

# Inspirational quotes

Further information Zero Waste SA at [www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au](http://www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au) or on 8204 2051

Nationally, methane generated from this source [landfill sites] accounted for 89.0% of total methane emissions from the waste sector in 2002. Estimated emissions from municipal solid waste disposal increased by 2.0million tonnes (11.2%) during the period 1990-2002. This trend was due to population growth and an estimated increase in waste disposal per capita.

Australian Greenhouse Office 2002

For the UK, the intensive diversion of waste from disposal has a striking impact on carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission reductions. One model that used US Environment Protection Agency data on relative CO<sub>2</sub> effects found that the reuse and recycling of 70% of the UK's municipal waste would lead to a saving of 14.8 million metric tonnes of carbon equivalent (MTCE), which would have a similar impact to taking 5.4 million cars off the road.

UK waste expert Robin Murray 2002

Instead of accepting what our waste is and looking for ways to get rid of it, we should be asking why waste is produced and what it could become. As a source of pollution, rubbish needs to be controlled and hidden away. But treated as a resource it becomes a valuable material.

UK waste expert Robin Murray 2002

Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable - to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

World Commission on Environment and Development 1987

Despite an increase in the number of people recycling, the amount of waste going to landfill is increasing.

State of the Environment Report for South Australia 2003

Zero waste strategies are being adopted by businesses all over the world - driven by legislation as well as voluntary action. They have led to significant cost savings, increased profits and improved environmental performance.

Adelaide Thinker in Residence Herbert Girardet 2003

...as household waste disposal charges are commonly included in general rates, many householders do not even know that they are being charged for garbage disposal, let alone know the magnitude of the charge.

BDA Group, EconSearch 2004

The key to recycling is to ensure collected materials are used to make new products in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner. In this way, everyone's effort is supported. We as a community save finite resources, energy and water; we reduce litter and we reduce waste to landfill.

Visy Recycling 2005

The primary pressure from waste generation is the need for disposal, and the consequent environmental impacts. The main form of waste disposal in Australia is landfill, which accounts for over 95% of solid waste disposal in some states and territories ... The impact of landfill disposal includes consumption of increasingly scarce urban land, potential leachates from toxic wastes, release of methane from the decomposition of organic wastes, and greenhouse emissions through the transportation of wastes to landfills, which are located mostly on the fringes of cities.

Australian State of the Environment Report 2001



Government  
of South Australia

# Inspirational quotes

## Zero Waste SA

The Wuppertal Institute has calculated the 'écological rucksack' (the amount of waste generated in producing everyday products) is 1.5kg for a toothbrush, 75kg for a mobile phone and 1500kg for a personal computer.

Commission of the European  
Communities 2003

Waste presents our society with a two-fold challenge. All waste must be recovered or disposed of through operations which inevitably have environmental impacts and economic costs. Waste can also be a symptom of inefficient consumption and production patterns, in the sense that materials may be used unnecessarily. The materials not only create waste but also have different impacts during their production and use phase.

Commission of the European  
Communities 2003

