

From: Bronwyn Hardman <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 8:43 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Waste and recycling enquiry

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

I wish I could attach a photo to this submission. Yesterday I was at Melbourne Zoo and their waste system is exciting so I took lots of photos! They have 3 bins set up all together. Compost, recycling, soft plastics. Each bin has large, clear pictures showing what can go in there. Compost shows a zoo take away coffee cup because the cups they dispense can be composted.

Surely this is the blue print. They have already set it up, tested it, it's running so why can't everywhere copy that? Today at a shopping centre, no recycling bins available. A few weeks ago, teaching at a school, an entire wheelie bin of newspaper was tipped into the general waste skip.

Everywhere should have 'bin options' with clear pictures so people can be proactive because so many people want to be.

As for recycling, we need more products that are made from recycled goods. This should be set up with a policy, incentives or not, so that a certain percentage of products must use recycled materials. E.g., cartons containing packaged goods inside, take away food boxes, etc.

Government documents could be printed on recycled paper. Set the standard for the white collar industry! Recycled printing paper used to be sub-par but these days you can't even see the difference. Give small businesses an incentive to use this paper for drafts and filed copies of paper work, help to create a demand for recycled products.

So importantly, ban single use plastic wherever possible. Other countries have already done this successfully. Sterile, hospital situations etc could be excluded but no one should be allowed to sell bananas wrapped in cling wrap! Plastic straws, unnecessary! Stop making them.

Watch "war on waste" for so many great ideas.

Also, coffee cups can be recycled with the right infrastructure in place, let's do it!

Melton council has a waste management program for schools to work through and receive a star rating to reflect their progress. This idea could also be applied to businesses. Not just small business but absolutely to big business as well.

Hopefully some of this will be helpful.

-- Bronwyn Hardman

I'm happy for my submission and details to be made public.