## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA RUBBISH REPORT 2022**



The 2022 Rubbish Report is a snapshot of rubbish removed by Clean Up Australia volunteers. Across WA the Report is based on the count of 28,333 rubbish items from 115 surveyed locations (32,728 items from 88 locations in 2021)

#### SITES REGISTERED

**1,347** (1,282 in 2021) ESTIMATED VOLUNTEERS 131,385 (111,406 in 2021)

#### **VOLUNTEER HOURS**

262,770 (222,812 in 2021)

#### NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2021

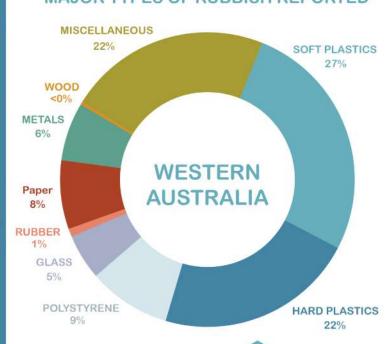
Soft plastics by 13% Polystyrene by 5% Hard plastic by 3% Paper by 6%
Metals by 6%
Glass by 5%
Misc. items by 3%
Wood by 1%

#### Rubber remained at 1%

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**

# OTHER Number of Sites 5 Items Found 2,718 % of Total State Waste 10% RIVER / CREEK/ WATER WAYS/ WATER STORAGE Number of Sites 13 Items Found 3,466

# PARKS (including national parks) Number of Sites 21 Items Found 4,606 % of Total State Waste

SCHOOL GROUNDS

Number of Sites
13

Items Found
2,166

PUBLIC BUSHLAND
Number of Sites
25
Items Found
4,121
% of Total State Waste
14%
CH / COASTAL

SHOPS / MALLS

Number of Sites

22

Items Found

8,016
% of Total State Waste

28%

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

#10 #2 #4 #5 #6 #8 #9 Sporting Non-Food Beverage Food Sanitary Household Beverage Clothing Equipment / **Soft Plastics** E-Waste Items **Packaging** Containers Rubbish **Packaging** Items Toys 11.4% 27.6% 14.4% 6.0% 3.0% 1.1% 26.7% 6.1% 1.5% 1.2%

While items within the Top 10 groupings remain relatively consistent with 2021, we saw e-waste enter as a new category replacing construction materials within the list.

Increases were noted across soft plastics [up 12.8%], sanitary items [up 2.7%], food packaging [up 2.3%] and beverage containers [up 1.5%]

The increase in sanitary items is masks as a 'quick count' item this year.

The good news is non-food packaging decreased by 12.3%, household items by 2.6%, and toys/sporting equipment by 0.6%.

Clothing as a percentage of with 2021.

#2 #8 #10 #3 #4 #5 #6 #9 Single Use Fast Food / Chips & Aluminium **Quick Count** Cigarette **Plastic Take Away** Confect. Straws Face Masks Glass Pieces Coffee Cups Beverage **Soft Plastics** Butts **Bottles** Containers Cans Wrappers 20.2% 19.3% 5.0% 5.0% 4.1% 3.9% 3.8% 3.5% 2.9% 2.4%

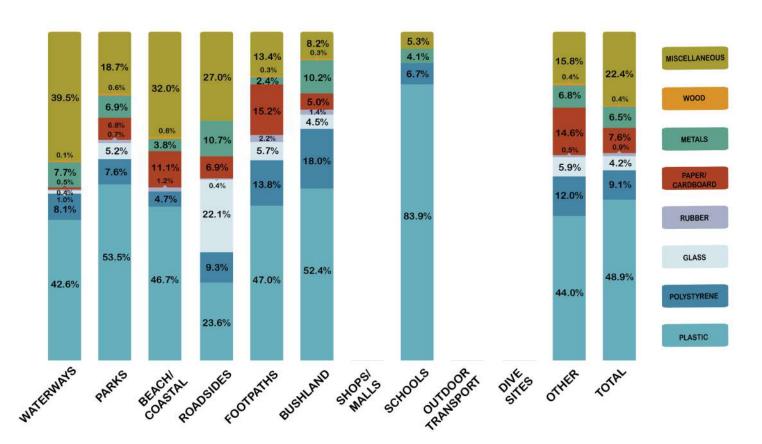
year, with the introduction of new quick count' items including face masks, single-use bottles and coffee cups.

Quick count soft item count.

Aluminium beverage cans, fast food/takeaway containers and straws re-entered the Top 10, replacing plastic and metal bottle caps & lids, alcoholic bottles, napkins & tissues, small pieces of paper and plastic packaging.

reduced their count by 3%, plastic chip and confectionery wrappers by 0.8% and glass pieces by 0.1%.

#### RUBBISH TYPE BY LOCATION



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