

Macquarie Uni's Waste Explained

The (almost) One Bin System and more

Macquarie University diverts more than 90% of its waste from landfill!

All general waste bins inside buildings and across campus, including skips, follow the one bin system. The waste collected here is sorted at the Materials Recovery Facility (Doyle Bros). Recyclable items such as plastic, glass and metal are recovered. Plus, 46% of the total waste is turned into Refuse Derived Fuel, which is used in cement kilns.

In addition to the above, a number of items have a separate collection process.

Paper: collected in blue wheelie bins and recycled through Suez

Cardboard: usually collected at loading docks and recycled through Suez

Office e-waste: collected on request by Property (Service Request) and sent to Sims e-recycling where 90% is recovered.

Personal e-waste: there is a collection point in MUSE for batteries, light bulbs, mobile phones and printer cartridges. This collection is managed with City of Ryde Council.

Other: The Faculty of Science has additional waste management for biological waste and chemicals. And the workshop (METS/MWAF) has its own metal waste recovery system.

Green waste: Property and ground management contractors collect green waste from grounds maintenance. Biology also has green waste bins for the teaching gardens. Many departments and offices across campus, including Biology, have worm farms and compost bins for recycling food scraps and other organic waste.

Building waste: it is a requirement of our building contracts that more than 90% of waste generated in the building process is recycled.