



TALKING POINTS

Subject: Garage Sale Trail – Riverton Library

Date: 17/10/2017

Talking points:

- Garage Sale Trail is in its fifth year in Western Australia, encouraging individuals and communities to rethink how to reuse waste and divert it from landfill.
- Garage Sale Trail is supported by the McGowan Labor Government and over 30 local governments around WA.
- The Waste Authority has supported the Garage Sale Trail through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account funding since 2013.
- This Saturday and Sunday is an excellent opportunity for families, friends and neighbours to discover a bargain and turn potential trash into a new found treasure, and saving money in the process.
- The Garage Sale Trail doesn't just include household sales; it's fantastic to see local businesses, community groups and local governments getting involved and bringing the community together.
- We are expecting 4,000 garage sales across the State from Esperance to Port Hedland.
- Over half a million items are expected to be for sale this weekend to find a new home.

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Garage Sale Trail

What is Garage Sale Trail?

Garage Sale Trail began in Bondi Beach back in 2010 — an idea to simultaneously run multiple garage sales to encourage reuse and recycling and bring local communities together.

Next weekend — 21 and 22 October — Garage Sale Trail will be supported by more than 150 local governments across Australia.

How many garage sales will take place in WA?

This is the fifth year of Garage Sale Trail in WA and 4,000 sales have been registered for the weekend event across the State.

The initiative is run by Australian not-for-profit Garage Sale Trail Foundation and is supported by the Waste Authority through Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account funding and local governments.

What is the purpose of GST?

Garage Sale Trail is a very effective way of avoiding the generation of waste by reusing perfectly good items. It also raises general awareness and drives long-term behavioural change.

The Garage Sale Trail is an example of the partnerships and cooperation that I believe will be critical to reducing waste across WA.

I have been inspired to hear about the benefits coming out the Garage Sale Trail event.

It brings the community together, helps prevent dumping of unwanted or unused items, and promotes waste avoidance and reuse in an enjoyable way.

This is the most important outcome as the best way to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and improve the State's diversion rates is to encourage everyone to avoid waste generation and adopt smarter waste management practices.

Avoiding waste and recycling is everyone's responsibility, and reducing the amount of waste we generate and increasing the amount of waste that is recycled and reused will help the State reach the diversion targets in the State Government's [Waste Strategy: Creating the Right Environment](#).

The total waste generated per capita in Western Australia in 2014–15 was 2.4 tonnes, of which 1.4 tonnes per capita was sent to landfill. Municipal solid waste, or household waste, accounted for 630kg of total per capita waste in 2014–15. Of this, 420kg per capita was sent to landfill.

In 2014–15, WA diverted 2.6 million tonnes from landfill, up from two million tonnes in 2010–11, which shows that we are heading in the right direction. However, there is a lot more we can do.

The State Government is committed to improving waste diversion through its Better Bins and Recycled Construction Products programs, as well as the recently announced Container Deposit Scheme and ban on lightweight single use plastic bags.



MEDIA STATEMENT

16 October 2017 – **EMBARGOED UNTIL 12AM WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2017**

Riverton Library ramps up reuse message

- **Week-long book sale sells sustainability message**
- **350,000 people Australia-wide estimated to participate in Garage Sale Trail 2017**

Riverton Library in the City of Canning kicked off a week-long book sale on Monday 16 October as part of the 2017 [Garage Sale Trail](#) – a nationwide initiative promoting the reuse of items in an effort to reduce waste to landfill.

On Tuesday 17 October, Environment Minister Stephen Dawson, City of Canning Mayor Paul Ng, and City of Canning CEO Arthur Kyron visited Riverton Library to participate in the book sale and launch the 2017 Garage Sale Trail in Western Australia.

Promoting the message ‘choose to reuse’, Garage Sale Trail is supported by funding from the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account and over 30 WA local governments participate in the annual event.

Over 70,000 Western Australians, and more than 350,000 people nationally, are expected to take part in this year’s trail including households, community groups, charities, local businesses and schools.

Sales will run across the weekend of October 21 and 22, as well as throughout the week at some locations. Communities are encouraged to hold a garage sale and register it on the Garage Sale Trail’s website. Details of all registered sales can be found [here](#).

Registration for sellers and shoppers is free. Over 10,000 garage sales and stalls are expected to take part in the 2017 event across Australia, including 4,000 sales across WA.

To find out more, register and get involved, please [click here](#).

Comments attributed to Environment Minister Stephen Dawson:

“The Garage Sale Trail encourages Western Australians to think about how they can take responsibility for the waste they create and reduce the volume of reusable goods ending up in landfill.

“The McGowan Labor Government is committed to reducing waste. This program is about providing a fun, social way to connect communities while reducing waste.

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“Over half a million items are projected to be listed in WA. That’s 500,000 new items that are avoided through the reuse of second hand goods that may have otherwise been thrown in the bin.”

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