

## Moreton Bay Research Station (MBRS) Recycling

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### 1. Scope

This policy applies to the three recycling streams at The University of Queensland campuses:

- Paper;
- Cardboard;
- Co-mingled stream (aluminium, glass, and plastics);
- Toner and Ink Jet Printer Cartridges;
- Mobile Phones;
- Batteries; and
- Computer Equipment.

### 2. Objectives

The University of Queensland's policy is to promote recycling of waste materials by having in place a comprehensive recycling scheme.

The objectives are:

- To reduce the output of the general waste stream;
- To minimise contamination in the recycling stream;
- To reduce the need for landfill space;
- To take advantage of the economic benefits arising from recycling; and
- To promote resource conservation of non-renewable and renewable resources.

### 3. Procedure

#### 3.1 *Recycling System and Responsibilities*

It is the responsibility of individual users to sort and dispose of their **recyclables** thoughtfully. Appropriate bins for the recycling streams are placed throughout the research station.

It is the responsibility of the Manager, Moreton Bay Research Station to:

- Identify and arrange for collection points in buildings for recyclable wastes;
- Arrange for collection from bins and transfer to 240 litre wheelie bins; and
- Ensure that recycling bins are placed out and collected as required.

#### 3.2 *Paper Recycling*

Paper wastes can be disposed of in two ways:

- Paper should be placed in the marked recycling boxes; or
- They can be placed directly into the 240 litre yellow-lidded wheelie bins.

The 240 litre yellow-lidded wheelie bins are collected every second **Monday** at the pre-determined kerbside location for collection by the Redland Shire Council contractor.

### **3.3 Cardboard**

Flatten cardboard and place in the wool bail which is located beside the mangrove house in the courtyard. This is emptied on demand by contractors.

### **3.4 Co-mingled Recycling Stream**

Co-mingled recyclable wastes including cardboard can be disposed of directly into the 240 litre yellow-lidded wheelie bins.

The smaller bins will be collected daily and emptied into the 240 litre yellow-lidded wheelie bin. Every second **Monday**, the 240 litre bin is placed at the pre-determined kerbside location for collection by the Redland Shire Council contractor.

### **3.5 Toner and Ink Jet Printer Cartridges**

- Your empty toner and ink jet printer cartridges can be recycled. P&F's central store arranges for the cartridges to be sent to Trendsetter for recycling.
- Please seal empty printer cartridges in plastic bags or boxes to contain the toner dust prior to sending them through the internal mail.

**Send empty cartridges** in SEALED plastic bags or boxes by internal mail to:

P&F Central Store, Glasshouse Road  
St Lucia campus

### **3.6 Mobile Phones**

- Send all mobile phone handsets, batteries and accessories to Property and Facilities Mail Room. They are collected free of charge by the Mobile Phone Industry Recycling Program.
- Property and Facilities has signed up to the Mobile Phone Industry Recycling Program, organised by the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA), that aims to ensure that the potentially toxic components in mobile phones, their batteries and accessories are recycled rather than ending up in landfill.
- For further information, visit the AMTA website at [www.phonerecycling.com.au](http://www.phonerecycling.com.au)

### **3.7 Batteries**

The collection and disposal of batteries includes the following types of batteries:

Battery Type	Common Uses
Alkaline	Cassette players, radios
Lithium	Cameras, watches, computers
Nickel cadmium batteries	Power tools, kitchen appliances
Lead-acid	Video cameras, computers, portable radios, fork lifts

To dispose of batteries, either send them to the Chemical Store through internal mail or arrange for collection as below:

Dry batteries	Wet batteries
Seal the batteries in an appropriate container and place them in the internal mail to: University Chemical Store Cnr Glasshouse Road and Walcott St St Lucia campus	The Chemical Store will collect wet batteries. To request collection, email: <a href="mailto:chemwaste@uq.edu.au">chemwaste@uq.edu.au</a>

The University Chemical Store arranges for the batteries to be sent to appropriate battery recycling facilities.

Please note:

- Nickel cadmium batteries (NiCads) contain cadmium, which is potentially carcinogenic and should not be placed in general waste bins.
- Rechargeable batteries last longer thus reducing the number of batteries purchased. By reducing the amount of batteries procured and disposed of, you can help reduce the amount of environmentally harmful wastes discharged.

### 3.8 Computer Equipment

Property and Facilities collects and arranges for the disposal of obsolete computer equipment by companies who sell, donate or recycle the items.

#### Companies that recycle computers include:

Company	Telephone	Comments
<b>Green PC</b> Unit 7/ 35 Ethel St Yeerongpilly	Ph: 3255 8300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accepts monitors, pc cases, apples/macintosh, mice, keyboards, printers, scanners, component parts. Refurbishes and on-sells to low-income individuals and families.</li> <li>• Drop-off to: 399 Montague Road, West End.</li> </ul>
<b>SEQITS</b> 269 Wickham St, Fortitude Valley	Ph: 3857 5972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEQITS take everything and sell, donate or recycle items.</li> <li>• In BCC will pick up even if just one item. Includes all IT related equipment, i.e. printers, photocopiers.</li> </ul>

#### To arrange collection:

- Email [clean@pf.uq.edu.au](mailto:clean@pf.uq.edu.au) with a request to collect obsolete computers and associated equipment.
- P & F staff will arrange to have the computers collected from the School/Centre's nominated location.
- It is the responsibility of Schools, Centres and Administrative Units to remove data from obsolete computers that are to be disposed of. These computers should also be delisted and taken off the asset register.

## 4. Enquiries

Any enquiries regarding the management of the recyclable wastes should be addressed to the Manager, Moreton Bay Research Station on (07) 3409 9058.

## **5. Definitions**

### **5.1 Waste**

Under Section 13 of the *Environmental Protection Act, 1994* **waste** is defined as “any gas, liquid, solid or energy (or a combination of wastes) that is surplus to, or unwanted from, any industrial, commercial, domestic or other activity, whether or not of value.”

### **5.2 Recycling**

**Recycling** refers to capturing materials from the post-consumer waste stream to be used as secondary source material.

### **5.3 Contamination of Recycling Streams**

Contamination of recycling streams occurs when unwanted material is disposed of with the recyclable material. Contaminated material is not suitable for reprocessing and must be separated from the recyclable stream.

### **5.4 Co-mingled Recycling Stream**

It is a stream that contains several recycling waste materials such as:

- Aluminium (tins and cans);
- Glass; and
- Plastics (PET milk bottles and HDPE soft drink bottles).

### **5.5 Cardboard**

Thin, stiff pasteboard generally used as packaging material.

### **5.6 Toner and Ink Jet Cartridges**

Toner and ink jet printer cartridges only, not photocopier cartridges.

### **5.7 Computer Equipment**

Obsolete computers and associated equipment including monitors, pc cases, apples/macintosh, mice, keyboards, printers, scanners, component parts.

### **5.8 Co-mingled Recycling Stream**

It is a stream that contains several recycling waste materials such as:

Aluminium (tins and cans); Glass; and Plastics (Identification Codes 1-7, PET milk bottles and HDPE soft drink bottles).

## **6. References**

- Environmental Protection Act, 1994
- Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation 2000
- Waste Management Strategy for Queensland 1996