

## Waste and Recycling at ECU Waste Streams at ECU

There are many diverse types of waste produced at ECU. Some of these include:

1. **Paper and Cardboard:** magazines, newspapers, office paper.
2. **Containers for Change:** most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel, and liquid paperboard drink containers that are 150ml to 3l with the “10c” mark.
3. **Recyclables:** paper, cardboard, newspapers, aluminium cans, clean plastic bottles, tubs and containers, steel cans, glass bottles and jars without the “10c” mark.
4. **General waste:** food scraps, used food containers, takeaway coffee cups, serviettes, plastic bags, ceramics, cling wraps, freezer bags.
5. **Compost waste:** fruit and vegetable scraps, grains, coffee grounds, dairy, eggs, meat, bones, leftover food.
6. **Aerosol Cans:** keyboard cleaners, insect spray.
7. **E-waste (electronic waste):** computers, printers, keyboards, cables.
8. **Green waste:** tree pruning's and garden waste.
9. **Nespresso Capsules:** coffee pods.
10. **Construction and demolition waste:** plaster, steel, concrete.
11. **Other hazardous waste:** Medical waste from laboratories
12. **Freecycling**

We can recycle many of these waste streams on campus. Bins are available and are clearly marked to demonstrate what goes in each bin:



## **General Waste**

General waste can be disposed of within your office using mini bins. These are the small bins that supports the ethos, less is better. The mini bin is simply not big enough to hold all your general and recyclable waste, making the individual think about where these items need to be disposed of. It is the responsibility of all staff to empty and clean their mini bins. If mini bins are not being cleaned regularly by staff, they may be removed.

If you require a mini bin, please contact Facilities Service Desk on +61 8 6304 5554 or email [maint@ecu.edu.au](mailto:maint@ecu.edu.au).



### **Your Mini Bin Accepts:**

**General waste** such as disposable coffee cups and their lids, food scraps, dirty takeaway food containers, serviettes, plastic bags and ceramics.

## **Recycling**

Recycling bins are available in all buildings at the Joondalup, Mt Lawley and South West campuses including in kitchens and cafes.

The waste collection contractor collects these bins on a regular basis and takes them to the waste compound facility for processing and sorting.

The following items CANNOT be recycled:

- **Take away coffee cups.**
- Any item or container that has food scraps in it or contains any liquid inside of it.
- Plastic shopping bags.
- Ceramics.
- Paper towels and serviettes.
- Broken bottles/drink glasses; and
- Shrink wrap/freezer bags.

## Waste Stations

### **Indoor Waste stations**

In all campuses, waste stations have been introduced in the following locations:

- Office areas/corridors.
- Lecture theatres and laboratories.
- Kitchens; and
- Cafes

Staff are encouraged to 'hand in' their mini bins and use the waste stations instead. This will promote regular breaks from computer screens and allows staff to get up and stretch their legs regularly.



Joondalup Recycling Station



Mt Lawley & South West Recycling Station

### Outdoor Waste Stations

Waste stations are installed at all campuses.



## **Paper and Cardboard Recycling**

**Paper** - each individual should have a desk paper recycling box located underneath their desk or share one with a colleague. It is the responsibility of each office occupant to empty these desk side paper boxes into the larger 120L light blue SULO bins. These boxes accept a range of mixed paper and small cardboard; please see below for more detail.

To order additional desk side boxes or to request large recycling bins contact the Facilities Service Desk on +61 8 6304 5554 or email [maint@ecu.edu](mailto:maint@ecu.edu).



**Desk Paper Recycling  
Box**



### **Paper Bins Accept:**

Photocopy paper  
Writing paper  
Manila Folders  
Newspapers  
Envelopes  
Magazines  
Brochures  
Cardboard (small pieces)



**120L Light Blue SULO**

**Confidential Papers:** Shredding is a common way to destroy confidential paper documents, however ECU do provide confidential bins for disposal of sensitive documents.

**Cardboard** - All cardboard boxes can be recycled by breaking them down and placing them beside the 120L blue SULO paper recycling bin. Cleaners will pick these up only if they are flattened. Please remove as much packing tape or other plastic materials and place these items in general rubbish bins. Please do not put cardboard boxes into the paper recycling bins.

## **Recyclable Hazardous Waste**

### **Batteries and Mobile Phones**

ECU staff and students can recycle batteries (except car batteries) at all campuses.

More than 90% of materials in mobile phones, batteries and accessories can be recovered and used to make new products.

**Battery Bins Accept:**

All batteries (except car batteries)  
Mobile phones  
Mobile phone batteries



**Battery Tube**

Battery Tubes can be found at:

**Joondalup**

Building 1 – Campus Support Office  
Building 31 - Library

**Bunbury**

Building 3 - Campus Support Office

**Mt Lawley**

Building 3-Campus Support Office

**Fluorescent Tubes/Globes**

Fluorescent tubes and globes are used in ECU lighting (interior and exterior) and are replaced by the Maintenance Contractor when they are no longer working.

Fluorescent tubes contain a small amount of mercury which is extremely toxic, so be sure to handle any globes with care to ensure they do not break.

**E-Waste (electronic Waste)**

This waste refers to discarded appliances or equipment such as computers, monitors, keyboards, mouse, fax machines, cables, and telephones and these items may contain hazardous substances. Once they are deemed no longer useable, they need to be disposed of correctly.

E-waste can be recycled using the e-waste bins around campus.

If electronic items are in still good working order, you can Freecycle them.

**Aerosol Cans**

For disposal of aerosol cans staff are to raise a job with the Facilities Service Desk i.e., email [maint@ecu.edu.au](mailto:maint@ecu.edu.au) or telephone 6304 5554 to arrange collection.

The ECU cleaning contractor (currently ISS) will store the aerosol cans in special bins located in the ECU waste compound as “hazardous waste”. Once enough cans are collected or when scheduled hazardous waste collections are due from the ECU waste compound, Cleanaway will dispose of them.

## **Green Waste**

Green Waste (grass cuttings and compostable organics) is managed by Grounds Services.

**Tree Pruning by External Contractor** - Most tree pruning is undertaken by a contractor at both metropolitan campuses. The contractor mulches tree pruning's on-site and uses it in ECU gardens.

**General Green waste from campus operations** - This includes leaves, branches and other plant material, and stockpile at each campus until there is enough to be both mulched and reused on campus grounds or an external contractor will remove from site and take to a waste recycling facility.

## **Construction and Demolition Waste**

This waste includes items such as: plaster board; bricks; steel; cables; and packaging. The Projects and Planning Team manage this waste.

## **Freecycling**

If you have items that are in good working order that others might like to use, you can deposit these at the Freecycling stations found in the library of each metropolitan campus. Please do not dispose of general waste, items that may be dangerous, or do not work at the Freecycling station.

For further information about recycling at ECU visit the [waste and recycling](#) webpage.