

Cape Town aims for zero waste to landfill – eventually



adhflakehroeyr

A truly sustainable urban centre sends no waste to its landfill sites, other than toxic waste; it also ensures that all residents and businesses separate their waste at source, and that this separated waste is collected and recycled at recycling or composting businesses. Cape Town is not there yet...

Quite the opposite, in fact. Currently, Cape Town sends more total waste to landfill each year (there is an increase in waste disposal per capita in the city), and there is a decrease in the lifespan of available landfill sites.

Unless we change the way we do things, we will continue to be part of a city that is using more, throwing more away, and that has a decreasing ability to accommodate our waste.

Atlantic success story

The good news, though, is that a pilot City of Cape Town programme to separate residential waste at

source has been a great success.

About 17% of the 11 000 households in the Atlantic area (Pine-lands, Melkbos, Blouberg and Pine-lands) have participated in the project – and have placed all their recyclable items into a separate bag for collection on 'wheelie bin' day.

In January, February and March this year, Wasteplan (the City's contractor in this area) collected almost 120 tonnes a month of recyclables. This means that about 250 cubic metres of landfill space has been saved every month!

Cardboard and glass have been the most popular items collected, then cans and recyclable plastics.

The clear plastic bags are then taken to a facility in Maitland (above) where the items are sorted into plastics, paper, cans, etc, then sent to the relevant facilities to be recycled; paper, for example, might be recycled into packaging, and plastics into plastic bags.

How to separate waste at source

If you don't live in the Atlantic area, it's still easy to separate your waste. Follow the same steps about what you can and can't recycle, and take your recyclables to one of the City's free 20 drop-off sites.

You can use these drop-off sites even if you do live in an area that is part of the pilot project – you might have too many items to fit into one bag, for example.

At most of the sites you can dispose of tins, glass, paper and plastics, while at some you can also dispose of oil and electronic waste (such as old computers and cell phones).

Green garden waste from these sites is chipped and composted, while builder's rubble is crushed for re-use.

Waste that is not recyclable or re-useable is then transported to the landfill for disposal.

What can be recycled?

- Paper products: Clean, dry and flat office paper, cardboard and magazines
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles and containers – beverage, food and other containers including margarine, ice cream, yoghurt, shampoo and household detergent containers
- Cans – food tins and drink cans
- Plastic bags

Please remove lids and caps. Rinse and empty all containers. Flatten all plastic containers and cardboard. Prevent glass items from breaking.

What can't be recycled?

- Polystyrene or foam food trays and cups
- Cling wrap or disposable nappies
- Toothpaste tubes
- Containers that once held motor oil, acid, solvents or chemicals
- Garden refuse
- Organic material waste such as food scraps, vegetable peels, etc.
- Clothing or shoes
- Anything wet, dirty or covered in grass clippings

Calling all Helderberg residents...

The 'split bag' waste collection project will start again in your area soon, so please participate.

The City has called for a new tender for the project, where the contractor will provide you with information about the programme, supply you with plastic bags for your recyclable waste, collect these bags and sort the materials.

The contractor will be required to collect from at least 50% of the households in the area, and meet a target where at least 12.5% of the total mass of waste collected is recyclable.

So do your bit, and the project will be a success.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WASTE SEPARATION



Paper and cardboard

Mondi
www.paperpickup.co.za
Sappi
www.sappi.com
Nampak
www.nampak.com

Tins/cans

Collect-a-can
www.collectacan.co.za

Used oil

The Rose Foundation
www.rosefoundation.org.za

Glass

The Glass Recycling Company
www.theglassrecyclingcompany.co.za

Plastics

The Plastics Federation of SA
www.plasticsinfo.co.za
PETCO
www.petco.co.za

Garden Waste

Bionamix
www.bionamix.com
Reliance
www.reliance.co.za

General

National Recycling Forum
www.recycling.co.za
Paper Recycling Association
www.prasa.co.za
The SA Tyre Recycling Process Company
www.rubbersa.com



COUNCIL TO REPAIR AND UPGRADE ITS RENTED FLATS AND HOUSES

The City of Cape Town will soon start a major maintenance and rental housing upgrading project.

The City will send maintenance teams to rental properties, to find out what type of maintenance work needs to be done.

This is Phase 1 of a project that will be spread across the City Of Cape Town to all rental housing properties. Other phases of this maintenance project will not wait for Phase 1 to be complete before also starting.

Will my rental unit be upgraded?

If you live in a City-owned rental housing unit in one of the areas listed below, your unit will be upgraded as part of Phase 1.

- Connaught Estate Flats, Elsies River
- Scottsdene Flats, Oostenberg
- Uitsig Houses, Elsies River
- Woodlands Flats, Woodlands, Mitchells Plain
- Kewtown Flats, Kewtown, Athlone
- Hanover Park Flat, Hanover Park
- Heideveld Flats, Heideveld
- Manenberg Flats, Manenberg
- Marble Flats, Ottery

What work will be done on my rental unit?

The first phase of the project will include a detailed assessment of your rental property complex.

The maintenance team will then do the necessary construction work, as well as repainting and improving the general appearance of the units

When will this work start?

The City will soon go out to tender, and planning for the project will start in July 2008.

How will I know what is happening, and when?

The project team will appoint Communication Liaison Officers, who will keep you informed.

Will I have to move out?

We do not expect that occupants will have to move out of their rental units, but we will only be sure once the final assessment has been made.

What can I do in the meantime?

Please co-operate with the City. We know that the process will take some time.

Please ensure that you pay your rent on time, so that we can continue to budget for these upgrades.

How can I find out more?

Visit your rental office. During May 2008, the City will hold public meetings with your community and ward councilors or mayoral committee members to give you more information. Look out for advertisements or posters informing you when these meetings will take place.



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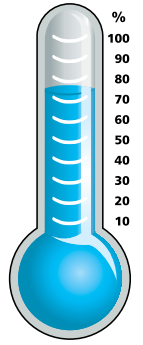
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BARDALE HOUSING PROJECT

How the sites are allocated

How many sites (erven) does the Bardale Housing Project have?

The Bardale Housing Project will eventually have 4 789 serviced residential sites.

Who is going to be moved to these sites?

1 400 families who live between the Nolongile and Nonqubela stations in Khayelitsha will be moved there first.

An out-of-court settlement with the City of Cape Town, the Provincial Government Western Cape and the South African Rail Commuter Corporation has ruled that this community must be relocated first, because they live in very dangerous conditions, within the railway reserve.

How are these sites going to be allocated?

- 1 921 sites are allocated to the people from Khayelitsha who are living in the railway reserve (in terms of an Emergency Housing Programme).
- 400 sites are reserved for people living in the road reserve in Somerset West (they will be in danger from the proposed N2 Toll Road). They do not qualify for subsidies.
- 1 000 sites are reserved for people who do qualify for subsidies, who are currently living in informal settlements in Mfuleni: Garden City, Eden, Phola Park, Burundi and Shukushuma.
- 800 sites are reserved for people who do qualify for subsidies, who currently live in double occupation in Enkanini Informal Settlement.
- 300 sites will be allocated to residents of Kosovo.

What other housing projects is the City planning?

The City's Five-Year Plan for housing includes projects to accommodate people who live in Ward 16 and 18.

These projects include:

- Driftsands: planning has already started on this project, which will house about 2 000 families.
- Mfuleni Ext 2: this project will include about 1 500 subsidised and gap houses.



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