



CENTRAL COAST  
COUNCIL

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# Rethink Waste

By rethinking what we do with our waste, we can reduce the amount of waste ending up at the Country Transfer Stations and help make the current rural waste services sustainable.

## GENERAL WASTE

Reducing household waste is an easy exercise in *rethinking* old habits. Avoiding waste in the first place is a great way to start!

Avoid creating waste:

- Be aware of the packaging associated with your purchases
- Grow your own vegetables or buy local food from markets
- Buy grocery items in bulk and collect in your own container
- Carry reusable bags with you for all types of shopping
- Plan your meals in advance to avoid throwing out food

Reuse to reduce waste:

- Donate unwanted clothes/household items to charity shops
- Have a garage sale to give pre-loved items a new home
- Search your local reuse or charity shop for common items
- Swap clothes/toys with friends rather than discarding them

## RECYCLING

Wherever you live, you can recycle a large range of general packaging and other materials at the Country Transfer Stations:

- Clean paper and cardboard – office paper, cardboard boxes and packaging, egg cartons, telephone books, newspaper, pizza boxes, magazines, pamphlets and paper bags
- Glass bottles and jars (empty with lids off)
- All plastic containers and bottles (empty with lids off)
- Metals – aluminium and steel cans, clean paint tins and empty aerosol cans, aluminium, brass and copper fittings, electrical cabling, and ferrous material such as roofing iron, guttering, farm machinery, clean fencing wire, whitegoods, and even car bodies (by prior arrangement).

## ORGANIC WASTE

Composting organic waste is a safe and natural way to reduce and reuse your garden waste and food scraps and avoid sending them to a transfer station.

All you need to get started is a sunny spot in your garden and a container, like a large wooden box or a plastic tumbler. If space is limited you can also compost your food scraps using a worm farm.

Successful composting requires a balance of wet and dry materials including:

- Leaves, weeds, straw, hay and other dried grasses
- Garden prunings, lawn clippings and shredded newspaper
- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Other food scraps (but generally not fish, dairy, meat or bones)

Great things you can do with compost:

- Use compost to enrich the soil and boost the productivity and health of your vegetable garden, fruit trees and flower beds
- Use worm castings from your worm farm as a fertiliser for your plants

## VEGETATION

Vegetation that cannot be easily composted such as branches and tree limbs can be chipped or mulched, and be used on your garden for weed control or to retain moisture. A neighbour or member of your local community might even appreciate the opportunity to use the branches and tree limbs as firewood.

Residents on properties with a land area greater than 2,000m<sup>2</sup> have the option of burning small heaps of dry vegetation, subject to the fire conditions at the time, and provided it does not cause an environmental nuisance to neighbours. Contact the Council's Environmental and Health Department, talk to your local Fire Brigade or phone the Tasmanian Fire Service on 1 800 000 699 for advice.

## HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste has the potential to harm you and the environment. In the home, hazardous waste includes items such as oils, chemicals, old batteries, and even old computers and mobile phones.

The Council offers recycling services for certain hazardous wastes.

- Car batteries and gas cylinders
- Triple-rinsed empty chemical drums (drumMUSTER program)
- Computers and TVs (e-waste), and mobile phones
- Fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent globes
- Used motor oils and cooking oils