

# Introduction

As part of Householders' Options to Protect the Environment's (HOPE) aims to reduce waste and conserve energy and resources, we offer the following suggestions to remind you that: *underlying all our human activities, we should be mindful of things we can do every day to help the environment.*

HOPE seeks to promote its charter through individuals, families, community groups and businesses who embrace the philosophy of HOPE and spread this philosophy of *sustainable living* to others. Whether you live in urban, rural or regional Australia, you too can lessen your impact on the global environment by adopting sustainable living practices at home, at work and at school.

For example, there are other "R" words beyond Reduce, Reuse, Recycle that people could use in regards to how they manage their buying, consumption (i.e., use of) and disposal of unwanted goods. *Refuse* the offer of a free plastic carry bag; or buy "2 for one" or "2<sup>nd</sup> item half price" when appropriate.

HOPE's head office is located in Toowoomba, Qld and has members and supporters throughout Australia. We hold members meetings (in person and via ZOOM) four times a year, whilst keeping in regular contact by email; our social media platforms and our website.

## Facts for thought and further action:

Australia (ABS statistics) generated 75.8 million tonnes of solid waste in 2018-19, which was a 10% increase over the last two years (since 2016-17). Over half of all waste was sent for recycling (38.5 million tonnes), while 27% was sent to landfill for disposal (20.5 million tonnes). Households generated 12.4 million tonnes (16.3%).

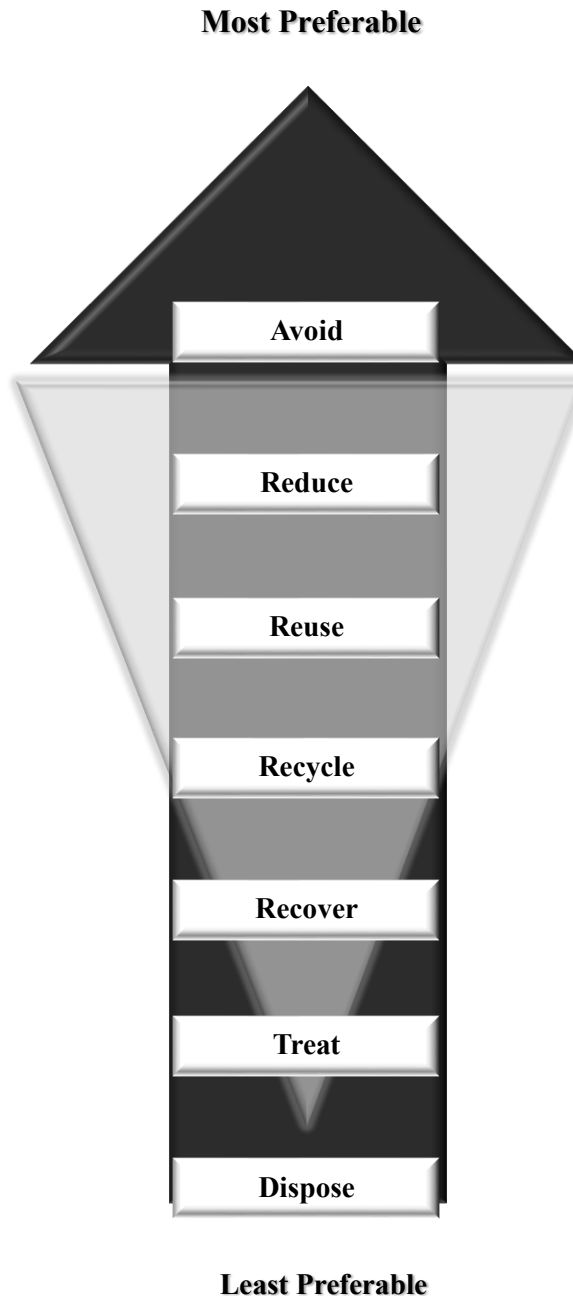
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# The Waste Hierarchy



## Priority of Actions

**Avoid** — collecting or creating waste

**Reduce** — waste and use of resources, especially water and electricity

**Reuse** — what you can

**Repurpose** — use discarded product or its parts in a new product with a different function.

**Repair** — give an item a longer life

**Downsize** — send items to welfare stores, not to the tip; donate to special appeals – major (and minor)

**Divert** — food waste to worm farms or compost

- tree prunings and lawn clippings to mulch
- excess food to Food Bank

**Recycle** — see *Recycling Near You* services

- glass, paper, plastic, steel, aluminium
- support your Council's recycling programs

**Reprocess** — most discarded products

- see industry initiatives

**Disposal** — to the appropriate facility – don't litter or illegally dump

# Useful Contacts

## National

Visit the Federal Government's *Dept. of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water* to view their waste and recycling policies - <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/protection/waste>

Check commercial "take-back" schemes such as:

- Container Deposit Refund schemes
- Office works - <https://www.officeworks.com.au/information/about-us/peopleandplanet/recycling>
- Battery World - <https://www.batteryworld.com.au/recycling>
- Mobilemuster -- <https://www.mobilemuster.com.au>
- Drummuster - [www.drummuster.org.au](http://www.drummuster.org.au)

Visit community agencies such as:

- Planet Ark's Recycling Near You service - <https://recyclingnearyou.com.au>
- Clean Up Australia - <https://www.cleanup.org.au>
- Community Exchange System Australia - <https://www.communityexchange.net.au>

## State

Visit your State Government's *Environmental Protection Agency* for a full list of waste policies and services provided.

## Local

- Visit your Local Government Authority's website for a full list of their waste and recycling services.
- Check 'Yellow Pages' for commercial recycling services
- See also community initiatives such as Second-hand shops, Swap/Share groups

# The HOPE Charter

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. encourages people to take responsibility for protecting and enhancing the environment in their everyday lives.

HOPE members and supporters have the following aims:

- To use a little as possible of energy and resources.
- To create minimal pollution, both directly and indirectly.
- To prefer, in general, renewable to non-renewable, natural to manufactured, and local to imported.
- To support and promote 'best practice' natural resource management and land care activities.

HOPE encourages people:

- To view environmental problems in their local, economic and global context.
- To use what is already there, making the most of existing resources, technology and community networks; and
- To create, communicate and celebrate lifestyles which reduce consumption and improve quality of life.

While HOPE endorses individual action, it also encourages people to act together in their local community, and in society, to further these aims.

HOPE is a non-profit organization and is not affiliated with any political party.



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## Advice to help YOU Minimise Waste and Conserve Resources

*developed by:*

**Householders' Options to Protect  
the Environment (HOPE) Inc.**  
**[www.hopeaustralia.org.au](http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au)**

## Dedication

*This brochure is dedicated to all those businesses engaged in repair activities—extending the life of a variety of goods and appliances.*

*I would like to particularly thank **Jannusch Shoe Repairs, Toowoomba, Qld** who have been extending the work-life of our family's well-worn shoes; handbags and belts for over 20 years.*

*Frank & Mary Ondrus, thankful customers*

## Littering and illegal dumping

Everyday residents can step up and assist in picking up litter and clearing illegal dumping sites.

People could set-up their own Clean-up Crew and regularly clean-up around their local neighbourhood – including shops, schools, and parks.