

# PAPER & CARDBOARD

## Each tonne of recycled paper saves 13 trees<sup>1</sup>

**One tonne of recycled paper saves 2.5 barrels of oil,** 4,100 kWh of electricity, 4 cubic metres of landfill and 31,780 litres of water<sup>1</sup>

Australians send 1.9 million tonnes of paper to landfill<sup>2</sup> each year

**Australia is a global leader in the recovery and recycling of newsprint** with a 78% recovery rate<sup>3</sup>

One sheet of A4 paper uses 10 litres of water, or 5,000 litres per ream<sup>4</sup>

More than 100 million trees are destroyed each year to make junk mail<sup>5</sup>

1. Clean Up Australia Ltd
2. Australian Science
3. Campaign Brief
4. Fuji Xerox – The Paper Facts
5. Earth Day
6. Australian Forest Products Association

Despite our growing reliance on electronic devices, paper remains one of the world's most commonly used consumer items.

Australia has a 87% recycling rate of paper and cardboard, one of the highest in the world.<sup>6</sup>

**We still consume almost 230kg of virgin paper per person per year,<sup>2</sup> contributing to increased greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation.**



# What happens to paper & cardboard?

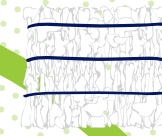
## Collection

Paper is collected from homes, businesses and recycling sites and sent to a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF).



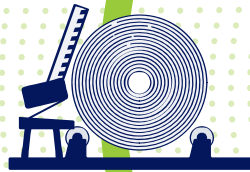
## Sorting and baling

The paper is sorted and graded depending on its type. It is then compressed into a bale.



## New paper

The paper is rolled into one giant roll, as wide as 9 metres and up to 20 tonnes in weight, and then cut into smaller rolls.



## Pulping and screening

The paper is mixed with water in a large vat, making a mushy mixture called pulp. The pulp is then screened to remove any plastic or glue.



## Drying

The pulp is poured onto a wire screen to drain and form a sheet. This is then passed under heavy rollers to squeeze out more water, heated rollers to dry and iron rollers to straighten the paper.



## De-inking

Air is passed through the pulp to produce foam which removes at least half the ink. Chemicals can also be used to separate the ink from the paper which is then washed away.

