

REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE

Tips for reducing waste going to landfill in Seychelles

Updated September 2015

Seychelles' landfills are running out of space with all of the rubbish generated from our homes, businesses and schools. It's up to all of us to help reduce, re-use and recycle the amount of waste going to landfill. Here are a few ideas from Sustainability for Seychelles of what you can do at home, at school and at work to help divert waste 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 are available for sale at the Outdoor Living Shop (tel. 434-6124) or you can just make your own out of chicken wire and pallets.



SCRAP PAPER / CARDBOARD / EGG TRAYS



Options are still limited for this type of waste. Call Navin's Paper Recycling Centre (271-7170) to check if they are accepting donations. Otherwise 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).

PET BOTTLES:

Locally bottled PET bottles can be sold 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 and place it next to a public bin or give it to a neighbor so that someone else can get the refund. **Harini and Co Pty Ltd** (252-3355) 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 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, and for a collection service contact Mr. Buddy Hertel (257-9260). For La Digue contact Ms. Lynn Ladouceur (for DE Recycling) on 254-1454. You can also donate your PET bottles by dropping them into one of the new combined PET/CAN blue recycle bins around in Victoria and some communities.



ALUMINIUM CANS:

Aluminium drink cans can also be sold for a small refund at the same redeem centres listed above, or collected by the companies listed above if there are large amounts. Like PET cans, if you can't be bothered taking them to the redeem centre yourself, sort them into a separate bag and put them by the bin or give them to a neighbor who wants to get the refund, to ensure they don't end up in the landfill. You can also donate your cans by dropping them into one of the new combined PET/CAN blue recycle bins around in Victoria and some communities. For Praslin and La Digue please contact the same numbers listed for PET bottle refund.



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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 tv's, computers, phones, dvd players, etc. This is a new area for recycling in Seychelles so the situation is ever changing – for now contact Samlo & Sons (283-1353, samloseychelles@gmail.com). Broken and unusable mobile phones can be donated for recycling at several collection points including all Airtel outlets on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue, or at the S4S office, Fairmart Trading, Green Islands Foundation or CJ Mobile Services on Mahe. They will be exported by Samlo & Sons for recycling.

GLASS WASTE



You can redeem your Seybrew beer bottles for sr2 and DE Recycling (251-4892) takes back bottles from El's Products. Your old jars can be reused for pickles 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 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 scrap metal companies who export it for recycling on Mahe. In most cases, you will need to bring your old tins, washing machine or even old cars to Providence, but if you have large quantities they may collect it, and some even pay you. For more information, contact **Surya Enterprise** (251-1329/ 437-3934) **Rush Metal** (257-7661/281-6363 rushmetalsesel@gmail.com), **Cut All** (251-4479) or Samlo & Sons (283-1353). For Praslin and La Digue, the landfill deals with scrap metal for now.



USED CAR TIRES:

Car tires can be taken to **MEC (Pty) LTD** (434-4912, email: mec@seychelles.sc) at Le Rocher for retreading. Inner tubes can be repaired but when they are no longer useful you can drop them off for recycling at MEC. Try landscaping your garden with tire flower beds (but don't grow food in them) or making a swing for kids with a tire suspended from a tree branch.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Used toys, books, and other household items that are still in good condition can be donated to the **Soroptimist Club** (252-1444) for their Jumble Sale every 3 months. If you want to sort waste at your business, contact S4S (422-4072) for recycling stickers to label your bins for different types of waste.

CAR BATTERIES:

Batteries are extremely toxic to the environment and need to be discarded correctly but at present Seychelles only has facilities to export car batteries, which are accepted by **Surya Enterprise** (251-1329/437-3934), or **Rush Metal** (257-7661/281-6363, rushmetalsesel@gmail.com) on Mahe only.



INK CARTRIDGES:

Return your used printer ink cartridges to the Ink Doctor (sales@inkdoc.sc Tel: 2516266 / 4374007), or to Eco Print (tel. 252-5533). You can also buy recycled filled cartridges from the Ink Doctor shop.

USED CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS:

Clean clothing 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, as does **Mr Vincent Alcindor** (278-1806) for redistribution to families in need. Older used clothing and fabric scraps can be donated to the Visual Arts School or the 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.