

Where Does My Recycling Go?

There are lots of good reasons why you should recycle. These are just a few of them:

- ✓ Recycling prevents emissions of many greenhouse gases and water pollutants.
- ✓ Recycling creates jobs and stimulates the development of greener technologies.
- ✓ Recycling conserves resources for our children's future.
- ✓ Recycling reduces the need for new landfills and incinerators.

All recyclables collected by Blacktown City Council's recycling contractor are taken to Visy's Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The truck empties the load onto a conveyor belt that conveys the materials into the plant. Inside, workers separate the paper, glass, cans, juice cartons, newspapers and plastic bottles. The separated materials are compacted into large bales, which are stockpiled prior to delivery to manufacturers.



Newspaper, cardboard, magazines and phone books are usually delivered to VISY Recycling. These materials are then recycled into paper fibres by VISY Paper and are then used to manufacture cardboard products.



Aluminium cans are delivered to an aluminium smelter where they are smelted down into aluminium ingots. These slabs of aluminium are sent to manufacturers of various aluminium products. Recycling aluminium is 20 times less energy intensive than manufacturing from virgin resources.



Steel cans and aerosols are sent to the BHP detinning plant. From there they go to BHP Steel's Flat Products Division where the steel is used to manufacture steel cans and other steel products.



Materials Recovery Facility

When you put things into your recycling bin, they are taken to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where a combination of machines and workers sort the recyclables so that they can be made into new products.





Paperboard milk and juice cartons and other "long fibre" paper products are sent to the Association of Australian Liquid Paperboard and Carton Manufacturers. From there the paper fibres are used by Australian Paper (Shoalhaven) to manufacture recycled office paper.



Glass bottles and jars are processed by NSW Glass Recyclers. The material is used by glass manufacturers to manufacture recycled glass bottles.



Softdrink bottles, made from P.E.T. (Polyethylene Terephthalate – marked with the number "1") are processed at a local or overseas market into beads of recycled plastic. These beads are used by a variety of manufacturers to make new soft drink bottles, carpet, sleeping bag and pillow stuffing, recycled fabric and clothing and recycled reflector guide posts.



Plastic milk, shampoo and detergent containers made from H.D.P.E. (High Density Polyethylene – marked with the number "2") are processed by various plastic recyclers into beads of recycled plastic. The beads are used by a variety of manufacturers to make wheelie bins, irrigation pipe, eskies, water meter boxes and air conditioning hoses.



Landfill – potential resources lost forever...

When you put things that could be recycled into your garbage bin, you are wasting valuable potential resources.

