



## FOGO Update

A real up and down month for November's contamination rates. Our best performing suburbs were... Rangeway, Tarcoola Beach and Bluff Point. Overall, our average contamination for November was 4.5% (up from 2.4% last month). Please be careful over the Christmas period. It's a time that generates more waste than usual so please dispose of excess Christmas waste carefully and use the drop of points listed on the next page for this excess and only fill up the FOGO bin with all that left over grub.

## Bowerbird update

The Bowerbird team is set to continue under the management of the City of Greater Geraldton (CGG). It's a huge vote of confidence given from every Councillor in the Bowerbird progress and amount of landfill diversion accomplished. The team out there at Landfill Lane are super happy as they continue their great work picking, cleaning, stacking and finding new homes for their preloved items. Maybe pay them a visit for that near new unique Christmas present.



## The monthly motto for December?

"FOGO like a PRO!"

The FOGO Bro's and CGG would like to say a grateful thanks to each one of you for the terrific effort you have put into the program this year. You have taken it from a staggering 50% plus contamination rate to well below 5% and we truly appreciate your efforts. We wish you and your loved ones a happy holiday and a safe and prosperous 2023. FOGO like a PRO!

## Winners are gridders

The FOGO Bro's have also now completed judging the entries sent in to show us what you used your bag of FOGO compost for and we've both agreed the winning story and picture came from Mel from Sunset Beach. Remember FOGOing is great for the environment and reduces waste to landfill... Well done, Mel!



Mel from Sunset Beach can't stop smiling. After applying her bag of FOGO her vegetables are supplying quicker than she can pick to make and eat her tasty and healthy salads.

## Who won the \$100 Buy Local Gift card?

Our winner for asking to have their copy of *What's the FOGO* newsletter delivered electronically is Carmen from Beresford! Enjoy spending that \$100 Buy Local card.



# WHAT'S THE GO?

## Here's a micro story ready to make a Macro splash

Researchers at RMIT University have found a way to rapidly remove hazardous microplastics from water using magnets.

Lead researcher Professor Nicky Eshtiaghi said existing methods could take days to remove microplastics from water. The RMIT invention is cheap, sustainable and achieves better results in just one hour.

The team said it has developed adsorbents, in the form of a powder, that remove microplastics 1000 times smaller than those currently detectable by existing wastewater treatment plants.

The researchers have successfully tested the adsorbents in the lab, and plan to engage with industry to further develop the innovation to remove microplastics from waterways.



## Some very interesting stats from the year that was 2022

**How many returns has the 10c container depots taken in WA?** It's a whopping 1.76 billion! The scheme could be expanded next year to include wine, spirit, juice and other bottles, to improve recycling rates. The proposed changes could make an additional 140 million containers available for collection each year, or an extra \$14 million in refunds for consumers, charities and community groups.

**How many cubic metres of FOGO have been collected since June 2022?** 108 cubic metres.

**How much cardboard recycling did we collect?** Approximately 50 tonnes of cardboard have been baled and sent for rebirthing into potential Weetbix boxes coming to you soon!

## Collection points

To help find where our recycling drop off points are, we've collated a table for easy reference. Please, take care when dropping off your recyclables to make sure separation is correct. We don't have any room for error with these bins, which means if there is any cross contamination then ALL contents of the bin will go to landfill... such a waste of everyone's energy and material!

Plastic Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bluff Point Primary School</li><li>• Beachlands Primary School</li><li>• CGG Civic Centre</li><li>• Foreshore Carpark Drummond Cove - Smugglers Cove Roundabout</li><li>• Geraldton Primary School</li><li>• Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club Carpark</li><li>• Greenough Museum and Gardens</li><li>• Leaning Tree Community School</li><li>• Mt Tarcoola Primary School</li><li>• Paringa Park Mt Tarcoola</li><li>• PCYC Pass Street Wonthella</li><li>• QEII Carpark</li><li>• Strathalbyn Christian College</li><li>• Sunset Pony Club</li><li>• Waggrakine Primary School</li><li>• Wandina Primary School</li></ul>
Cardboard Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club Carpark</li><li>• CGG Civic Centre</li></ul>
Battery Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geraldton Aquarena</li><li>• CGG Civic Centre</li><li>• QEII Centre</li><li>• Geraldton Regional Library</li></ul>

**Containers for Change is located at 8 Bradford St, Wonthella.**

To stay up to date and read this newsletter online, join your Facebook group at <https://qrco.de/cggfogotrial>  
To speak with a FOGO Officer call 9956 6600 or email [council@cgg.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@cgg.wa.gov.au)



City of  
Greater Geraldton  
a vibrant future

