



Litter Prevention & Waste Reduction Tips

- An estimated 50 million plastic bags enter the Australian litter stream every year, taking between 20 - 1000 years to break down. You can minimize take away food waste and litter by declining a plastic or paper carry bag.
- Use your own mug for your daily take away coffee, or buy a reusable take away mug. Some cafes even sell them and offer discounts for using your own mug!
- Decline optional extras such as the plastic lid on your coffee cup, a straw for your drink and plastic cutlery.
- Consider taking your own water bottles instead of buying drinks when you're out... this will save you money and reduce waste.
- When out and about at the beach, parks or other public places, take along a reused shopping bag to take home your waste for recycling, composting or responsible disposal.
- Always put your rubbish securely in a bin or recycle it whenever possible. Don't throw any litter in the street or gutter as storm water drains flow straight to our waterways.
- Secure your garbage bin lid so litter doesn't blow free when emptied or if overfilled.
- Keep a carry/tidy bag in your car for your rubbish and for when you go walking near the ocean or other waterways. Every piece of litter you pick up is one less that can cause harm.
- Cigarette butts are the single biggest litter item and are harmful to wildlife on the land and in our waterways. Always stub out your butts and put them in a bin.
- Avoid products that are 'overpackaged' - wrapped in individual packs or several layers of plastic. Re-use your plastic shopping bags, or take cloth ones to the shops.
- Pack a waste-free lunch avoiding individual packets, plastic bags or cling wrap. Pack in reusable containers or wraps.
- Take your litter home for recycling or disposal when visiting beaches, parks and gardens.