

Recycling at JCU Information for Students

Waste has significant environmental and financial impacts for our society and we need your help to manage it correctly. JCU aims to minimise waste sent to landfill and increase recycling rates, but it is up to all of us to make it happen.



recycle here!



glass bottles, cardboard, cans, cartons, paper and plastic containers

no plastic bags

no food scraps

www.jcu.edu.au/tropeco





Around Campus

Public Place Recycling signage is used at JCU's Townsville and Cairns campuses to indicate which bin to use for which type of waste.



Common Recycling Mistakes

- Don't place your recycling inside a plastic bag. Plastic bags cannot be recycled and anything inside them will be sent to landfill
- Coffee cups cannot be recycled. Disposable coffee cups have a plastic lining that can't be recycled. We encourage using reusable coffee cups, which are accepted by most cafes on campus
- Empty food and liquid from takeaway containers before placing them in the recycling bin.



Ditch and Switch

Ditch bottled water and switch to a reusable water bottle. Did you know?

- Chilled drinking water is available in fountains across our Townsville and Cairns campuses
- Tap water has only 1 per cent of the environmental impact of bottled water
- Bottled water production creates 600 times more CO₂ than tap water
- It takes 7 litres of water and one litre of oil to produce one litre of bottled water.

What happens to my waste?

When you place rubbish in a waste bin it ends up in landfill, preventing the resources contained in the materials from being used again.

Items that are recycled correctly will be separated at the local Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and packaged up for recycling into new materials.

For more information on recycling and waste, see the **JCU Waste and Recycling Procedures** on the TropEco website.

Our award-winning TropEco program celebrates Sustainability in Action by creating opportunities and recognition for your sustainability ideas. TropEco is all of us creating a culture of sustainability at JCU.

- 700,000 kg - JCU's estimated waste to landfill in 2015 (does not include demolition waste)
- That's equivalent to two Olympic sized swimming pools full of waste
- 20% - JCU recycling rate for 2015
- 140,000kg - estimated weight of recycled materials from JCU in 2015
- 10 tonnes - weight of metal recycled by JCU in 2015
- 96% - recycling rate for Biological Sciences building demolition to make way for the Science Place
- 2377kg - weight of electronic waste recycled in 2015
- 4,500L - amount of bio-fertiliser produced from University Halls kitchen food waste in 2015

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TropEco
Sustainability in action

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