



Williamstown
Community
and Education
Centre Inc

Advocates for the Environment

Project Report

28 January to 30 June 2018.

Project Officer: Rose McVicar



THE
HAMER SPROUT FUND

Dedicated to building communities inspired to take action for a sustainable future.

HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



Background

This Project aimed to make it easier for people to recycle.

This Project had three stages. To research local recycling opportunities, establish easy to use systems and processes for the community to recycle and then promote these systems.

- **Stage One** - 'Research'. Get a Project Officer to research all the recycling opportunities in Hobsons Bay. Establish what systems work best? What is easy and efficient? What has best support? Which are reliable? Which have good support and back up?
- **Stage Two** - 'Establish Easy Systems'. Work out systems and ways to increase drop off points and simplify systems for the public.
- **Stage Three** - 'Promote'. Once systems and processes are in place, drop off and collection points established, promote and educate the community.

Results

Four collection boxes (and recycle partners) were established:

1. Beauty Products (Terracycle).
2. Toothpaste/toothbrushes and Oral care products (Terracycle).
3. Printing cartridges (Planet Ark / Close the Loop).
4. Cameras & accessories / CD/DVDs / cork / glasses (reading & sunglasses) / mobile phones & accessories / rubber bands / store cards/ used gift cards / X-rays (Green Collect).

These four boxes were set up at ten separate locations, 'collection hosts', across Hobsons Bay, including all Community Centres for a trial period of three months.

The Collection hosts were -

Location	Address	Opening Hours
Williamstown Community and Education Centre	14 Thompson Street Williamstown	Mon-Fri 9.00am-4.00pm
Laverton Community Centre/Laverton Hub	95-105 Railway Avenue Laverton	Mon-Fri 8.30am - 5.00pm Sat 10am-2pm
South Kingsville Community Centre	43 Paxton Street South Kingsville	Mon-Fri 9.00am-4.00pm
Newport Community Education Centre	43 Mason Street Newport	Mon-Thu 9.00am-3.00pm Fri 9.00am-2.00pm
Seabrook Community Centre	15 Truganina Avenue Seabrook	Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm
Altona Meadows Community Centre	28 Trafalgar Avenue Altona Meadows	Mon-Fri 8.30am-2.00pm
Walker Close Community Centre	180 Millers Road Altona North	Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm
Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre	5 Sargood Street Altona	Mon - Fri 9.00am-5.00pm Sat 11am-3pm
Eco Laundry Room - Altona	22 Harrington Square Altona	7 days 6am-11pm
The Washroom Coin Laundry	168 Ferguson St Williamstown	7 days/24hours access

Through aggressive marketing via Facebook, newsletters, etc the Project resulted in a significant amount of material being collected across all locations.

There were some issues in regard to 'cross contamination' and the work involved in sorting and sending the recycled materials to recyclers.

There is also the issue of ongoing labour, to service the boxes and costs involved to recycle.

At the end of Stage Three, over a hundred kilograms of materials were collected and saved from landfill.

Specifically -

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Beauty Products | 16 Kilograms. |
| 2. Toothpaste/toothbrushes and Oral care products | 10 Kilograms. |
| 3. Printing cartridges | 14 Kilograms. |
| 4. Other | 68 Kilograms. |

Recommendations for Hosts

For the location collection hosts, there are several options for ongoing recycling.

These options are listed below in order of the least amount of labour needed, costs involved and sorting issues, to the most amount of work and cost involved.

Hosts need to consider that they might need staff or a volunteer to oversee the effort.

For example, keeping in touch with the recycle companies, looking after box contents and sending boxes to the recyclers, etc.

- **Keeping box three (Printing cartridges).**

This is recycled through Planet Ark / Close the Loop.

An online account is set up.

A Kit is sent out with everything you need, including a box and return post labels.

When the box is full, it can be either taken to a Post Office or a call to collect.

Consideration also needs to be given on the volume collected. It may not be enough to warrant the collection.

- **As above, and keep box one (Beauty Products) and/or box two (Toothpaste/ toothbrushes and Oral care products) as well.**

These are all recycled through Terracycle.

An online account is set up.

Host need to supply their own boxes for collection.

When a full box is ready to ship, a free shipping label is download, then the items are packaged up and taken to a Post Office.

Because some items may still have liquids in them, packaging needs to be water tight.

- **As above and keep Box four (numerous items) as well.**

Green Collect is the organisation that this box relates to.

They have a range of options to send recycled goods to them, including pick up or drop off.

All these options come at various costs to the host. They need to be contacted to establish the option that suits the Host best.