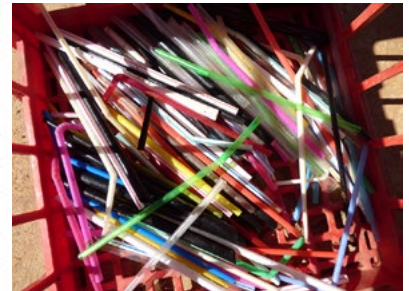


# ALICE SPRING TODD MALL MARKET WASTE AUDIT RESULTS

SUNDAY 17TH JUNE 2018

Item	Weight (kg)	Quantity
<b>Single-use Plastics &amp; Liquid Paperboard (LPB)</b>		
Plastic bottles	6.9	100
Cutlery	0.8	239
Straws	0.2	95
Retail Bags	0.8	34
Takeaway food containers	3.6	134
Coffee cup lids	1.0	391
Coffee cups (biodegradable)	3.5 kg of biodegradable cups counted in "Organics" as compostable	196
Coffee cups (plastic)	3.5	196
Smoothie cups (LPB)	0.5	28
Other LPB	0.9	N/a
Plastic drink cups	1.0	123
Milk containers	1.5	N/a
Polystyrene	0.0	N/a
Soft plastics	5.4	N/a
Hard plastics	1.8	N/a
Garbage bags	3.4	N/a
<b>Cardboard/Paper</b>	Counted in "Organics" as most of it wet and contaminated with food waste	
<b>Organics</b>	64.0	N/a
<b>Steel cans/tins</b>	2.6	N/a
<b>Aluminium cans</b>	4.0	72
<b>Other metals</b>	0.6	N/a
<b>Glass CDL</b>	3.3	14
<b>Glass jars</b>	6.2	8
<b>Liquid waste</b>	2.4	N/a
<b>Textiles</b>	0.3	N/a
<b>Mixed waste</b>	3.8	N/a
<b>Hazardous waste - nappies</b>	1.0	N/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	119.2	N/a



## SUMMARY

- A total of 51% of waste was compostable (food scraps, wooden cutlery, skewers, chopsticks, and paper and cardboard).
- If the single-use plastics were converted to biodegradable options, approximately 67% of the waste would be compostable and 25% would be recyclable under best-practice conditions.
- Taking into account contamination, it is estimated that approximately 80% of the markets waste could be diverted from landfill, given best-practice infrastructure.



# ALICE SPRING TODD MALL MARKET WASTE AUDIT RESULTS

As part of an Inspiring Australia project, the Arid Lands Environment Centre (ALEC), with the support of the Alice Springs Town Council and Charles Darwin University, conducted a waste audit of the Todd Mall Markets with a team of volunteers on Sunday 17th June.

The aim of the audit was to gather waste composition data from the markets, in particular that of single-use plastics.

Single-use plastic is an overwhelming challenge of the modern world. Humans produce over 300 million tons of plastic every year, much of it designed for single use. The top five sources of single use plastic are plastic bags, plastic bottles, plastic containers, plastic takeaway cups and plastic straws.

Sunday 17th June was a cold day (17 degrees) and as such it wasn't considered a 'large' market audience. Market audience numbers are generally unknown due to no previous data being recorded on attendees. In total approximately 119kg of waste was collected.



## ANALYSIS

- Coffee cups and coffee cup lids, plastic cutlery, takeaway food containers and plastic drink cups were the predominant single-use plastics found.
- Over half of the coffee cups collected in total were already biodegradable (some stall holders are already using them)
- A total of 51% of waste was compostable (food scraps, wooden cutlery, skewers, chopsticks, and paper and cardboard).
- A range of strategies could be implemented to reduce single use plastic through promotion of alternatives such as biodegradable/compostable service ware and composting of organic waste.

Key strategies that could be implemented to reduce market waste include the collection of food waste and organic materials for composting, conversion of existing service ware to biodegradable service ware, and policies that support waste minimisation are also important.

Public education on waste minimisation is also important. Avoiding making waste, through individual actions such as carrying reusable takeaway containers and enjoying a coffee at the café instead of taking it away, are key actions that individuals can take.