

# ACT RUBBISH REPORT 2022

Clean Up



The 2022 Rubbish Report is a snapshot of rubbish removed by Clean Up Australia volunteers. Across the Territory, the Report is based on the count of 6,199 rubbish items from 36 surveyed locations (4,823 items from 14 locations in 2021).

## SITES REGISTERED

**207**  
(210 in 2021)

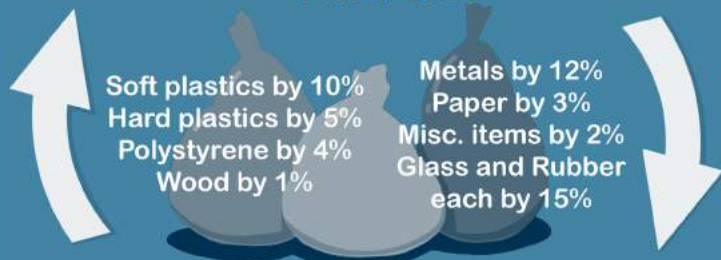
## ESTIMATED VOLUNTEERS

**21,031**  
(20,759 in 2021)

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

**42,062**  
(41,518 in 2021)

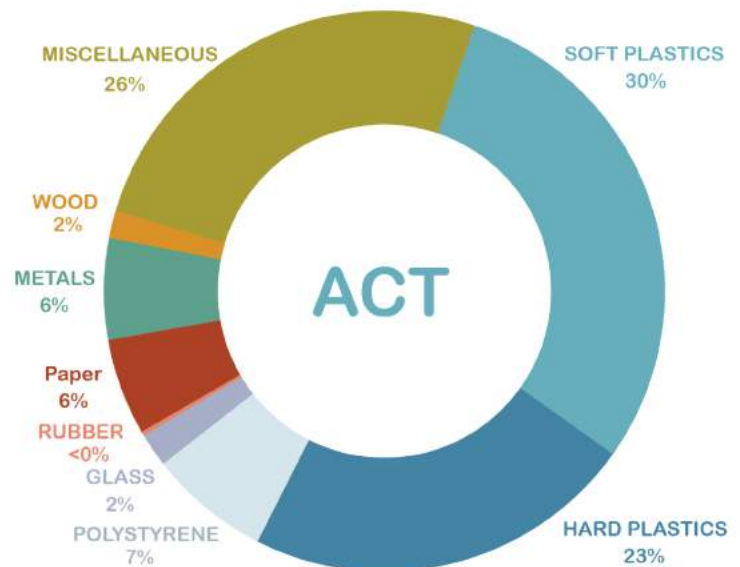
## NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2021



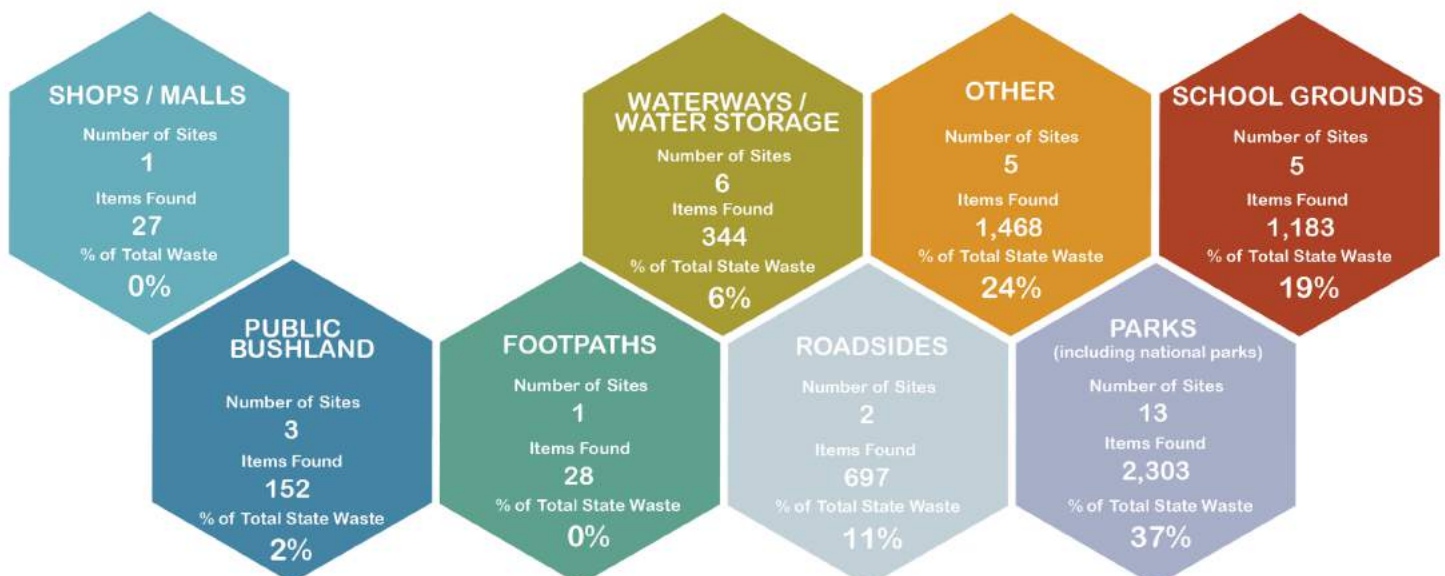
Reflecting volunteer feedback about the impact of recently introduced single-use items such as face masks, 2022 data included a number of new items and groupings such as e-waste.

This feedback reinforces volunteer engagement with Clean Up action and is a clear reminder that the desire to remove rubbish from their streets, beaches, parks, bushland and waterways remains as relevant today as it was over 33 years ago when volunteers first took action.

## MAJOR TYPES OF RUBBISH REPORTED



## FAVOURITE CLEAN UP SITES





# TOP 10 RUBBISH ITEMS AS A % OF THE TOTAL RUBBISH SURVEYED

GROUPED ITEMS	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
	Soft Plastics	Non-Food Packaging	Beverage Containers	Food Packaging	Sanitary Items	Beverage Rubbish	E-Waste	Household Items	Construction Materials	Clothing
	29.8%	29.2%	13.0%	11.0%	6.7%	5.9%	3.1%	0.9%	0.2%	0.2%

While items within the Top 5 of Grouped items remain relatively consistent with 2021, we saw significant % increases in three categories: soft plastics [up 9.7%], beverage containers [up 7%] and sanitary items [up 5.3%].

The good news is beverage related rubbish dropped into 6th spot, decreasing their impact on counts by 12.4%, non-food packaging counts by 7.6%, and food packaging by 0.3%.

Across the remaining categories: sanitary items jumped from 8th to 5th in ranking, reflecting the inclusion of face masks in that category.

Household items slipped two rankings with a 1.4% reduction of reported items and construction waste dropped from 7th to 9th place, showing a 1.3% reduction. The adjustment to household items reflects the separation of e-waste for the first time, where it took 7th place as a category.

Clothing, in 10th position this year dropped one place, with a 1% reduction.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
	Quick Count Soft Plastics	Cigarette Butts	Face Masks	Aluminium Beverage Cans	Single Use Plastic Bottles	Coffee Cups	Fast Food / Take Away Containers	Straws	Plastic Packaging Pieces	Chips & Confect. Wrappers
	26.1%	22.5%	6.4%	5.1%	4.8%	3.3%	3.0%	2.6%	2.3%	2.3%

The 2022 Top Ten Individual item list bears little resemblance to 2021.

Only four items carried over. Soft plastics dominated, rising from 5th ranking to #1 spot, with a staggering increase of 20.1%.

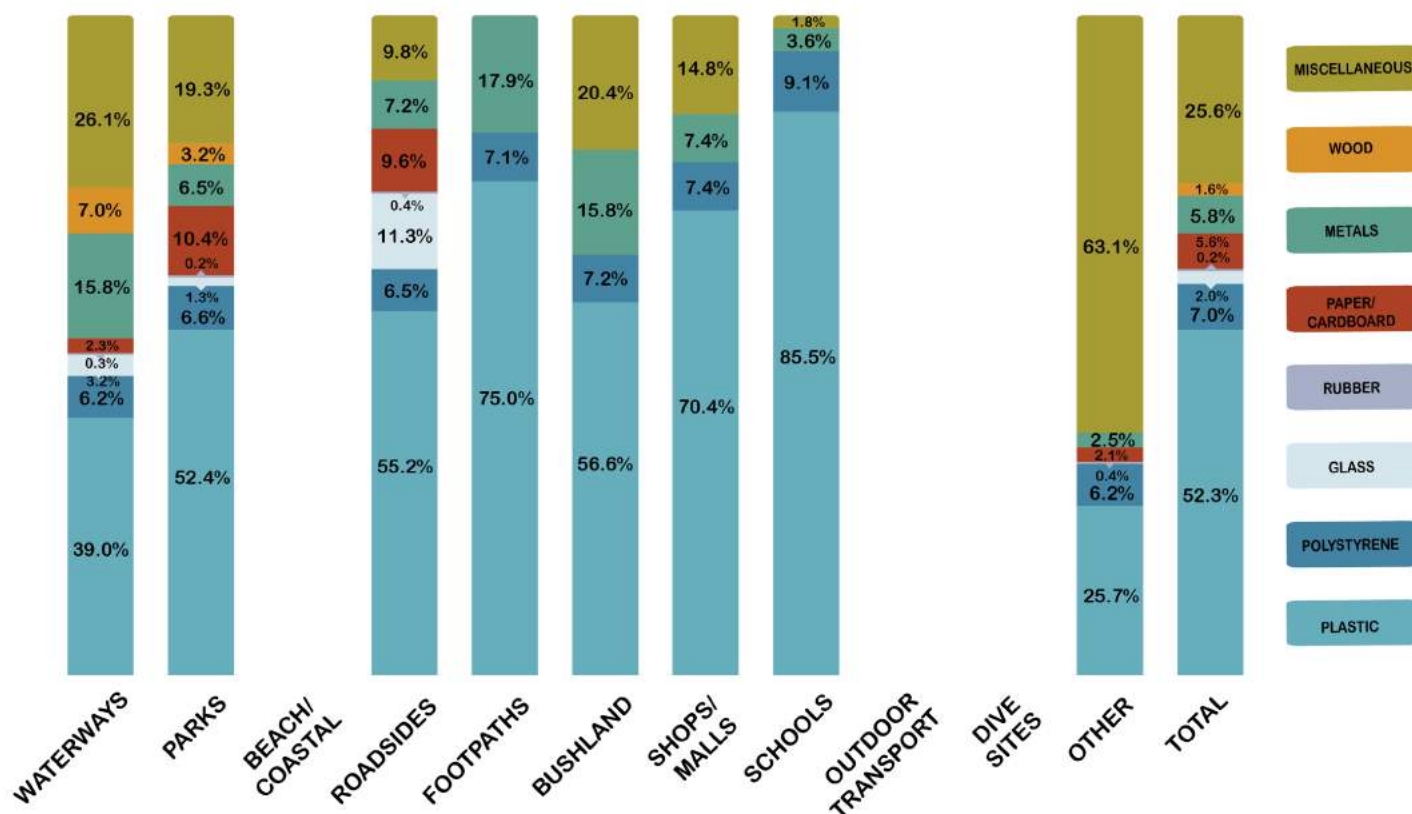
Cigarette butts fell from 1st to 2nd on the list with a reduction of 2.7% in their count.

Takeaway food containers rose from 9th place to 7th with a 1% increase in presence.

And plastic chip and confectionery wrappers came in 10th this year, reducing their % count by 2.6%.

All other Top 10 items from 2021, which included both plastic and metal bottle caps and their lids, food bags, foil confectionery wrappers, cling wrap and polystyrene packaging fell off the list. They were replaced by face masks, coffee cups and single use plastic bottles [each of which were new categories for 2022], aluminium beverage cans, straws and plastic packaging pieces.

## RUBBISH TYPE BY LOCATION



Founding Partner



Partners



sodastream

coles

amazon

shopper

shopa docket

Media Partners

iQRenew

LOOKIT

CLEANAWAY

Suppliers