

# Waste



*Waste sent to landfill does not go away but persists and causes pollution and environmental harm.*



## What UQ is doing

- UQ has over 20 different waste streams, many being recycled and diverted from landfill.
- General waste is sent to facilities where methane is harvested to create electricity, reducing emissions.
- Recycling bin waste is sent to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF).
- UQ Unwrapped has reduced single-use packaging at campus food outlets and events.
- Water refill stations reduce the need for disposable water bottles.
- St Lucia and Gatton campuses have organic waste compost collection.
- St Lucia provides bins for the QLD Container Deposit Scheme, with funds generated contributing to the Student Green Fund.
- Many coffee outlets on campus provide reusable coffee cup discounts.
- Warpit's furniture and equipment reuse scheme allows products to be reused on campus.



## Why this is important

- Creating products destined for landfill wastes resources, energy and time spent creating the product.
- In landfill, these products cause harm to wildlife, ecosystem services, and risks to human health through pollution.
- Reducing waste sent to landfill, conserving resources, and learning to reduce, reuse and recycle, mitigates against environmental harm.



## What you can do

- Think before you print and print double-sided.
- Ensure all recyclable and compostable items go in the proper bin.
- Recycle obsolete IT equipment, mobile phones and batteries.
- Choose reusable alternatives to single-use products.
- Purchase products second hand and with minimal packaging, where possible.

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