



AUGUST 2024



It's important to keep your recycling loose and not in a bag when it goes into your yellow lid bin.

Do you know why? Keep reading to find out...



Safety and efficiency

When your recycling arrives at a material recovery facility (MRF) in bags, the people or equipment processing the recycling won't know whether the items in the bag are recyclable, not recyclable or potentially dangerous.

For safety and efficiency reasons, the bags are usually removed from the recycling stream and these valuable resources are sent to landfill.



Reduce damage to processing equipment

Soft plastics, like plastic bags, can't be collected through your yellow lid bin.

They can get caught in the processing equipment, causing delays and reducing the efficiency of the process.



Sorting and processing

Placing recyclable items in paper bags can also affect the recycling process.

The materials inside the bag may not be recognised correctly by sorting equipment and the materials could be sorted into the wrong recycling stream. When items are incorrectly sorted or processed it can reduce the quality of the final product.

[Keep it loose, and not in a bag. Let's get it sorted.](#)

Single-use plastics ban: progress and what's next

Recent reviews of Queensland's single-use plastics ban highlight its successes: harmful plastics are being phased out, the use of lightweight shopping bags has decreased, and public awareness of plastic pollution is growing. However, with varying bans across Australia, there are challenges for businesses and sectors to navigate.

To build on this progress, a nationally consistent approach to single-use plastics is being pursued with other states. The upcoming Solving Plastic Waste Cooperative Research Centre will enhance our understanding of plastic pollution and guide future efforts to minimise its impact.

Together, we can continue to work towards a cleaner, more sustainable environment.

>> [Find out more about our action on single-use plastic items.](#)

New report releases



Waste strategy review report

The review found that the core elements of the strategy continue to be relevant to the vision of Queensland becoming a zero-waste society by 2050.

There is a need to continue to focus on improving the diversion and recovery of municipal solid waste.

Since introduction of the strategy, total waste generated in Queensland has decreased by 15 per cent despite a population increase of 8.5 per cent in the same period. This includes a 78 per cent reduction (975,000 tonnes) in waste received from interstate sources

[>> read the report here](#)

End of waste framework review report

A review of the End of Waste Framework (EOW Framework) has been completed to determine the efficacy of the framework in contributing to the circular economy outcomes referenced in Queensland's Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy (Waste Strategy).

The End of Waste Framework review report suggests that the EOW Framework is reasonably functional in its current state. However, the EOW Framework could be used more proactively to facilitate significantly more reuse and recovery, aligned with a broader system-based approach.

[>> read more here](#)

Stronger regulations for composting facilities

The Queensland Government has introduced stronger regulations for composting facilities to reduce the impact of odour on nearby residents. These changes support the environmental regulator to require new or expanding compost sites within four kilometres of residential zones that receive odorous waste to use enclosed or in-vessel systems.

The regulator will also have the power to ensure transporters of highly odorous waste do not take waste to sites which do not meet these requirements.

Recent consultation was met with overwhelming support from the community, industry, and local governments for the changes.

These changes will not affect composting facilities more than four kilometres away from residential zones or are not receiving odorous waste.



[>>read more details and the consultation summary report here](#)

Save the date and be SAVEFUL in September

[Saveful is a free app](#) that gives you tools to help you use more of what you already have at home to save money, save food and save time.

Download the app and join Saveful September to see simple ways to save food and how to make small changes in household habits that your budget will thank you for.



With Saveful September every time you cook a Saveful meal in September you go in the draw to WIN 1 x 5 \$1000 worth of groceries.



FUNDING and GRANTS

Find out about the latest assistance that is available for waste resource and recovery activities [here](#).

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [View online](#)