

Tips for Householders

- Paper and cardboard can be recycled by placing them in the yellow-topped recycling bin.
- Place your recycling bin out the night before your fortnightly kerbside collection.

Which paper/cardboard can be recycled?

- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Advertising leaflets
- Telephone books
- Letters or writing paper
- Cardboard and cardboard boxes
- Egg cartons
- Envelopes
- Pizza Boxes and clean cardboard food cartons

Note: Remember to try to remove all staples. Plastic windows in envelopes are accepted. Place paper directly into the recycling bin - not in a plastic bag.

Which paper/cardboard cannot be recycled?

- Waxed paper and cardboard cartons
- Plastic-coated paper bags (eg, cereal bags)
- Plastic bags - they can be recycled at the supermarket
- Gummed labels
- Carbon paper
- Thermal fax paper

For more information please consult Council's *Your Guide to Being Waste Wise* booklet, available on the website [www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/documents/Your Guide to being Waste Wise.pdf](http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/documents/Your_Guide_to_being_Waste_Wise.pdf);

Tips for the Office

- Use cardboard desk recyclers and waste paper bins at your photocopier and printer. These are available from your local stationery supplier.
- Buy recycled paper and make double-sided photocopying standard practice.
- Have scrap paper, old letterhead or forms rebound for message or notepads.

Free recycling of bulk paper

- Bulk waste paper can be recycled for free by simply bringing it to one of Council's Waste Depots.

How much paper does Wollongong recycle?

Paper is the most recycled material in Wollongong. Around 50.2% *(by weight) of the average 240L recycling bin composition in Wollongong is paper, with newspaper being the largest constituent, comprising 20.1% of all materials recycled (based on 2008 recycling bin audit results). What would happen if everyone read papers online - how many trees could be saved?

Recycling paper - the Process

- 1 The Paper Mill at Botany takes recycled paper from Wollongong for processing. Unlike the method of making paper from virgin materials, making paper from waste paper rarely requires chemical pre-treatment.
- 2 The waste paper is mixed with water in a machine that looks like a giant blender and converted to a thin slurry of individual fibres. This slurry is treated to remove contaminants such as plastic, string and paper clips using sophisticated screening techniques. It is then made into paper in the same way as making paper from virgin material.

Sources

- *Data from the Wollongong City Council Waste Audit report, 2008, conducted by APC Environmental Management.
- Visy Recycling website www.visyrecycling.com.au;

Disclaimers

This information was believed to be correct at the date of its publication.

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