

Why is reducing waste important?

Reducing waste is important to minimise waste sent to landfill, preserve natural resources and minimise energy use for production of new materials. This minimises the environmental impacts associated with extraction of materials, as well as the disposal of products to landfill.

How can I reduce my household waste?

There are several steps which can be taken to minimise household waste, based on the principle of reduce, reuse and recycle.

Avoid:

- ✓ Buy products which don't use excessive packaging materials
- ✓ Use reusable bags instead of plastic bags whilst shopping
- ✓ Use a refillable water bottle as opposed to buying disposable bottles, and carry this around with you to avoid buying bottled water

Reduce:

- ✓ Where items can be bought in bulk, this will reduce packaging and therefore waste
- ✓ Avoid buying individually wrapped items

Reuse:

- ✓ Reuse items such as plastic bags and plastic water bottles
- ✓ Buy items that are reusable rather than disposable

Recycle:

- ✓ Where waste cannot be avoided or reused, ensure that everything that is recyclable is recycled
- ✓ Buy products with recyclable packaging instead of non-recyclable packaging

Recover:

- ✓ Materials such as meat and dairy waste are used to recover calorific value to generate energy through incineration or anaerobic digestion

For more information on what can be recycled in curbside collection recycling bins or at the Resource Recovery Centres within the Murrindindi Shire, see the recycling factsheets on our website.

Where your property receives a kerbside collection service, many items can be recycled by placing them in your commingled recycling bin. If your property is not serviced by a kerbside recycling service, these items can be dropped off free of charge at Resource Recovery Centres. For information on what can be placed in the commingled recycling bins, see our "What can I place in my bins?" factsheet.

For more information/references:

For more information on recycling within the shire, visit our website.

http://www.wwf.org.au/get_involved/change_the_way_you_live/recycle_reuse_reduce/

<http://www.cleanup.org.au/au/LiveGreener/top-tips-for-a-greener-home.html>

