

RECYCLING

it's your choice



Your new Recycling Service turns One!

Blue Mountains residents are great recyclers.

After just one year with the new kerbside recycling service the increase in recycling in the Blue Mountains has been significant. The transition to the new wheelie bin service in late June 2008 went extremely well.

The presentation rate has increased from 53% of households using the old crate service to 71% of households now presenting their new wheelie bin each week. That's an **18% increase!**

Not only are more people putting their recycling bins out for collection but more items are being recycled and successfully diverted from landfill. An audit conducted on the new service in December 2008 indicated that 96% of the material being placed in the recycling bins is the correct material.



What are our items recycled into?

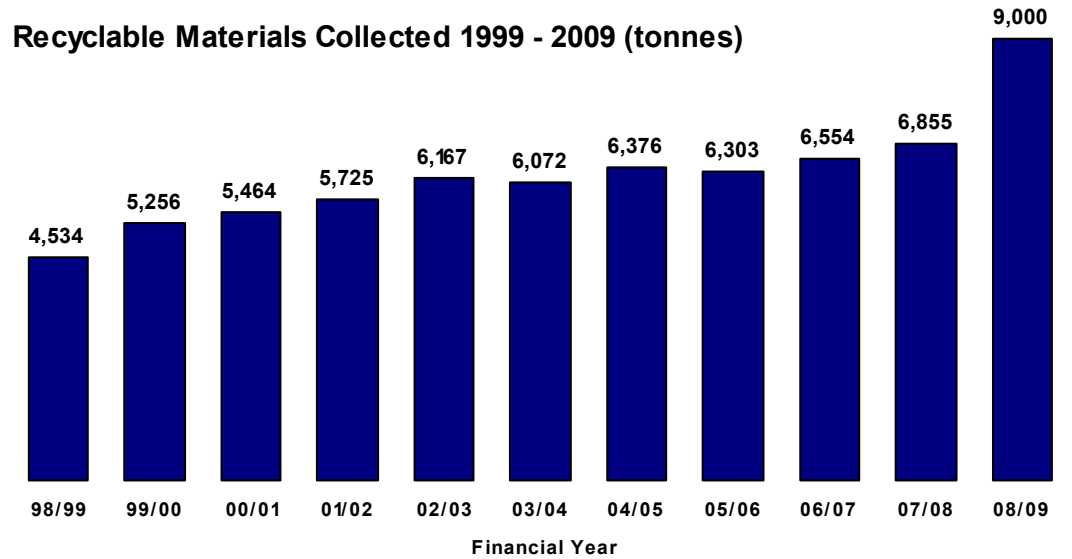
Our recycling is used to make items such as:

- ✓ PET bottles
- ✓ Food cans
- ✓ Plastic containers for food
- ✓ Fibre Board (cardboard boxes, packing partitions etc)

What are the benefits of this?

- Recycling paper creates 35% less water pollution and 74% less air pollution than making paper from virgin materials.
- Recycling plastic saves approximately 88% of the energy needed to make plastic from raw materials of oil and gas.

Recyclable Materials Collected 1999 - 2009 (tonnes)



Your recycling bin is for:

- ✓ Rigid plastic from the kitchen, bathroom & laundry.
- ✓ Paper, cardboard, magazines, junk mail, brochures & newspapers.
- ✓ Glass bottles & jars.
- ✓ Milk & juice cartons.
- ✓ Empty aerosols.
- ✓ Steel & aluminium cans.



Did you know?

You can take all of your household recycling items including cardboard boxes and large quantities of glass or plastic bottles to the Katoomba and Blaxland Waste Management Facilities for free drop off.

What do I do with:

Old mobile phones:
Recycle at Springwood or Katoomba Council Offices or Blaxland, Springwood or Katoomba Libraries.

Used Printer Ink Cartridges:
Recycle these at Australia Post Outlets.

Plastic Bags:
Recycle these by returning them to participating supermarkets or say NO to plastic bags and use reusable bags.

Give waste a second chance!

Upcycling is a component of sustainability that involves reusing waste materials to provide a new, useful or beautiful product. The idea is to take something that has outlived its commercial usefulness and transform it into something of greater use or value.

Upcycling means fewer raw materials are used to make brand new products and waste to landfill is reduced, giving waste a second chance.

Some examples of upcycling are: turning an old wardrobe into a display cabinet, cutting up old sneakers to make stamps from the soles, using old clothing as wrapping 'paper' or turning an old ironing board cover into oven mitts.



Sun Chair by Martin Errey. Made from salvaged marine ply and oak from a 1930s wardrobe. Photo: Michael Small

**No Plastic Bags
No Green Waste
in your recycling bin.**



The new Resource Recovery Guide 2009/10 was delivered to all Blue Mountains households in the first week of June.

The Resource Recovery Guide includes important information and dates about your household kerbside services for 2009/10.

If you did not receive your new guide, please contact Council on 4780 5000 or 4723 5000 (east of Linden).

Resource Recovery 2009/10

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Keep this booklet handy, you will need it until July 2010