

WASTE NOTes

February 2023

Funding for composting and waste reduction projects

The Queensland Government has awarded \$232,247 to 113 state schools for composting and organic waste reduction projects.

Under the [Organic Waste Smart Schools program](#), schools will receive funding for worm farms, composting systems, waste separation bins, gardening tools and other equipment to teach students about reducing organic waste.

The program aims to educate students on the science of composting and the benefits of reducing organic waste in landfill. Engaging in resource recovery and circular economy projects will give students an understanding of the value of organic waste and the positive long-term impacts it can have for their school, home and community.

Visit the [website](#) for the full list of recipients.



Household Waste Payment Scheme funding



A range of payments are made to councils to offset the cost of household waste going to landfill. A small proportion of households not covered by council payments can apply for the [Household Waste Payment Scheme](#).

Eligible households must be within the [waste levy zone](#) and have either:

1. a commercial private waste collection or
2. a commercial council waste collection, located at a premises that has a mix of residential and commercial uses (e.g. a block of flats with shops at the bottom).

The scheme is open for applications for each financial year up until 30 June 2026.

To find out if you are eligible or for further information visit the [Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority website](#) or email contact_us@grida.qld.gov.au.

Reducing waste on the school run

With the school year underway, let's think about ways to reduce waste and recycle. With a few simple changes, you can make a big difference in reducing your waste.

Here are some tips to get started:

- **Reuse school supplies**
Consider donating any excess supplies or store them to use later. This includes pens, pencils, and notebooks that can be reused.
- **Second hand uniforms**
Find your local online marketplace to buy and sell school uniforms.



- **Buy recycled supplies**
When shopping for new supplies, look for products made from recycled materials, such as paper, binders and backpacks.
- **Reduce lunch waste**
Get the kids involved in choosing their lunch items and encourage them to eat any leftovers as a snack after school.
- **Get involved in school recycling**
Many schools have recycling programs in place, like [Containers for Change](#). You can get involved and help educate others about the importance of recycling while raising some extra funds for your school.
- **Encourage carpooling**
Reduce carbon emissions by carpooling with friends or taking public transport to school.

By implementing any of these easy actions, you can make a positive impact on the environment and promoting sustainability.

Local Government Illegal Dumping Partnerships Program update

Illegal dumping is an eyesore, harmful to the environment and costly for councils to clean up. To address this issue, funding has been provided to purchase equipment and employ people to help eliminate illegal dumping.

Under Round 2B of the Local Government Illegal Dumping Partnerships Program, 21 councils will receive a total of \$2.3 million in funding. This is a positive step in the right direction for the state of Queensland, as we work towards a greener and cleaner future.

[More information about Round 2B of the Local Government Illegal Dumping Partnerships Program.](#)

Food Waste Action Week: March 2023

From 6–12 March 2023, we'll be celebrating Food Waste Action Week, a global initiative aimed at reducing food waste and promoting sustainable practices.

Australian households waste 2.5 million tonnes of food each year, or more than four kilograms per household per week. That's a lot of food!

Here are a few ways you can get involved and make a positive impact during Food Waste Action Week:

1. **Plan your meals**
Before you head to the supermarket, make a list of what you need and stick to it. This will help you avoid buying more than you need and reduce the risk of food waste at home.
2. **Love your leftovers**
Don't let leftovers go to waste. Repurpose them into new meals or freeze them for later.
3. **Store food properly**
Proper food storage can extend its shelf life, reduce spoilage, and keep your food fresher for longer.
4. **Compost**
Composting is an easy and effective way to reduce food waste. You can use compost to enrich your soil, improve plant growth, and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills.
5. **Support sustainable initiatives**
Look for food products that have been sustainably grown and packaged, and support local farmers who use eco-friendly practices.



Let's make Food Waste Action Week 2023 a time to take action and make a difference. Join us in our mission to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle food waste. Together, we can make a positive impact.

[Click here for more information on reducing food waste.](#)



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