

# World Environment Day

## Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group

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### Take action this World Environment Day

In 2019 the United Nations will be promoting awareness and action to *Beat Air Pollution* through World Environment Day on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Did you know that globally one of the top five contributors to air pollution is waste? It might be hard to believe that the waste we generate has such a significant impact on the air we breathe. Although in Victoria the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) have banned backyard incinerators and open-air burning this practice occurs on a global scale with 40% of waste still burned openly releasing harmful gases into the environment. Another key contributor to the air pollution is organic and food material decomposing in landfill. When food and garden waste breakdown without oxygen in a landfill, they create methane which can be up to 25 times worse than carbon dioxide as a global warming gas.

The Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group (LMWRRG) is dedicated to reducing food and organic material being sent to landfill and turning this “waste” material into a valuable resource. With the recent release of the *Loddon Mallee Regional Organics Strategy 2019 – 2025* the LMWRRG have a vision of zero organics to landfill for the region.

Households in the Loddon Mallee region can play a part through simple changes to the way they dispose of their waste such as:

- Reducing waste materials generated including food waste
- Recycling the correct materials through kerbside recycling bins
- Divert your food and organic waste from landfill where possible such as through a council collection service, home composting or home worm farms. If a council collection service is available for your area, make sure you follow their guidelines for what type of organics are accepted and do not include materials that would contaminate compost.

Not sure how to dispose of your waste, recycling or organic material? Download the FREE Loddon Mallee Waste Info App through the App Store or Google Play with the search: Loddon Mallee or visit your local council website.

*Caring for our environment by reducing waste to landfill.*

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