

Kerbside Recycling

Council provides a fortnightly recycling collection service for domestic, multiple dwelling and commercial premises within the region. The yellow lidded wheelie bin is now available in 240 or 360 litre and is for recyclable packaging only. Larger recyclable items need to be dropped off at a council resource recovery centre or transfer station.

Once the recyclables are collected from your home they are taken to the Material Recovery Facility or MRF (pronounced "Murf") at the Nambour Resource Recovery Centre. Here they are sorted into different material types, then sold to different recycling companies who make them into the new products.

What CAN go in your yellow lidded recycle bin?

Plastics bottles and containers from the kitchen, bathroom and laundry, clean paper and cardboard including milk and juice cartons, glass bottles and jars only, and aluminium and steel cans and aerosols and scrunched aluminium foil and trays.

How to prepare your recyclables

1. Where possible remove lids and ensure all bottles and containers are empty of food, drink and other contents.
2. Where possible flatten cardboard boxes before placing in recycle bin.
3. Do not place recyclables inside plastic bags – place recyclables loosely into the recycle bin.

Not everything made of plastic, steel, aluminium, glass or paper and cardboard can go into your kerbside recycle bin. Some items need to be dropped off at your local resource recovery centre or transfer station. Use the information below as a guide of what can and what can't go in your recycle bin. For a more detailed guide to council's waste and recycling services or to watch council's recycling videos or visit council's website or contact customer service on 07 5475 7272.




Recycling service (yellow lid)



 Empty glass bottles and jars (all colours)	 Magazines, newspapers, paper, envelopes and junk mail	 Cardboard (including egg cartons, cereal boxes and clean pizza boxes)
 Household plastic containers (from the kitchen, bathroom and laundry)	 Steel or aluminium cans and aerosols	 Milk cartons, juice cartons and tetra-paks

X NO!

- Building waste
- Ceramics
- Chemicals, acids or batteries
- China, crockery or drinking glasses
- Clothing
- Food scraps
- Garden waste
- Plastic bags
- Flexible or flimsy plastics
- Nappies
- Plate glass or light globes
- Scrap metal
- Styrofoam or polystyrene
- Syringes or needles
- Fluids or liquids
- Tyres or oils
- Window glass or mirrors
- Wood



Materials Recovery Facility

How are recyclables recovered from your recycle bin?

The Materials Recovery Facility, or MRF (pronounced “Murf”), receives the recyclables from your yellow lidded recycle bin. Recyclable items are sorted into different material types and incorrect items are removed. Recyclables are then sold for reprocessing.

Collection and receipt

Recyclables are emptied from yellow lidded wheelie bins and taken to the MRF by recycling collection trucks. The load is emptied into a receipt bay and fed onto a conveyor belt. The conveyor belt feeds the load through an auger (a metal corkscrew) to loosen and separate the materials for ease of sorting.

Separation

Various processes are used for the sorting and separating of paper, cardboard, plastics, steel, aluminium, glass, and incorrect items. The common processes for separation include:

1. Trommels (rotating sieves) and screens sort materials based on size and weight, and assist in sorting containers from paper and cardboard, and glass fines (small pieces of glass) or incorrect items from recyclables.
2. Magnets separate ferrous (containing iron) metals (i.e. steel cans and aerosols) by attracting and lifting them from the sorting line.
3. Eddy (electrical) currents, separate non-ferrous metals (i.e. aluminium cans and aerosols) by repelling them off the sorting line.
4. Materials are further sorted by weight, removing plastics, paper and cardboard from other material containers.
5. Optical sorting technology separates materials based on density and colour, and assists in sorting paper, glass and plastic types.

Baling and preparation

The recyclables are directed to baling machines, (which compact and fasten the recyclables into bales) or bunkers for glass, as they are separated from the sorting line. Once baled the recyclables are weighed and transported to the reprocessing facilities.

Contamination (incorrect items) issues

Many of the sorting processes can be damaged or slowed by non-recyclables such as plastic bags, batteries, or fridge, car, computer, and microwave parts. For this reason, it is important to follow the recycling guidelines. Check with your local resource recovery centre or transfer station for other recyclable collection points or check council’s website for more information. If you require a waste and recycling guide, or further information, contact customer service on 07 5475 7272.



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