

# What can I recycle in the Queenstown Lakes District?

Recycling technology is always changing with new uses for recyclable materials constantly being developed. This Information Sheet gives an overview of what can be recycled in the Queenstown Lakes District and where most of the recyclables collected are processed.

The following recyclables are collected as part of your kerbside recycling collection service provided by the Council. Recyclables can also be taken directly to the Wakatipu Recycling Centre or Wanaka Wastebusters for processing.

## Paper and Cardboard

### What we can and cannot recycle



Paper and Cardboard can be recycled in the Queenstown Lakes District.

#### Remember:

- ✓ Clean paper and Cardboard ONLY

#### NO

- ✗ Food contaminated paper or cardboard
- ✗ Plastic or metal binding
- ✗ Wax, foil or plastic coated items i.e. disposable coffee cups, milk cartons and tetra packs

### What happens to these recyclables

Cardboard and paper collected in the District is either recycled in New Zealand or sent to Indonesia, China or Vietnam for reprocessing.

Recycled paper and cardboard are made into the following products:

- Office paper
- Toilet paper
- Boxes and carton
- Packaging materials

**Did you know? It takes 24 trees to make 1 tonne of newspaper!<sup>1</sup>**

## Metals

### What we can and cannot recycle



Steel and aluminium cans, can be recycled in the Queenstown Lakes District. Empty aerosols and clean foil can be recycled in the Wakatipu only.

#### Remember:

- ✓ Wash, do NOT squash

#### NO

- ✗ Hazardous material
- ✗ Food/drink contamination

### What happens to these recyclables

Metals are sorted into categories and baled for recycling within New Zealand or for overseas markets.

Metals are often recycled back to their original form, i.e. an aluminium can is made into a new aluminium can.

**Did you know? There is no limit to the amount of times aluminium can be recycled!<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.recycling-guide.org.uk/facts.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.recycling-revolution.com/recycling-facts.html>

## Glass

### What we can and cannot recycle



Glass bottles and jars can be recycled in the Queenstown Lakes District.

**Remember:**

- ✓ Wash and remove lids

**No**

- ✗ Pyrex
- ✗ Broken glass
- ✗ Window glass
- ✗ Ceramics

### What happens to these recyclables

All of the recycled glass collected in the Queenstown Lakes District is crushed and used locally in aggregate for road construction.

**Did you know? Glass is 100% recyclable and can be used again and again<sup>3</sup>**

## Plastics

### What we can and cannot recycle



You can recycle plastic containers numbered 1 to 7. Look for the recycle triangle on the bottom of plastic containers.

**Remember:**

- ✓ Wash, squash and remove lids.

**NO**

- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Glad wrap
- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Plastics without the logo 1-7
- ✗ No hazardous material

It is important to note that some items such as plastic bags and polystyrene containers and trays have a recycling symbol numbered 1-7; these items cannot be put out for kerbside collection.

### What happens to these recyclables

All plastics collected in the District are shipped to China or Hong Kong for reprocessing. There is currently no large plastic reprocessing facility in New Zealand.

Recyclable plastics are made into many new products including:

- Polypropylene and fleece clothing
- Soft drink bottles
- Carpet
- Compost bins and buckets
- Recycling containers and wheelie bins
- Street furniture
- Detergent containers
- Outdoor furniture
- Plastic containers
- Water pipes
- Bags
- Motor oil bottles
- Shopping bags

### Did you know?

**Half of all polyester carpet made in the USA is made from recycled plastic!<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.recycling-guide.org.uk/facts.html>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.cityofinglewood.org/pdfs/pw/Recycling\\_Facts.pdf](http://www.cityofinglewood.org/pdfs/pw/Recycling_Facts.pdf)

## Other Recyclables

The Wakatipu Recycling Centre and Wanaka Wastebusters accept a number of other recyclables which cannot be collected as part of kerbside recycling. These recyclables include, but are not limited to:



### Batteries

All batteries are collected by a New Zealand agent. Automotive batteries are dismantled to remove the lead content and the remaining parts are recycled where possible.

Other batteries such as AA, AAA are treated as hazardous waste and are encased in concrete to avoid leaching before being sent to landfill. There are drop off facilities for batteries located at both the Wakatipu Recycling centre and Wanaka Wastebusters.



### Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFL's)

The CFL's are collected by a New Zealand company who then safely extract the mercury and reprocesses the remnants for recycling or disposal. There are drop off facilities for compact fluorescent light bulbs located at both the Wakatipu Recycling centre and Wanaka Wastebusters.



### Toner and Print Cartridges

There are drop off facilities for printer and toner cartridges located at both the Wakatipu Recycling centre and Wanaka Wastebusters. The cartridges are either refilled for reuse or dismantled for suitable recycling and disposal.



### Engine Oil

There are drop off facilities for engine oil located at both the Wakatipu Recycling centre and Wanaka Wastebusters. The engine oil must not be mixed with other oil or fuel.



### Vegetable Oil

Vegetable oil is accepted at Wanaka Wastebusters only. The vegetable oil is made into Biodiesel by Biodiesel New Zealand. You can also drop off vegetable oil annually as part of the Council's Hazardous Waste Amnesty or contact a private oil collector to safely dispose of your used oil.

### ***Did you know?***

- Almost all inkjet and toner cartridges can be refilled or remanufactured;
- Each cartridge thrown into landfill can then take over **450 years** to decompose;
- You can **SAVE MONEY** and the environment by purchasing recycled toners and cartridges; and
- In just 12 months, cartridge recycling could save 15 million litres of oil in the UK<sup>5</sup>.

### **Other Initiatives**

The Queenstown Lakes District Council offers and supports a number of other recycling initiatives some of which are listed below:



#### **The Queenstown Lakes District Council's Zero Hazardous Waste Toolkit and Hazardous Waste Amnesty**

The Toolkit includes a Zero Hazardous Waste Guide and a Directory of Contacts. The Toolkit allows you to easily reference various types of hazardous wastes, and provides you with information on how you can safely manage them. The Toolkit includes information on:



- Asbestos
- Batteries
- Car Bodies
- Electronic Waste
- Gas Bottles
- Mobile Phones
- Tyres
- Whiteware

The Hazardous Waste Amnesty is an annual event that provides an opportunity for the community to drop off hazardous waste for safe recycling or disposal. Acceptable items include, but are not limited to household cleaners, paint, solvents and pesticides. For further information on the Hazardous Waste Amnesty and acceptance criteria go to [www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz).



#### **E-Day**

E-Day is an annual, not-for profit event held across New Zealand. E-Day is held at the Wakatipu Recycling centre and Wanaka Wastebusters and allows residents to drop of e-waste for safe recycling or disposal. The overall aim of E-Day is to:

- Increase community awareness of the hazardous nature of electronic equipment and that disposal to landfill is not a sustainable option;
- Provide convenient drop-off points for residents to recycle computer equipment and mobile phones that are no longer being used; and
- Recycle obsolete computer and communications equipment in an environmentally sustainable manner.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.cartridgeworld.org/index.php?req=environment>



## Paint Recycling

PlaceMakers in Queenstown and Wanaka will accept following items for recycling:

- ✓ All liquid acrylic paint
- ✓ All liquid oil based paint
- ✓ Oil stains
- ✓ Raw or boiled Linseed oil
- ✓ Tung Oil
- ✓ Turpentine
- ✓ Methelated spirits

For further information please contact PlaceMakers.

**Remember! Buy recycled products and help close the loop**



## Commercial Recycling

For information on commercial recycling services offered in the Queenstown Lakes District please contact:

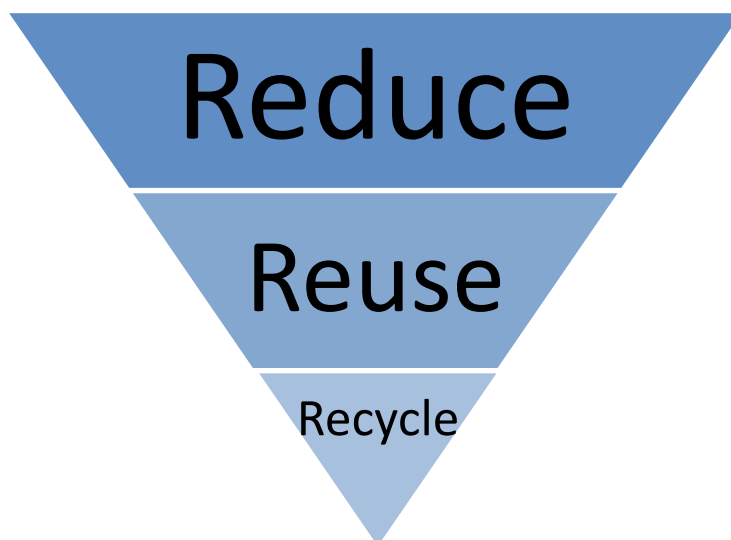
### Smart Environmental

110 Glenda Drive  
Frankton  
☎ 03 451 0105



### Wanaka Wastebusters

Corner of Ballantyne and Riverbank Road  
Wanaka  
☎ 03 443 8606



### Want more information?

Try your local library or searching the internet. For further information on services available in the Queenstown Lakes District go to [www.gldc.govt.nz](http://www.gldc.govt.nz) or contact the Council's customer services team on 03 441 0499 for Queenstown or 03 443 0024 for Wanaka.