



MEDIA RELEASE

DID YOU KNOW – PAPER, CARDBOARD AND PLASTIC

Paper, cardboard and plastics **are not** recycled at the Waste Management Centre.

Even though paper, cardboard and certain plastics are recycled across the globe, the facilities on Norfolk Island have never had the equipment or resources to recycle this type of waste. The reason these wastes are deemed 'non-recyclable' under the new fees and charges for disposal of waste at the Waste Management Centre is because we do not, and have never had, facilities capable of recycling these waste streams. However, Council is working towards a more sustainable waste management system and in the future more waste streams will be able to be recycled at the Waste Management Centre, including cardboard, paper and certain plastics.

Once Council has the ability to recycle these waste streams they will no longer be deemed a 'non-recyclable' at the Waste management Centre. If you are ever unsure about what is considered recyclable you can refer to the *Waste Management Centre Fees and Charges Guideline* or the *Recycling Guide* which can be found on the Norfolk Island Regional Council website at <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf/services/waste-management>.

As most residents of Norfolk Island would be aware, paper, cardboard and plastics delivered to the Waste Management Centre are taken to Headstone Disposal Centre where they are burnt and the ashes are disposed of off Headstone.

Cardboard boxes are a great alternative to plastic bags to transport your groceries to your house. In addition, there are many uses for boxes in your household, especially for storage. When your cardboard box has reached the end of its life, you can use it in your home compost. Cardboard is a waste stream that your home composting system can benefit from. A good compost requires a mix of carbon-containing ingredients and nitrogen-containing ingredients and cardboard is a source of carbon. In addition, cardboard can be used to regulate the moisture content of your home compost. Ensure the cardboard is broken up into smaller pieces and is pre-wet to accelerate the composting process.

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17 August 2017