

WHAT WE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY STRATEGY SUMMARY 2025-2035 MAKE IT



# Contents

Our Shared Responsibility..... 3  
Why We Need a Waste Strategy ..... 4  
What’s Unique About Our Region..... 5  
What the Community Told Us..... 5  
Our Goals For the Next 10 Years..... 6  
How You Can Help..... 8  
Did You Know? ..... 10  
Our Community, Our Impact .....12

## Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Karratha acknowledges the Traditional Owners throughout this vast land and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.



# OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY



Waste affects everyone our health, our environment, and our future.

Right now, the City of Karratha produces more waste per person than most places in Australia, and too much of it ends up in landfill.

We need to:

- Avoid waste before it's created
- Generate less waste overall
- Dispose of waste responsibly to protect our land, water, and air.

Waste management isn't just about bins and trucks, it's about building a better future.

Every action we take supports:

- **Local goals:** cleaner streets, safer communities, better services.
- **State goals:** meeting WA's targets for recycling and landfill reduction.
- **National goals:** supporting Australia's climate and sustainability goals.
- **Global goals:** reducing pollution and protecting our planet for future generations.

*WE SIMPLY MUST DO BETTER  
AND WE CAN, TOGETHER.*



# WHY WE NEED A WASTE STRATEGY

The City of Karratha is committed to enhancing waste management across our region.

Due to our strong industrial base and remote location, we generate more waste per person than most places in Australia, and transporting recyclables to distant processing facilities presents real challenges. Our current recycling rates are low, and most waste ends up in landfill.

It does not cover waste generated by large commercial and industrial operations, such as mining and logistics companies. These businesses manage their own waste through private contractors and are responsible for meeting their own environmental obligations. However, the Strategy encourages all sectors, including industry, to:

- Reduce waste generation
- Improve recycling and recovery
- Support regional collaboration
- Align with circular economy and sustainability goals

## What the Strategy Covers

The City of Karratha Waste Strategy focuses on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), the waste generated by households and small businesses.



**Waste is everyone's responsibility.** Whether you're a resident, a business owner, or part of the resource sector, we all have a role to play in protecting our environment and building a more sustainable future.

# WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT OUR REGION

The City of Karratha is unlike most places in Australia.

We face unique challenges that shape how we manage waste.

These challenges mean we need tailored, inclusive, and innovative solutions that work for everyone.

- **Remote location:** Long distances to recycling facilities make transport costly and difficult.
- **Extreme climate:** Heat and weather events affect service delivery and infrastructure.
- **Industrial activity:** Mining and logistics generate large volumes of complex waste.
- **Cultural diversity:** Our population includes Aboriginal communities and FIFO workers, each with different needs and service access.
- **Dynamic Population:** Frequent population changes make it challenging to maintain consistent engagement and education.
- **Limited local processing:** Most recyclable materials must be sent to Perth, and there are few local end markets.

# WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US

To inform the Strategy, we asked the community and industry about their views on waste and recycling.

The community said:

- People want better recycling and more education
- Many are unsure what can and can't be recycled
- The Tip Shop is popular, but household hazardous waste services are underused
- Litter and illegal dumping are major concerns
- There's strong support for composting and reducing landfill
- FIFO workers and Aboriginal communities need tailored support

*THE STRATEGY HELPS US PLAN BETTER WAYS TO REDUCE WASTE, RECYCLE MORE, AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT.*

# OUR GOALS FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS

We're taking action across 8 key areas:

1

## Better Waste Infrastructure

Upgrade and maintain waste sites, address old stockpiles, plan for future needs, and explore new technologies like turning waste into energy.

2

## Improved Services

Make recycling easier by standardising bin colours & instructions, add more public recycling bins, and upgrade bin infrastructure and accessibility. Look for new ways to use food and garden waste, encourage the responsible disposal of hazardous waste, and investigate the development of a community recycling hub.

3

## Smarter Data and Planning

Regularly audit household bins, analyse whole of life costs to guide decisions, and ensure sustainable resourcing.

4

## Tackling Litter and Dumping

Develop a city-wide strategy to reduce illegal dumping and littering and enhance surveillance options.

5

## Stronger Policies

Adopt new waste local laws, and embed waste management considerations into city planning and climate action strategies.

6

### Community Education

Develop and implement a multi year education strategy to help everyone recycle and reduce waste.

7

### Support for Aboriginal Communities

Partner with Aboriginal organisations to make waste services accessible and culturally appropriate. Improve service access for remote and Aboriginal communities.

8

### Regional Collaboration

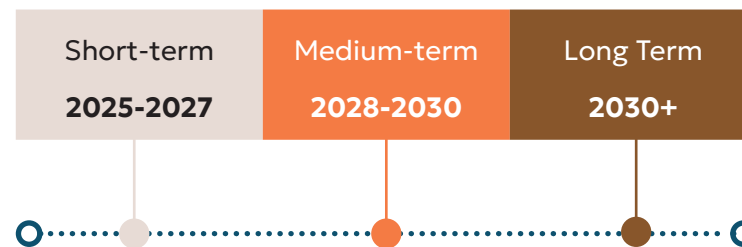
Work with other councils and industries to share ideas and resources, and collaborate on bigger projects and shared facilities for better waste solutions.

WHAT WE [ ] MAKE IT

## How We'll Make it Happen

The Strategy will be built into the City's budget and planning. Progress will be reviewed regularly and shared with the community.

Actions are planned in phases:



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

We all have a role to play in reducing waste and protecting our environment. Here are practical ways you can help:



## Recycle Right

- Learn what can and can't go in your recycling bin, avoid contamination.
- Use drop-off points for items like e-waste, batteries, paint tins, and fluorescent tubes.
- Take reusable items to the Tip Shop or charity stores instead of throwing them away.
- Use Containers for Change refund points for eligible drink containers.

## Stay Informed

- Build your recycling confidence, check the City's website or ask for help.
- Support and participate in waste education programs, especially for kids and new residents.
- Encourage your workplace or school to get involved in recycling and waste reduction.

## Keep Our Community Clean

- Join local clean-up days and community events.
- Report illegal dumping and littering.
- Keep your verge tidy and dispose of bulky items responsibly.



## Reduce & Reuse

- Compost your kitchen and garden waste at home.
- Repair items instead of replacing them, support initiatives like repair cafés and Men's Shed programs.
- Choose reusable products and avoid single-use plastics.

## Use City Services Wisely

- Make the most of kerbside collections and drop-off facilities.
- Dispose of hazardous waste properly, don't put it in your household bin.
- Participate in the pre-cyclone green waste collection.



Visit [www.karratha.wa.gov.au/report-it](http://www.karratha.wa.gov.au/report-it) to report illegal waste dumping and littering.

## Be a Waste Champion

- Share what you know with friends, neighbours, and co-workers.
- Encourage your organisation or business to reduce waste and recycle more.
- Lead by example, small actions inspire others.

# DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Karratha offers a range of waste services to help you dispose of items safely, responsibly and sustainably. Here's where you can take different types of waste:



## General Household Waste

Weekly kerbside bin collection for all residential properties

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Drop-off at Wickham Transfer Station



## Recyclables (paper, cardboard, plastics, glass, cans)

Fortnightly kerbside recycling collection

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Drop-off at Wickham Transfer Station



## Green Waste (garden clippings, branches)

Annual pre-cyclone green waste collection

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Drop-off at Wickham Transfer Station



## Reusable Items

Tip Shop at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Second-Hand Area at Wickham Transfer Station

Local charity stores



## Bulky Waste (Furniture, mattresses, whitegoods)

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Drop-off at Wickham Transfer Station

RESIDENTS CAN DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE, HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE, RECYCLING AND GREEN WASTE AT CITY WASTE FACILITIES, FREE OF CHARGE.



## Tyres

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Note: Some tyre fitters may manage disposal for you



## Used Motor Oil & Cooking Oil

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Drop-off at Wickham Transfer Station



## E-Waste & Batteries

(Includes old phones, laptops, batteries, and small electronics)

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility

Drop-off at Wickham Transfer Station



## Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

(Includes chemicals, pesticides, gas cylinders, paint tins, fluorescent tubes, motor oil)

Drop-off at 7 Mile Waste Disposal Facility



## Containers For Change

Refund points available across the City

# OUR COMMUNITY, OUR IMPACT

Waste isn't just a government issue, it's everyone's. By making small changes, we can create big impacts.

The City's Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy sets out clear actions for the next decade, with progress planned in phases and built into our budget and planning. But making it happen depends on all of us.

As the City rolls out new services and improvements, your everyday choices, at home, at work, and in the community, will help us reach our goals.

When you recycle right, reduce and reuse, use City services wisely, and share good habits with others, you're helping to build a cleaner, greener future for Karratha.

Together, we'll review our progress, celebrate our successes, and keep improving.

*EVERY ACTION, BIG OR  
SMALL, HELPS PROTECT OUR  
ENVIRONMENT, REDUCE  
WASTE, AND BUILD A  
FUTURE WE'RE PROUD OF.*



[whatwemakeit.karratha.wa.gov.au](http://whatwemakeit.karratha.wa.gov.au)