and windows. Vouchers must be presented at transfer stations or the Bairnsdale Landfill. Limits apply and some items may not be accepted, such as asbestos and chemicals. There are also many items that can be disposed of for FREE any time during the year. See our website for more details.

Green waste vouchers – See page 11.

Landfill and transfer station locations

Our waste collection sites operate various hours, but are closed on Christmas Day and Good Friday.

Bairnsdale Landfill – 200 Johnstons Road, Forge Creek
Bemm River Transfer Station – 2 Alans Track
Benambra Transfer Station – 142 Tip Road
Bendoc Transfer Station – 54 Clarkeville Road
Bonang Transfer Station – 9053 Bonang Road
Bruthen Transfer Station – 109 Great Alpine Road
Buchan Transfer Station – 2337 Bruthen-Buchan Road
Cann River Transfer Station – 20 Coast Road
Genoa Transfer Station – 13 Nash Camp Track
Lakes Entrance Transfer Station – 5 Thorpes Lane
Lindenow Transfer Station – 90 Snobbs Road, Walpa
Mallacoota Transfer Station – Betka Road
Marlo Transfer Station – 98 Curlip Drive
Metung Transfer Station – 130 Rosherville Road
Omeo Transfer Station – 18 Margetts Street
Orbost Transfer Station – 351 Bonang Road
Swifts Creek Transfer Station – 237 Cassilis Road
Wairewa Transfer Station – Carl Smith Road



For more information and operating times, scan the QR code or visit:

[www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/
environment-and-waste/landfills-
and-transfer-stations](http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/environment-and-waste/landfills-and-transfer-stations)

For waste disposal fees see
[www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.
au/environment-and-waste/
waste-disposal-fees](http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/environment-and-waste/waste-disposal-fees)


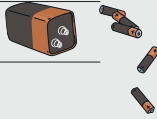

Your A-Z waste disposal guide


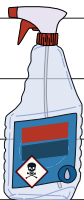






For expanded list of more produce, see our [A-Z of Where to Next](#).

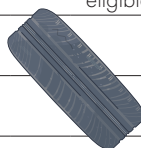
R	Recycling (yellow lid) bin	BR	Recycling at Bairnsdale Transfer Station only
R	Recycling at all transfer stations	\$	Container Deposit Scheme
G	General (red lid) bin	GW	Green (green lid) bin
E	E-Waste at participating transfer stations	GW	Green Waste at participating transfer stations
D/S	Donate or sell	D	Detox Your Home
TS	Dispose at participating transfer stations	X	Not accepted. See individual listing for disposal details
SP	Special program	C	Compost

A more comprehensive list of items can be found at www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/recycling

ITEM	CODE	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
Aerosol cans - empty	R	
Aluminium foil and trays (clean)	R	
Appliances and e-waste	E	Do not put in any kerbside bin
Batteries – car and household	TS	Do not put in any kerbside bin 
Biscuit trays	R	
Books	D/S R	Op shops and community groups
Bottle caps	R	
Bottles – glass	R \$	

Bottles – plastic	R	\$	Check if eligible www.cdsvic.org.au	
Branches and garden pruning – small	GW			
Branches	GW		Over 30cm	
Cans – aluminium drink cans	R	\$	Check if eligible www.cdsvic.org.au	
Cardboard	R	TS		
Ceramics - broken	G			
Ceramics - unbroken	G	D/S	Donate to op shop	
Chemicals	D			
Clothes and textiles	D/S	TS		
Concrete, bricks and tiles	TS		Building and construction waste not included in kerbside bins	
Coffee cups – single use	G			
Disposable nappies	G		See Reusable Rebate Program (page 9)	
Farm and agricultural chemicals	X		ChemClear	
Light globes and bulbs	TS			
Glass – broken window or container	G			
Magazines and newspapers	R	D/S		
Medicine	X	SP		
Medicine blister packs	G	SP	Pharmacycycle at participating chemists and pharmacies	
Medical waste - syringes	SP		Dispose at hospital, clinic or pharmacy	
Paper	R			
Plant pots	R	D/S	G	Donate to gardener or tip shop

Plastic – PVC	G	TS	Construction waste disposed at transfer stations
Polystyrene – clean and dry	TS		Council transfer stations
Polystyrene – contaminated	G		General waste (do not put in recycling bin)
Power tools	E	D/S	Donate working tools to Men's Sheds or Bairnsdale Tip Shop
Printer cartridges	E		E-waste at transfer stations
Shoes and accessories	TS	D/S	Recycle through op shops or at eligible Council transfer stations
Shredded paper	R	TS	Large quantities in Council transfer stations paper and cardboard collections
Soft plastic	G		
Tetrapak	G		
Tooth brush and toothpaste	G	SP	Free Terracycle drop-off locations Buchan Bush Nursing Clinic and Mallacoota
Towels	D/S		Recycle through op shops or at eligible Council transfer stations
Toys	D/S		Recycle through op shops or at eligible Council transfer stations
Toys – battery or rechargeable	E		Recycle through Op Shops or E-waste at eligible Council transfer stations
Tyres	TS		
Videotape	E		
Waxed and coated cardboard	G		
Weeds – general	GW		
Weeds – noxious	G		Dispose in plastic bag or wrapped to prevent contamination and spreading
White goods (fridges, heat pump air conditioners and hot water systems)	TS		Safely dispose at transfer stations for safe degassing
White goods (washing machines, dishwashers)	TS		
Yoghurt containers	R		





Visit
bcycle.com.au



B-cycle
Battery
Recycling



Sustainability
Victoria



Never bin your batteries

Binning your batteries is a fire risk
and is harmful to people and the planet.

**Don't
toss them**

in general waste or
recycling bins



**Tape
them**

using clear
sticky tape



Take them

to your nearest
B-cycle-accredited
drop-off point



(03) 5153 9500



feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au



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[eastgippsland.vic.gov.au](https://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au)

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