

» nappies/pads: absorbent hygiene products



Waste Factsheet

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Ballina Shire Council aims to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and recover resources where possible through our recycling and organics streams.

There are a wide range of reusable and washable nappies, menstruation and incontinence products. However, there are some products which cannot be recycled and must be placed in your **red landfill bin** including disposable nappies, feminine hygiene products and incontinence products designed for single use only. Such products cannot be recycled or composted. The following information provides tips on how to dispose of these items in the fortnightly red landfill bin.

» How to dispose single-use hygiene products

- Flush as much faeces as possible down the toilet.
- Wrap the absorbent product into itself.
- Seal nappies, sanitary items and incontinence products in plastic bags before placing in red garbage bin.
- Scented nappy disposal bags or garbage bags are available from supermarkets and chemists. Sheets of newspaper can also be used as a layer.
- Store your garbage bin in the shade.

NOTE: never flush hygiene products, including 'flushable' wipes down the toilet.

» Consider other options

FOR ADULTS

There is a wide range of reusable and washable products specifically designed for incontinence or menstruation. These products use high-tech fabrics to increase comfort and absorbency.

Search the web for stockists of 'reusable incontinence products' or 'reusable menstruation products'.

FOR BABIES AND INFANTS:

There are many modern cloth nappy products that are washable, reusable and comfortable. Search the web for stockists of 'fitted cloth nappy system'.

Nappy disposal units may be a solution for anyone using a lot of nappies e.g. family day carers or nursing homes.

Search the web for 'nappy disposal units' or 'hygiene product service'.

FOR EVERYONE:

To control odours in your bin, you may like to try the odour control pads.

Search the web for stockists of 'bin odour pads'.

» Facts + Stats...

- 1 Every single-use absorbent sanitary product ever put in the rubbish bin still exists today as they take centuries to break down.
- 2 A 240L bin holds approximately 300 soiled nappies.
- 3 According to Lake Macquarie City Council's Community Nappy Trial (2014), the average odour rating does not vary greatly from a weekly red bin collection to a fortnightly red bin collection containing nappies.



If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

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