

### Why is the City returning to bulk hard waste collection this year?

Verge Valet<sup>™</sup> was introduced to the City on a trial basis. Council decided to return to the previous system of biannual bulk hard waste collection in June 2023.

### Can I still book Verge Valet<sup>™</sup>?

Bookings are no longer being accepted for Verge Valet<sup>™</sup>. If you have a date for this service already booked in, this will still go ahead.

### Is there a size limit for my hard waste collection?

There are no size limits but we do ask that you think sustainability and try and reuse or repair items before putting them out – bulk waste collection should be a last resort.

### Do my items get recycled once they're picked up?

Items from bulk waste collections are always recycled wherever possible but much of it still may end up in landfill if it's not suitable for recycling so it's always best to reuse or repair where you can. You can also drop a number of items off for recycling throughout the year at the West Metro Recycling Centre if it's hazardous waste or does not fit in your normal recycling bin.

### How can I guarantee my items have a second lease on life?

While some items may get picked up or pulled apart for pieces from people once they're out on the verge, there are ways to guarantee your items have a second lease on life.

Gifting, selling, donating, fixing or swapping items first guarantee your item will have a second life rather than hoping someone will pick it up from the verge collection. You could try finding a second life for your item through:

- Buy Nothing groups
- Gumtree
- Ebay
- Facebook Marketplace
- Street libraries
- Charity donation points or stores

# Why should I bother finding other ways to reuse or recycle my items if they get recycled via the bulk waste collection anyway?

By reusing items and reducing the amount of waste we have, it reduces the amount of waste that will need to be processed or sent to landfill thereby saving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It also helps to reduce the need to mine or extract more precious natural resources to manufacture new products.

Not all items are suitable for recycling so may end up in landfill; sometimes finding a new owner is the best way to get some more life out of your unwanted items. Using resources, like Buy Nothing groups, also guarantees a second life for your items rather than putting them on the verge and hoping that someone might pick it up. It can also end up putting a bit of extra cash in your pocket – a win-win!

There are other sustainability concerns that come with putting your items out on the verge, for example, scavengers can cut gas pipes in fridges to get to parts that they can sell but this releases potentially hazardous gases into the atmosphere.

### What dates are the bulk hard waste collection this year?

The first collection will commence on Monday 19 February 2024. The second date will be in the second half of the year and will be communicated – via the City's website and Facebook page – once it's confirmed.

# FAQs Bi-annual bulk hard waste collection



## What items are accepted and what items won't be picked up?

ACCEPTED items:	Items NOT ACCEPTED:
Air conditioners	NO asbestos products
BBQ's (not gas bottles)	NO batteries
Bicycles	NO building materials (bricks, rubble, concrete etc.)
Bulk polystyrene	NO car oil & fuel
Bulky toys	NO food
E-waste (TVs, computers, accessories)	NO gas cylinders
Fencing (timber & steel only)	NO glass panels (tables, mirrors & window panes)
Floor coverings (linoleum, carpet)	NO hazardous materials (flammable, toxic or corrosive
Fridges/freezers (doors removed)	liquids)
Garden hoses	NO paint
General junk	NO dirt, garden waste, soil, sand & mulch
Household furniture (no glass)	NO tyres
Mattresses	NO vehicles, car bodies, car parts
Mattress bases	
Scrap metal	
Plant pots	
Small electrical goods	
Timber (not garden waste)	
White goods (doors removed)	
Wire/strapping	

### Where can I find more resources for reducing waste to landfill or finding a new home for unwanted items?

- How to repair | Western Metropolitan Regional Council
- How to Reuse and Recycle Unwanted Items | Western Metropolitan Regional Council
- <u>www.vergevalet.com.au/repair-and-reuse-options</u>