

STEEL AND ALUMINIUM



THE FACTS ABOUT RECYCLING STEEL & ALUMINIUM



Aerosols are one of the easiest of all steel cans to recycle, yet only

35%

are currently being put in the yellow bins.

It takes around **15,000 steel cans** to form 1 tonne of recycled steel.

Every year each Australian sends 3.5kg of steel cans to landfill – that is enough to make **40,000** fridges.

Australians use over

3 billion

aluminium cans annually. Of these, 51% are soft drink cans and 31% are alcoholic beverage cans. 1 billion of these cans will end up in landfill.

If you picked up the 900 million aluminium cans that are sent to landfill each year and delivered them to a scrap metal dealer you would get **\$15 million**.



94%

of households in Australia have access to recycling facilities with 56% of cans being returned for recycling.

WHY RECYCLE METAL?

Most steel has around **20% recycled content**.

Steel and aluminium is

100%

recyclable and can be recycled an infinite number of times, saving energy and raw materials each time it is reprocessed.

Recycling 1kg of steel keeps 2kg of greenhouse gas out of the atmosphere.

For every aluminium can recycled, enough energy is saved to **run a TV for 3 hours**.

Making steel from recycled cans rather than raw materials uses

75% less energy.

Every tonne of steel recycled saves 1,131kg of iron ore, 633kg of coal and 54kg of limestone.

Food tins, drink cans, aluminium foil, aluminium trays, bottle tops, empty paint cans and empty aerosol cans can be recycled through your kerbside recycling service.

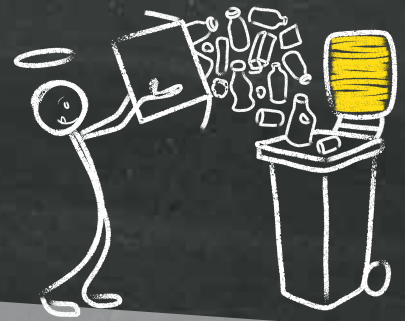


IF IN DOUBT, CHECK IT OUT

www.townsville.qld.gov.au 1300 878 001



WHAT HAPPENS TO STEEL AND ALUMINIUM?



Scrap metal and steel cans are taken to a refinery where they are assessed for their alloy make up



Aluminium is sent to a manufacturer

Tin is removed from steel cans through reverse electroplating

STEEL and ALUMINIUM is collected in recycling schemes and separated at the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)

It is crushed and shredded

Cans are melted down to liquid metallic iron and are used in new steel production



It is then melted down with some new aluminium before being made into new products

DID YOU KNOW?

Tin cans no longer need to be rinsed or cleaned prior to being put into your recycling bin because they are smelted at extremely high temperatures.

Aluminium beverage cans are getting lighter. Twenty years ago, a pound of aluminium made about 20 cans, today it makes 30.

Recycled cans may be used in aircraft, cars, bicycles, boats, computers, cookware, gutters, siding, wire and... more cans.

Approximately 350,000 aluminium cans are made every minute.

**NEVER
BAG YOUR
RECYCLABLES**

