

Kickstart the Revolution: Waste Policy



Photo by Bas Emmen

Yarra Greens Policies
September, 2020

We believe that everyone has a right to, and a responsibility to work towards, a clean environment. How we deal with waste impacts on the environment, the climate, and on our standard of living. We support creating a circular economy as distinct from a linear waste system, which leads to landfill.

In collaboration with Yarra residents, the State Government and other Councils, we aim to reduce, re-use, recycle and repair by utilising the best waste, recycling and sustainability solutions.

We commit to:

**Zero waste to landfill
by 2030**

- Implement the four-bin waste system across Yarra, including a local organic waste system that draws on best practice and new technologies.
- Plan for, monitor and review the Victorian container deposit scheme as it is rolled out to ensure accessibility, community input, household and visitor education and that it functions properly.
- Work with and lobby State Government to establish means of incorporating soft plastics as part of the four-bin waste system.
- Review and expand the range of waste fleet vehicles to meet the broad range of municipal waste collection needs.

- Transition Yarra’s waste management fleet to zero-emissions electric vehicles.
- Work with and lobby State and Federal Governments to establish use of standardised materials that can more readily be reused or recycled as part of a circular economy.
- Improve the hard waste system to increase recycling rates.

At Work and at Home

- Promote home-based organic compost systems that complement the four-bin waste system.
- Require new developments to include composting and recycling facilities that complement the four-bin waste system.
- Advocate to State Government to improve recycling facilities in Yarra’s multi-level public housing with recycling bins on every floor.
- Transition private waste collection to council-run collection at large residential and commercial properties.

Council working with Business

- Further encourage traders to remove plastic packaging with the aim of becoming a plastic packaging free municipality.
- Continue to implement Council’s policy on single use plastics in Council facilities, to move towards a ban on the provision of plastic bottles at Council venues.
- Encourage, promote and support existing and new repair cafés in Yarra.

Community participation

- Improve communications from Council that promote and educate community members on ways to reduce, re-use, repair and recycle at home, at work and via Council services.
- Support campaigns to remove plastic litter from land environments and in waterways including active support for the Yarra Riverkeeper campaign, and Friends of Merri Creek.



Photo by Paweł Czerwiński

To find out how you can get involved in with your local greens community, or to read our other policies, please visit:

greens.org.au/vic/lga/yarra

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