

# REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE

## Tips for reducing waste going to landfill in Seychelles

Updated July 2017

Seychelles' landfills are running out of space with all of the rubbish generated from our homes, businesses and schools. Here are a few ideas from Sustainability For Seychelles of what we can all do at home, at school and at work to reduce, re-use and recycle waste, and help divert it from landfills. Remember, out of the three R's, recycling is the last option as it requires a lot of energy and water – so as much as possible focus on strategies to reduce and re-use waste materials.

### ORGANIC WASTE

This category of waste makes up about 50% of Seychelles' waste stream and includes left over foods, kitchen scraps such as vegetable and fruit peels, as well as garden waste such as grass, leaves and twigs. Leftover foods can be eaten the next day or fed to pets. Set up a compost bin or heap for kitchen scraps and green waste from the garden (avoid waste of animal origin as it attracts rats and stray dogs). Visit our website\* to download a copy of the Seychelles Composting Guide or visit the compost educational display in the Botanical Gardens (near the maintenance building). Compost bins can be easily made out of chicken wire and pallets.



### PAPER PRODUCTS / EGG TRAYS

Navin's Paper Recycling Centre (271-7170) accepts donations of all types of paper products. You must bring them to the factory at Providence (near the desalination plant) yourself. They make various recycled paper products and sell them on site. At home, you can shred non-glossy paper and add it to your compost. You could also donate clean magazines, cardboard and cereal boxes to your **local school or crèche**, but check with them first if they are in need of it. Egg trays can be returned to **Golden Egg** at Anse Royale for re-use (437-1261).



### USED CLOTHING & HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Clean clothing, bedsheets, towels, kitchen implements, toys and other household items that are still good can be given to the **Soroptimist International Club of Victoria** (252-1444) who hold a Jumble Sale every 3 months. The **Red Cross Society of Seychelles** (437-4543) also accepts donations on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue for redistribution to families in need. Used clothing (especially old jeans) and fabric scraps, buttons, zips and accessories can be donated to the **Visual Arts School** at Anse Royale (437-3354) or **Montagne Posée Prison** for recycling / fashion projects. Otherwise, try your local schools and churches to see if they re-use used clothing pieces as rags or craft materials.



### BOOKS

Used children's books can be donated to the **Soroptimist Club** (252-1444) for their Jumble Sale every 3 months, or donated to your local school library. Other books can be donated to the **Montagne Posée Prison** or the NGO **Friends of Prison** for the prison library collection ([friendsofprison@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofprison@gmail.com)). You can also drop donations for the Prison at the S4S office.

### PET PLASTIC BOTTLES & METAL DRINK CANS:

Locally bottled PET bottles with labels removed and metal drink cans (e.g. beer, soft drinks) can be sold for 50c each at designated **Redeem Centres** at **Providence, Anse Royale, St. Louis, Praslin and La Digue**. If this is too much trouble, you can simply sort them into a separate clear bag or box and place it next to a public bin or give it to a neighbour, so that someone else can get the refund. **Harini and Co Pty Ltd** (252-3355), the company that shreds and exports PET plastic, is located at Providence and they accept local PET bottles. **DE Recycling** (251-4892) and the **Anse Royale Redeem Centre** (271-2318) also accept all local PET bottles as well as cans, and offer a collection service for large amounts from hotels and other businesses. On Praslin contact the **Redeem Centre** coordinator Mr. Santos (for Deenu) on tel. 271-4664. For La Digue contact Ms. Lynn Ladouceur (for **DE Recycling**) on 254-1454 or Marc Francois of LWMA on L272-4592. You can also donate your PET bottles or cans by dropping them into one of the new combined PET/CAN blue recycle bins around in Victoria and some communities.



**Seychelles recycles!**



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### ELECTRONIC WASTE:



Electronic waste (e-waste) includes any waste electronic items that require electricity or batteries to operate, e.g. broken TVs, computers, phones, DVD players, fridges, etc. This is a new area for recycling in Seychelles – donate your e-waste to **Samlo & Sons** (286-4612), [samlogroup@intnet.mu](mailto:samlogroup@intnet.mu). Mobile phones can be repaired at **EZ Fix** (250-4030/4374039), which also repairs computers. Broken and unusable mobile phones can be donated for recycling at several collection points including all **Airtel** outlets, at the **S4S** office, **Fairmart Trading** (432-2078), or **Green Islands Foundation** (428-8829) on Mahe.

### GLASS WASTE



You can redeem your **Seybrew** beer bottles for SCR2 at any shop where they are sold. Your old jars can be reused for chutneys, jams or candle holders. Clean glass bottles and jars can be donated for re-use at **Rogan Construction's** workshop along Petite Anse Road, Mahe ([rogan@seychelles.sc](mailto:rogan@seychelles.sc)) or call S4S on (422-4072), where they are crushed and used in construction projects. (Please only leave glass – no cardboard boxes or bags).

### SCRAP METAL:

There are several companies who collect scrap metal on Mahe for recycling and export. Bring your old tins, copper wire, aluminium, washing machine or even old cars to them at Providence. If you have large quantities they may collect it, and some may even pay you. For more information, contact **Cut All** (251-4479), **Surya Enterprise** (251-1329/437-3934) or **Samlo & Sons** (286-4612).

### USED CAR TYRES:



Used truck and other large tyres (not car tyres) can be taken to **MEC Pty LTD** (434-4912 / [mec@seychelles.sc](mailto:mec@seychelles.sc)) at Le Rocher for retreading. Inner tubes can be repaired but when are no longer useful you can drop them off for recycling at MEC. Try landscaping your garden with tyre flower beds (but don't grow food in them) or making a swing for kids with a tyre suspended from a tree branch.

### CAR BATTERIES:

Batteries are extremely toxic to the environment and need to be discarded correctly. At present Seychelles only has facilities to export car batteries, which are accepted by **Surya Enterprise** (251-1329/437-3934), or **Samlo & Sons** (286 4612) on Mahe only.



### INK CARTRIDGES:

You've got two options! You can return your used printer ink cartridges or old printers to **Eco Print** (tel. 252-5533/281-7414, [ecoprintseychelles@gmail.com](mailto:ecoprintseychelles@gmail.com), [www.ecoprint.sc](http://www.ecoprint.sc)) or to the **Ink Doctor** ([sales@inkdoc.sc](mailto:sales@inkdoc.sc) Tel: 251-6266 / 437-4077). You can also buy recycled filled cartridges from the Ink Doctor shop, and they accept donations of your old unwanted cartridges which are dismantled for recycling.

If you want to sort waste at home or your business, contact S4S ([info@s4seychelles.com](mailto:info@s4seychelles.com)) for ready-to-print recycling sticker designs to label your bins for different types of waste.

### I WANT TO BUY RECYCLED ECO-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS WHERE SHOULD I GO?

Not many products made from recycled waste are available in Seychelles. However, our options are growing daily! Here are a few suppliers that we know of who are importing or making recycled goods for sale to businesses and the public:

- Blue Ocean Traders import VegWare biodegradable and compostable food containers perfect for takeaways, hotels and others. Their range includes takeaway boxes, snack bags, burger wraps, sushi trays, cups, biodegradable cutlery and more. Tel. 437-4774.
- G&O Trading Plaisance – Sell biodegradable sugarcane takeaway boxes to takeaways, hotels, etc and are currently testing biodegradable cutlery. Call them on tel. 432-2800.
- Navins (271-7170) – can supply recycled paper egg trays, egg boxes, meat trays, and is planning to start making recycled paper take away boxes in 2017.

If you know of any other businesses that S4S should promote, please let us know ([info@s4seychelles.com](mailto:info@s4seychelles.com), tel. 422-4072), or post a message on our Facebook page.