

Clean Up



THE 2019 RUBBISH REPORT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The 2019 Rubbish Report is a snapshot of rubbish removed by Clean Up Australia volunteers. In the ACT, the Report is based on the count of 5,205 rubbish items from 9 surveyed locations [5,351 items from 26 locations in 2018].

Sites registered:

132

(161 in 2018)

Estimated Volunteers:

17,133



(16,105 in 2018)

Estimated Rubbish Removed:

290.4

UTE LOADS



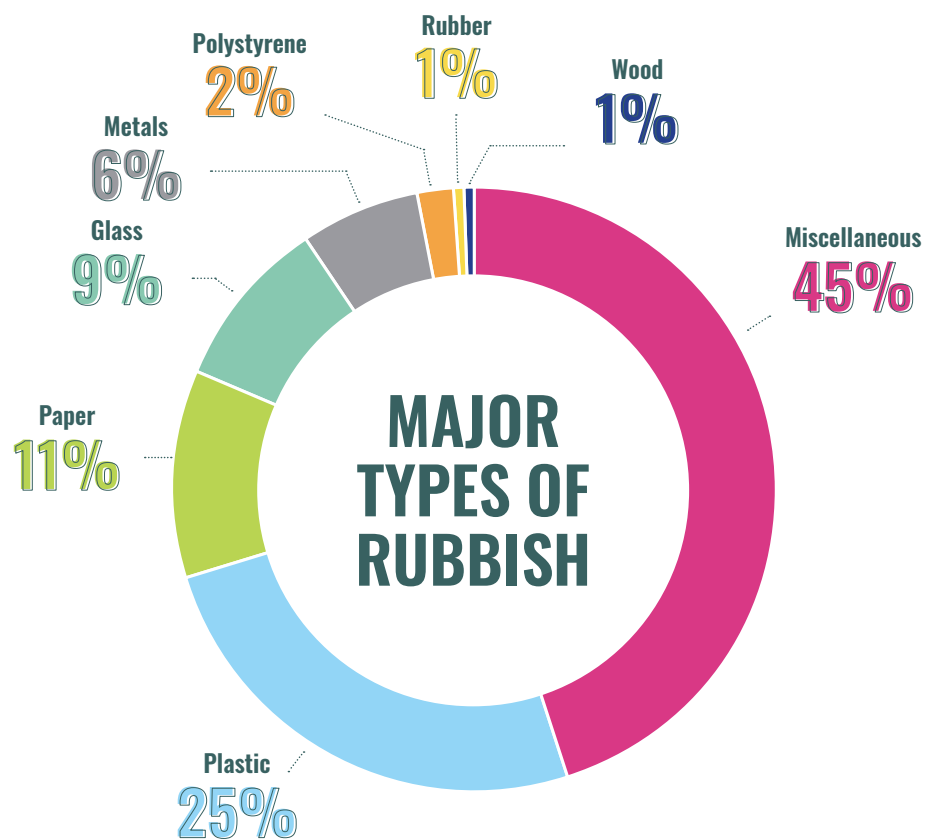
(354.2 in 2018)

Volunteer hours:

34,266



(32,210 in 2018)













NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2018

- Miscellaneous items increased by 5%, paper by 4% and glass by 3%
- Plastics decreased by 5%, metals by 4%, wood by 2% and polystyrene by 1%
- Rubber remained consistent

TOP 10 RUBBISH ITEMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL RUBBISH SURVEYED





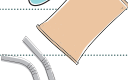
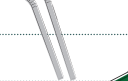



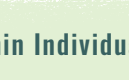
GROUPED DATA

*Grouped Data made up 99.7% [98% in 2018] of surveyed rubbish.

1		NON-FOOD PACKAGING - 53.6%
2		BEVERAGE CONTAINERS - 15.2%
3		FOOD PACKAGING - 13.5%
4		BEVERAGE RELATED RUBBISH - 7.8%
5		HOUSEHOLD ITEMS - 3.6%
6		PLASTIC BAGS - 1.7%
7		CLOTHING - 1.6%
8		CHIP & CONFECTIONERY WRAPPERS - 1.5%
9		TOYS, SPORTING EQUIP, ROPES AND STRAPS - 0.8%
10		CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS - 0.3%

INDIVIDUAL ITEM COUNT

*Individual Item Count Top 10 data = 73.1% [74.3% in 2018]

1		CIGARETTE BUTTS - 42.4%
2		PIECES OF GLASS - 6.1%
3		PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS & LIDS - 4.4%
4		PLASTIC PACKAGING - 4.4%
5		FAST FOOD PACKAGING - 3.9%
6		FOOD BAGS - 3.0%
7		PET DRINK CONTAINERS - 2.4%
8		STRAWS - 2.3%
9		ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BOTTLES - 2.2%
10		NON PET CONTAINERS - 2.0%

NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2018

Within grouped data:

- Food packaging increased its count by 0.6%
- Non-food packaging decreased by 12.8 % as a percentage of all rubbish reported, and beverage related rubbish by 8.1%
- Other decreases were recorded in counts of beverage containers which decreased by 3.3%, chip & confectionery wrappers by 1.6%, construction materials by 1%, toys and sporting equipment by 0.9%, and plastic bags by 0.3%
- Illegally dumped household items and clothing were added to the list in 2019, replacing sanitary and non-identified items

Within Individual item counts:

- Cigarette butt counts increased by 4.3%, which is 2.9% above the national average
- Notable decreases were recorded for PET drink containers [-4.5%], straws [-3%], plastic bottle caps & lids [-2.8%], glass alcohol bottles [-1.3%]
- Glass pieces, plastic packaging, fast food containers, non-PET containers and food bags all made their way back onto the Top 10 in 2019, replacing metal bottle caps, ice cream sticks, soft drink cans, glass soft drink bottles and chip & confectionery wrap

FAVOURITE CLEAN UP SITES

Parks continued to be the single most surveyed Clean Up site in 2019, yielding 33% of counted rubbish [48% in 2018].

Bushland sites reported the highest average number of items per community site at 816.

The two schools which submitted rubbish counts were inspiring, removing a total of 1,647 items.

Site Type	Number of sites	Number of items found	% of total waste	Average number of items per site
Parks	3	1,713	33%	571
Bushland	2	1,632	31%	816
School Grounds	2	1,647	32%	824
Other	2	213	4%	107
Totals	9	5,205	100%	2,317

NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2018

- Average item counts from parks increased by 61 to 316 [255 in 2018]
- Bushland counts increased by 422
- Mixed locations recorded an average increase of 107 items across two surveyed locations
- Unfortunately, we didn't receive any rubbish surveys from waterway-based locations in 2019.