



**BOOMERANG**  
ALLIANCE

COMMUNITIES TAKING CONTROL

REDUCING YOUR  
PLASTIC  
FOOTPRINT

OVERVIEW DOCUMENT

**NO** PLASTIC FREE **SA**

**...our story starts with our campaign for a plastic bag ban and Container Refund Scheme in Queensland.....**







CAMPING: Demonstrators at last Sunday's cash for containers rally. PHOTO: COLLEEN WELLS

# Rubbish for cash swap makes cents

**By RACHEL LANG**

LARGE pieces of rubbish and an enormous plastic bottle washed onto the sea off Brisbane's coast on Saturday.

Community and environmental groups demanded tougher recycling laws, rules, and other measures to reduce litter and to urge the Queensland Government to introduce a 'cash for containers' scheme.

Legislation is already in place in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Within three states, someone who returns a single can or bottle to a deposit returner is given five cents for their efforts.

Queensland manager for Boomerang A-Frame Toby Hutchison, who organised the Western demonstration, said the legislation is expected to have an effect on recycling rates.

"They're recycling more than 80% of cans and bottles," Mr Hutchison said. Legislation is set to start in New South Wales in July 2017.

"We want Queensland to join in," Mr Hutchison said. "We're now regarded as the most littered state in Australia."

"The Cash for Containers scheme in Western Australia is a lot of consumer litter and dramatically increases recycling."

Mr Hutchison said the scheme and other measures to reduce litter are necessary to protect the financial benefits of the scheme, lowering the need to landfill.

About 10 British Islanders attended last Saturday's event, including the Surfrider Foundation.

"While islanders are not a big part of the education process,"

## QUICK Q&A WOULD C&C ENCOURAGE YOU TO RECYCLE MORE?

- It might make kids go around and get the cans. - Peter**
- It might clean up the place a bit more. - Gwen**
- I don't buy bottles. I make my own. - Mae**
- I think it would increase fundraising. - Joel**



10 MORE PLASTIC: A Cash for Containers publicity event was held at Yeppoon's Main Beach on Sunday, aiming to ban the use of plastic bags and containers. PHOTO: MALCOLM WELLS

# Speaking out for marine life

FREE EDITION Thursday, March 17, 2016 Classifieds 1300 724 040

**TWEED Sun** WHAT'S ON All your entertainment news Scene - pages 25-27

**THE WEEK AHEAD** Chinese horoscope Page 21

**Just Vote 1**

**YOUR CHOICE** Gold Coast goes to the polls Pages 4-5



## On board for trash

IT WILL be a case of "one person's trash is another's gigantic surfboard" when a bunch of Gold Coasters get together this Saturday to make the world's biggest twin-fin out of rubbish.

The ambitious attempt by the crew from Boomerang Alliance will also float a much broader objective for Queensland—a Cash for Containers scheme where a 10-cent refundable deposit on all beverage bottles and cans will slash litter rates and create jobs for the Coast. Lynda Hill and Emily Birnie start their collection.

See story, page 6



## Bag ban support in waves

RAIN and big waves couldn't wet Noosa's passion for a plastic-bag-and-container-free environment.

Protesters battled large swell and pouring rain to spread their no-free message.

The Noosa Community Biosphere Association (NCBA) and fellow environmentalists, Surfrider Association, Boomerang Alliance, Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and Sunshine Coast Environment Council on Noosa last Sunday 24 January highlighted the need for both cash-for-containers scheme and a ban on plastic bags.

NCBA vice-president John Wood said the Ban the Bag and push for a Container Deposit was part of a larger plea for better waste management.

One of NCBA's focuses is our 'People in the Biosphere' and our habits that impact our environment, for example, litter and waste management; hence, ban the plastic bag and cash for containers campaigns," Mr Wood said.

"A solution is the Boomerang Bags Initiative. These activities are in line with the Noosa Council's 'Towards Zero Waste' campaign."

Councillor Troy Wellington praised the group's efforts and urged the State Government to step up to the plate in protecting the environment.

"Noosa Council has the ability to introduce a shirt-wide ban on plastic bags if the State fails to act," Cr Wellington said.

"Obviously the best outcome for both the environment, and also the council's resources, would be for the State to step up to the plate."



## Cent pack

YOU would need a good to the beach dressed as litter or money, but the Surfrider Foundation is shine Coasters do in this morning. Find out

BIG PLAN: Cr Jack Hale, Hu and Hayley pushing for deposit scheme to reduce rubbish. PHOTO: JOE





# Plastic Free Noosa

**The project and positions outlined are the views of  
the Plastic Free Noosa Alliance**

# NO PLASTIC FREE SA

## Why Noosa?



Noosa is a coastal community on the Sunshine Coast in QLD. It has a population of 56,000, and an economy based on tourism.

- Established relationships with the community
- Supportive council, tourism, and hospitality sector
- Active environmental community

These relationships meant a community more likely to take up the plastic free challenge and demonstrate to others how a community could make a difference.



## Key Elements of our Campaign

- **Build an alliance of aligned and influential stakeholders**
- **Design a simple and achievable list of actions**
- **Target specific sectors to switch practices**
- **Report on performance**



NO **PLASTIC FREE** SA

# Alliance Members



SUNSHINE COAST  
Environment Council



TOURISM  
NOOSA  
VISITNOOSA.COM.AU



**NCBA**  
Noosa Community  
Biosphere Association Inc.



Sunshine Coast  
Environmental Education  
Alliance



— CCIQ —  
**NOOSA**  
**CHAMBER**  
**OF COMMERCE**

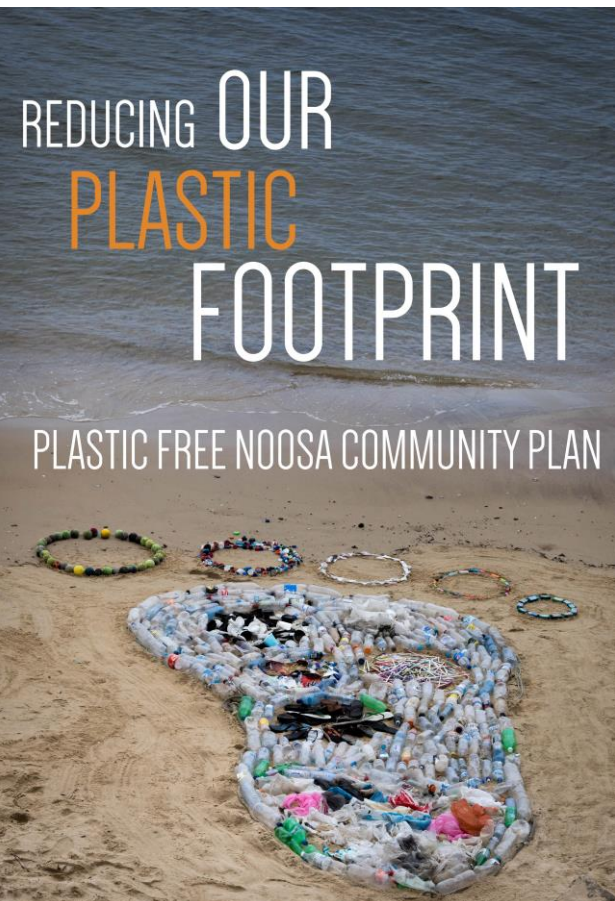
**0** ZERO  
EMISSIONS  
NOOSA

Water for Schools



## Goals

- 1.) 50% reduction in the agreed measurement of the identified items by November 2018**
- 2.) A cleaner and less littered Noosa**
- 3.) To assist with the improvement of Noosa's waste collection services**
- 4.) To implement a plastic free plan that can be a template for other communities**





**The plan targets 6 plastic items which represent problematic and prolific sources of the litter stream. We propose that all organisations using these items avoid or switch to alternatives.**



**water bottles**



**straws**



**coffee cups**



**plastic bags**



**takeaway  
containers**



**Food ware**



**In the first year, we want:**

- **The café/food sector to supply and promote reusable products. We allow compostable takeaway items.**
- **Schools and event organisers to hold plastic-free events**
- **Individuals to take up the plastic free challenge**

## Café/food Sector



- **Become a member by eliminating at least one plastic item (★ system)**
- **Become a ‘Plastic Free Champion’ by eliminating all six items**
- **Display signage telling your customers about the great changes you have made**

## Events

- **Adopt PFN policies and practices. Tourism Noosa will also produce an event checklist (large events) and Noosa Council event guidelines (community events)**
- **Become a Champion by creating a ‘Plastic Free Event’:**
  - **identified plastic items are avoided**
  - **discarded materials are reused, composted or recycled**

## Individuals

### PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES



BYO reusable water bottle

### COFFEE CUPS



BYO reusable cup or use café provided crockery

### TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS



BYO or insist upon compostable

### PLASTIC FOODWARE



Use café provided crockery or insist upon compostable

### PLASTIC BAGS



BYO reusable bag

### STRAWS



Don't use or BYO reusable straw

- **Join the campaign**
- **Take the 'Plastic Free Challenge'**
- **Support 'Plastic Free Champions'**
- **Spread the word**

## Benefits to Joining

- **Access to information and resources**
- **Access to our team**
- **A listing on our website and social media pages**
- **Direct promotion to community members**
- **Access to display material**
- **Free promotional opportunities through our partners**



\* Compostable items eliminate the use of single use, non-biodegradable plastic items but will not necessarily prevent litter or waste. Collection and processing services are still required. Reusable items are the best.

## COFFEE CUPS & LIDS



### BEST RE-USEABLE OPTION

- Provide washable café crockery for dine-in customers.
- Provide a coffee cup return service for your regulars
- Encourage customers to bring reusable cup and offer a discount.

### TAKEAWAY OPTION\*

- Provide waxed paper or card options.
- Certified compostable cups are available but lack collection/processing services

## CUPS, PLATES AND UTENSILS (FOOD WARE)



### BEST RE-USEABLE OPTION

- Use washable reusable items such as stainless steel cutlery and ceramic plates.

### TAKE-AWAY OPTION\*

- Avoid all polystyrene products completely! Provide wooden/plant-based or 100% compostable plates and utensils

\* Compostable items eliminate the use of single use, non-biodegradable plastic items but will not necessarily prevent litter or waste. Collection and processing services are still required. Reusable items are the best.

## PACKAGING (TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS)



### BEST RE-USEABLE OPTION

- Allow customers to BYO and consider offering a discount.
- Provide customers with a reusable container and offer a discount on next purchase upon return of container.

### TAKEAWAY OPTION\*

- Provide compostable containers only

## WATER BOTTLES



### BEST RE-USEABLE OPTION

- Provide table water.
- Encourage customers to BYO reusable bottle and offer filtered/ carbonated refills for a small fee.

### TAKE-AWAY OPTION

- Do not stock plastic bottles, instead stock glass/ aluminium
- Note: All beverage containers will have a 10 cent refund on return after July 2018.*

\* Compostable items eliminate the use of single use, non-biodegradable plastic items but will not necessarily prevent litter or waste. Collection and processing services are still required. Reusable items are the best.

## PLASTIC BAGS



### BEST RE-USEABLE OPTION

- Don't provide plastic bags and replace them with reusable bags.
- Encourage customers to bring their own bags.

*Note: Lightweight bags will be banned in QLD from July 2018.*

### TAKEAWAY OPTION

- Provide/sell reusable bags for customers.
- Offer a borrow service for regulars who forget their bags.
- Provide recycled cardboard boxes or paper bags (sustainably sourced).

## PLASTIC STRAWS



### BEST RE-USEABLE OPTION

- Don't use them!
- Stock reusable steel or bamboo straws.
- Encourage customers to BYO reusable straws.

### TAKE-AWAY OPTION

- Remove straws from sight, and only provide upon request. If requested, provide waxed paper straws.

- **Funding for coordinator secured**
- **Sector guidelines**
- **Direct engagement with identified sectors**
- **Public outreach through stalls and media**
- **Audit/Report on Performance (Nov 2018)**

NO PLASTIC FREE SA

HOME

ABOUT US

GET INVOLVED

CONTACT



[www.plasticfreenoosa.org](http://www.plasticfreenoosa.org)



@plasticfreenoosa