



Capel Waste Transfer Station

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are disposal fees so high?

All wastes collected at the transfer station have to be taken elsewhere for disposal or processing. The Shire sets fees that reflect the actual costs involved in collecting and disposing of different wastes, including recyclable and non-recyclable wastes.

The cost to operate the waste transfer station and dispose of the wastes collected there is still greater than the revenue received from the disposal fees charged.

Residents who generate a lot of waste should expect to pay some of the costs for its disposal. The Shire provides Tip Passes that residents can use to dispose of some wastes for free.

Why do I need to pay to dispose of some recyclable wastes?

Most recyclable wastes still cost the Shire money to dispose of, i.e. the value of the recyclable materials, such as wood waste or cardboard, is lower than the costs involved in collecting and processing them.

The Shire has set fees for some recyclable wastes to better reflect the actual costs involved in collecting and processing them.

Why do I need to pay to dispose of green waste?

Green waste has to be mulched before it can be used to improve the soil or reduce weed growth on local farms, orchards and vineyards.

Mulching the green waste costs the Shire about \$30,000 per year – the disposal fee is charged to better reflect the costs involved in dealing with the green waste.

Residents who have a 3 bin service or verge collections can also use this to dispose of garden wastes.

Why do I need to flatten cardboard boxes or pay a fee for non-flattened boxes?

Each time one of the cardboard bins is emptied it costs the Shire about \$35.

If the bin only contains a few large non-flattened boxes, the cost works out at about \$5-10 per box. So you either pay a fee for non-flattened boxes, to better reflect the costs involved in their collection, or you can flatten them out and dispose of them for free.

Why do I have to pay a fee if my fridge is already degassed but I don't have a certificate, receipt or invoice from a refrigeration mechanic?

Charging the fee deters people from letting the refrigerant gas go themselves.

Releasing certain refrigerant gases into the atmosphere is illegal as they deplete the ozone layer and contribute to greenhouse warming.

Why can't I put other building or construction wastes in the rubble bin?

The rubble is crushed to make an aggregate product.

By limiting the wastes put in the rubble bin to bricks, pavers, broken concrete, tiles and sand it means these wastes can actually be recycled.

Previously the rubble (or construction) wastes collected in the bin were often tipped to landfill because of the high levels of contamination.

<p>Why can't I put painted or laminated timber or furniture in the wood bin?</p>
<p>Timber and wooden materials collected in this bin are used to make mulch. Large quantities of laminated or painted materials render the mulch useless. Previously the wood wastes collected in the bin were often tipped to landfill because of the high levels of contamination.</p>
<p>Why shouldn't I put glossy magazines in the cardboard bin?</p>
<p>A mixture of cardboard, newspaper and other non-glossy scrap paper can be easily recycled by our waste contractor. Glossy magazines have to be separated out by hand to enable recycling of the other paper materials. Glossy magazines can go in the co-mingle bin as these wastes are subject to a separate process.</p>
<p>Why have you stopped the collection of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)?</p>
<p>The way that HHW was being collected and dealt with previously created significant safety issues for the public and Shire staff. The cost to operate a HHW collection service properly would be quite high and the Shire can't justify charging very high disposal fees. Residents can dispose of HHW for free at the Stanley Road Waste Facility in Australind – this HHW service is funded by the WA Waste Authority.</p>
<p>I've lost my Tip Passes or didn't receive any – can I get some replacements?</p>
<p>If someone else owns the property that residents live in then the owner or rental agency will have received the Tip Passes – in the first instance residents should contact them to get the passes. Rural residents who don't pay any Shire waste services charges will not receive any Tip Passes. Residents may be able to get replacement tip passes if they apply in writing and can reasonably show they didn't receive any.</p>
<p>Why don't rural residents (who don't have a regular waste collection service) receive any Tip Passes, especially when they're more likely to use the waste transfer station than residents in town?</p>
<p>Many rural residents don't pay any charges for Shire waste services through their Rates. As such they shouldn't expect to receive free waste services from the Shire or expect residents in urban areas to pay to dispose of their wastes.</p>
<p>Why don't you accept wastes from non-Shire residents?</p>
<p>The disposal fees charged don't fully cover the cost of operating the waste transfer station and it's subsidised by Shire ratepayers. The Shire and ratepayers shouldn't subsidise the disposal of wastes by non-Shire residents.</p>
<p>Why don't you accept commercial wastes?</p>
<p>All of the wastes collected at the waste transfer station have to be removed from the site and taken to appropriate landfill or processing facilities. The waste transfer station is intended to provide a convenient way for residents to dispose of relatively small quantities of wastes that they can't dispose of via their kerbside or verge waste collections. Transporting large quantities of wastes to the waste transfer station, then transporting them to landfill or processing facilities, would be expensive and inefficient.</p>

Can the Waste Transfer Station Attendant help me unload my vehicle or does the Shire have machinery on site to help me unload my vehicle?

Most wastes are collected in large bins at the Waste Transfer Station and you'll need to unload the wastes from your vehicle into the bins.

The Waste Transfer Station Attendant will most likely not be able to help you unload wastes from your vehicle, as he or she needs to man the office and deal with other patrons.

The Shire does not keep any machinery at the Waste Transfer Station for unloading wastes from vehicles into bins.

What happens to wastes collected at the Waste Transfer Station?

General waste – is taken to a landfill facility in Dardanup

Green waste – is mulched onsite and taken to local farms and vineyards to use as a soil improver

Scrap metal – is taken to a scrap metal merchant in Bunbury and subsequently processed at recycling plants to make new metal products

Fridges and freezers– refrigerant gas is extracted and the metal components are recovered to make new products

Waste oil – is processed to make oil burner fuel and lubricants

Wood waste – is mulched for use on gardens to improve soil condition and reduce water use

Cardboard – is baled at a facility in Bunbury then taken to paper and cardboard manufacturing plants

Co-mingled recycling – is taken to a materials recovery facility in Mandurah for sorting then to various processing facilities for recycling into new products

Tyres – are stored at a facility in Australind for future reclamation and recycling

Rubble – is crushed to make aggregate for building roads

Mattresses – steel springs are recovered for recycling and the remainder goes to landfill

Glass – is crushed to make an aggregate replacement

Drum muster – drums are chipped and the plastic is used to make new products

E-waste – is dismantled and different components and materials such as computer chips, metals and plastics are recovered to make new products.

Further information

For further information about the Capel Waste Transfer Station please check the Shire's web site at www.capel.wa.gov.au.

You can also contact the Shire Office on (08) 9727 0222 or info@capel.wa.gov.au.