

# SOLUTIONS TO PREVENT LITTER POLLUTION

## Georges River Litter Prevention Strategy Snapshot

Litter, particularly plastic, is a major contributor to pollution in the Georges River. To address this important issue, Georges Riverkeeper collaborated with six councils and two community groups in 2022 and 2023, with funding from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), to develop a strategy to prevent litter from entering the river in the first place.



## WHAT TYPES OF LITTER END UP IN THE RIVER?

### Top 10 most common items

1. Food wrappers/labels
2. Hard plastic fragments
3. Plastic bottle caps/lids
4. Soft plastic fragments
5. Plastic straws
6. Polystyrene
7. Plastic bags
8. Food packaging
9. Cigarette butts
10. Lollipop sticks/ear buds

Source: Conservation Volunteers Australia  
#SeaToSource litter audit of the Georges River, 2021.



## HOW LITTER GETS IN THE RIVER



# WHERE IS LITTER A PROBLEM?

Councils identified these areas as problematic for litter.



INDUSTRIAL AREAS



PARKS AND CARPARKS



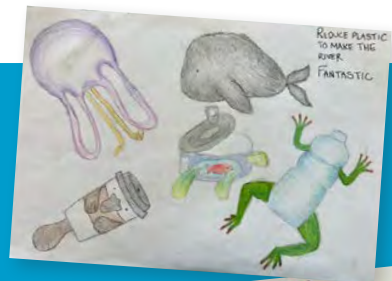
ROADS





# WHY IS LITTER PREVENTION IMPORTANT?

- Litter negatively impacts liveability
- Litter endangers wildlife
- Litter costs a lot of money to remove once it's in the environment



# HOW DO WE PREVENT LITTER?



# OUR STRATEGY SETS THREE DIRECTIONS AND 10 INITIATIVES FOR LITTER PREVENTION

Georges Riverkeeper will continue working with the EPA and our partners to further develop this strategy and actions plans..



## Build awareness and knowledge of litter prevention

Putting litter prevention back on the agenda

Understanding the costs of litter

Building on councils' existing knowledge and litter management data



## Involve partners

Building on the experience of Georges Riverkeeper and councils engaging with schools

Working with community groups with shared interests

Developing an improved understanding and approach to involving CALD communities

Working with other organisations



## Take a strategic approach

Focusing attention on litter prevention in industrial areas

Planning for litter prevention in the context of significant development

Continue the integrated litter-stormwater management approach commencing with the 'Zero Litter' project



## WANT TO HELP?

Find out more about the Georges River Litter Prevention Strategy and get involved.



This project is a NSW Environment Protection Authority, WasteLess Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy.

[www.georgesriver.org.au](http://www.georgesriver.org.au)