



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

Sustainable Management Fund

West Coast Household Waste Minimisation Directory



West Coast Waste Directory

This guide helps you to find out what and how to reuse and recycle a range of household items.

What waste is

About 80% of the goods we buy are thrown away after one use. New Zealanders throw away more rubbish per person than people in most developing countries. The waste stream is made up of resources that could be beneficially used i.e.

- organic matter can be composted.
- paper, cardboard or metal can be recycled.

Did you know...

- Most household rubbish can be recycled or reused.
- There are many different ways to recycle
- Recycling is easy to do
- Recycling and reusing things is good for the environment

Buy Recycled and Close the Loop

To help increase the range of materials that can be recycled and to support businesses that recycle, it is important to buy products made from recycled materials and to buy “pre-loved” items. Remember you don’t truly recycle until you buy it back.

A Buy It Back Guide which lists products made from recycled materials can be found at www.zerowaste.co.nz .

Other Opportunities for Reuse or Recycling

Many more opportunities exist for reuse and recycling on the West Coast. Listed below are some ideas that may help.

Sell, trade or buy pre-loved goods:

- Local weekend markets
- Garage sales and car boot sales
- Second hand stores
- Opportunity shops
- Through classifieds and Buy, Sell, Exchange papers. Web sites such as TradeMe

Donate items to a good cause:

- Crèche and Kindergartens
- Schools
- Toy Libraries

Charities, such as:

- St Vincent de Paul
- Uniting Church Greymouth
- Salvation Army

Handy Hints on shopping wisely

- Choose products with less packaging (e.g. refills, concentrates or buy from the bulk section).
- Avoid using disposable items
- Choose products or packaging that can be recycled or that have a recycled content.
- Look for eco-labels like the environmental choice logo.
- Buy pre-loved items from second hand or opportunity shops garage sales, or local markets.
- Take your own carry bag shopping.
- Say "no thanks" to plastic carry bags.

Builders Waste

Most construction material that is thrown away can actually be reused. The construction and demolition (C & D) industry is increasing on the West Coast. Most of the waste goes to clean fills that are usually old gravel pits. A series of guides has been produced for C & D waste materials like plasterboard, concrete, wood. These guides are available from the Resource Efficiency in the Building and Related Industries (REBRI) [web site](#).

Builders Materials easy to recycle on the West Coast:

When throwing materials into a skip you are paying contractors to haul and dispose of them. These costs are going to get increasingly more expensive. When you separate materials, they can have a value to another organisation, and maybe removed from your site for free, It doesn't take extra time on site to place materials in different bins. Remember to keep them clearly labelled and let everyone know on site, what the bins are for i.e.

- Cardboard (from packaging)
- All metal types (i.e. electrical cable, reinforcing bar, roofing iron, aluminium cans)
- Timber offcuts (non-treated)

Useful links

- [REBRI Guidelines](#)
- [Target Zero](#)
- [Terranova.org.nz](#)
- [Sustainable construction including Site Waste Management](#)

The A to Z of Reuse and Recycling on the West Coast

Item	What to do
Aluminium cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with the Scrap Metal Dealers in your area in the Yellow Pages • Drop off at local landfills • Drop off at local Resource Recovery or Refuse Centres
Aluminium scrap metal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building materials can be reused or recycled look, under Scrap Metal Dealers in the Yellow Pages. • Drop off at a local Resource Recovery or Refuse Centre
Aerosol cans – empty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with the Scrap Metal Dealers in your area in the Yellow Pages.
Automobile bodies and parts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle bodies or parts can be reused or recycled – look under Automotive Dismantlers in the yellow pages. • Automotive parts and drained engine blocks can be dropped at landfills and Refuse Centres. Car bodies - check with each District Council for special requirements and conditions. For <i>free</i> disposal all require that fuel tanks are drained and punctured, engine and transmission oils are drained, tyres are removed, car is deregistered.
Batteries – car	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade in your old battery when you buy a new one. • Drop off at a Resource Recovery or Refuse Centre • Check with your local Lions or Rotary club
Batteries – mobile phone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop off at a local Telecom or Vodafone store, Check under Communication and Equipment Services in the Yellow Pages
Books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give to schools, second hand shops and charities. • Sell on TradeMe web site or local Buy Sell and Exchange, Classified ads in the paper.
Boxboard – cereal boxes, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycle through Blue Bins Preston Rd., Greymouth. Flatten and deliver direct to depot or drop off at a Blue Bin skip at McLeans landfill Greymouth • Flatten and drop off at Hokitika Landfill
Building and demolition materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look under Demolition in the Yellow Pages for contacts.
Cardboard – corrugated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycle through Blue Bins Preston Rd., Greymouth. Flatten and deliver direct to depot or drop off at a Blue Bin skip at McLeans landfill Greymouth • Flatten and drop off at Hokitika and Greymouth landfills for recycling.
Carpet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpet that is in good enough condition to reuse is accepted at some second hand shop and dealers Check with them first • The West Coast Waste Exchange Service may take old carpet, phone 03 336 0080. info@rmf.org.nz
Chemicals – household detergents, sprays, pool chemicals, paints, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For household volumes only, drop off unwanted household chemicals at a Hazardous Waste shed located at a landfill or Refuse Centre.

Item	What to do
Clothing, fabric and textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donate clothing to charities
Computers and computer equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serviceable computers and computer equipment can be donated to local charities. • Check the Waste Minimisation support for Business directory for a list of recyclers available in Canterbury
Fire extinguishers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop off at a Household Hazardous Waste shed located at landfills and Resource Recovery Centres.
Furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serviceable furniture can be sold, traded or donated to local charities.
Garden waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compost at home see your local District Council for a how to composting brochure • Drop off separated greenwaste at landfills and Resource Parks and Refuse Centres
Glass bottles and jars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crates of beer bottles can be swapped at many liquor outlets. • Remove lids and rinse containers before recycling. • Drop off at landfills, Resource and Refuse Centres • Recycle jam jars at charity shops or local schools
Household goods – kitchenware, cutlery and ornaments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serviceable household goods can be sold, traded or donated to local charities
Household hazardous waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For household quantities only, take unwanted household chemicals to a Hazardous Waste shed located at a landfill or Resource or Refuse Centre.
Medicines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return any unused medicines to your local pharmacy.
Motor oil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used oil is accepted at landfills and some Refuse and Recovery Centres Check with your local district council for availability and quantities allowed • Check the Waste Minimisation support for Business directory for a list of oil recyclers • Drop off at participating retailers where you purchased your oil – check that they will take used oil
Newspapers and magazines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magazines can be given to your local child care centre surgery, etc. • Recycle through the kerbside recycling collection (where available). Place in a plastic bag and tie handles. • Recycle through Blue Bins Preston Rd., Greymouth

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Paints and turpentine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For household volumes only, drop off unwanted chemicals at a Hazardous Waste shed located at landfills and some Resource Recovery Parks Check for availability with your local district council .
Paper – letters, envelopes, advertising brochures, office paper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycle through the kerbside recycling collection (where available). Place clean paper in a plastic bag and tie handles. • Reuse envelopes and paper for notes and shopping lists
Plastic containers – ice cream, yoghurt and plastic food containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop off clean containers at child care centres • Reuse as plant pots, storage containers, decorate as a pen holder
Plastic supermarket bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Warehouse and some supermarkets accept shopping bags for recycling/reuse. • Drop off clean and empty bags at used clothing stores that accept them.
Plastic plant pots and seedling trays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop off clean reusable pots and trays at your local school, charities, secondhand shop
Printer and photocopier toner cartridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the Waste Minimisation support for Business directory for a list of recyclers
Rubble and soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop off separated rubble, bricks, concrete or soil at a Resource Recovery Park or landfill • Contact the West Coast Waste Exchange – they may have requests for clean soil, phone 03 336 0080.
Small household appliances and electronic devices - toasters, radios, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usable appliances can be sold, traded or donated to charity. • Check the Waste Minimisation support for Business directory for a list of recyclers
Scrap metal - steel, iron, copper, old bike frames	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metal recyclers can be found under Recycling, Scrap Metal Dealers and Demolition in the Yellow Pages. • Drop off at a RMF Recycling Centre. □
Sports goods and toys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usable goods can be sold, traded or donated to charity, toy libraries, schools and child care centres. • Drop off at a Resource Recovery park or Landfill
Steel and tin cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycle through the any can recycling collection at schools or clubs. Rinse the steel and tin cans before recycling.

Item	What to do
Telephone books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone books can be recycled at kerbside paper collection (where available) Tear off back and front cover before recycling
Televisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donate working televisions to a local charity or institution. • Check the Waste Minimisation support for Business directory for a list of recyclers
Whiteware – fridges, freezers, ovens, washing machines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serviceable appliances can be sold, traded or donated to charity. • Drop off at a Resource Recovery park or landfill for reuse or scrap metal.
Wood – reusable off-cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look under Demolition in the Yellow Pages for contacts.