

Taronga Conservation Society Australia

Waste Management

Operations Plan – Taronga Zoo



Purpose

Taronga's waste management strategy includes provision to engage external waste management specialist to manage all waste streams on site.

Taronga engaged SITA Waste Management in 2009

SITA Waste Management Overview

SITAs aim is not simply to be a waste collection provider but to build a long terms partnership with Taronga Zoo in an endeavour to further increase the amount of waste to be diverted from landfill via alternative waste recycling and treatment facilities.

SITA only uses authorised landfill, transfer station and recycling facilities sites as approved by relevant authorities. Similarly, any companies performing services for SITA on a subcontractor basis only use authorised disposal sites and hold all necessary licences and compliances. SITA also owns and operates modern engineered landfills at Kemps Creak (NSW) Lyndhurst (VIC) and South Cardup (WA).

SITA provides services to more than 30000 commercial/industrial customers and more than 800,000 households each week across Australia. SITA has achieved ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) certified and also achieved AS 4801 (Occupational Health and Safety) at its operations across New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia.

Operation

Taronga's waste management operation is a 7 day a week, 365, 366 a year – includes public holidays.

Two waste operators are scheduled for work daily on a rotating roster basis. It is the waste operators responsibility to ensure all animal waste bins are serviced, washed and changed over on a daily basis and that all General Waste and Recycling bins are serviced daily and bins placed on a bin washing schedule to reduce risk of unsightly odours.

Waste operators perform their duties including both on site collections and haulage of waste and recycling to the disposal facilities in an 8 ½ hour day Mon to Sun.

Item	Collection Frequency
General Waste	Daily (Mon – Sun), rear loader only goes to recycling centre when full
Cardboard and paper	Daily (Mon-Sun), Compactor only serviced when full
Animal Waste	Daily (Monday- Sunday)
Green waste	As required when bin full
Steel	As required when bin full



Bin stations

Taronga has approximately 60 x 240 Litre bin on site for front line general waste collection and 60 240Ltr bins on for front line co-mingled recycling. These bins sit together as recycle stations (1 x recycling bin and 1 x general waste). There are also 6 recycle stations within Taronga's Food Market which is the primary food outlet on site.

In addition to the above, SITA will place additional bins on site as requested for special events and concert usage.

All bins are colour coded to meet the Australian Standards for plastic waste collection receptacles. That is general waste has a green body and red lid and comingled recycling bins will have a green body and yellow lid. The front of the bins and the recycle stations will have a recycle or general waste sticker with pictures of items to accommodate visitors who may be unable to read English.

Additional coverage of 240 Litres bins is required to cover peak periods.

Collection extends to bin stations at Athol Hall and the Ferry Wharf.

Organic (food) waste

SITA's transfer facility has capacity to separate some food waste from the general waste stream. Approximately 25 % of food in general waste is captured and diverted from landfill.

Animal Waste

Animal waste is collected in 120ltr and 240Ltr carts, which are then emptied each day and stockpiled at Taronga's recycle transfer area. There are approximately 70 animal waste bins located around the site at each animal precinct. SITA collect the bins each morning prior to zoo opening.

Animal waste is transported from site every day to manage the quantity of waste stored on site and to control other issues such as pests.

Co-mingled recyclables

Comingled recyclables are collected each day with general waste bins into a 8m³ Rear Loader garbage compactor. This material is transported off site each day to a Materials Recovery Facility.

Cardboard

Taronga's cardboard and paper is collected in separate blue bins and cardboard cages. This material is collected daily and placed into a 23 cubic metre compactor on site. Once the compactor is full the paper and cardboard is transported to either Visy Recycling or Orora Recycling.



Transfer Area

1. Animal Waste - 2 x 5 cubic metre skip bin
2. Steel - 1 x 23 cubic metre skip bin
3. Bulk waste - 1 x 23 cubic metre skip
4. Green Waste - 1 x 23 cubic metre skip
5. Cardboard Compactor - 23 cubic metre
6. Bin bay and wash down area
7. Storage of materials and equipment awaiting disposal or reuse.

Green waste

Material that is not suitable for chipping will be collected by Taronga staff and placed into the dedicated skip bin. This bin is removed by SITA once full and is transferred off site to SITA Ryde and then SITA Eastern Creek to be processed into organic waste

Bulk Waste

Non recyclable materials such as construction materials, timber off-cuts, broken equipment etc is placed into the bulk waste bin. This bin is removed by SITA once full and transferred off site to SITA Artarmon as landfill waste.

Hazardous Waste

Contaminated Waste

All waste deemed contaminated must be collected and transported off site by SITA for appropriate disposal.

Biological Waste

Biological waste at Taronga Zoo is not managed by SITA. Taronga has engaged contractor Stericorp to manage the waste from the Taronga Wildlife Hospital. Biological waste (animal tissue etc) is collected in appropriate containers/bin and disposed off site as required.

Grease Trap Waste

SITA services the grease traps for both Taronga and Compass (Catering). The pits are service on a scheduled basis determined by Sydney Water. The grease trap residue is taken to SITA Camellia for treatment, recycling and disposal.

Asbestos

Asbestos to be managed in accordance with ***CWIO Asbestos Management Plan Taronga Zoo.***



Disposal

Disposal of waste is carried out under the guidelines of the EPA of New South Wales to only approved licenced facilities.