

# Global Recycling Day 2024



Monday 18 March

#RecyclingHeroes

Global Recycling Day was created in 2018 to help recognise, and celebrate, the importance that recycling plays in preserving our precious primary resources and its role in securing the future of our planet. It is a day for the world to come together to put our planet first.

Every year, the Earth yields billions of tonnes of natural resources. However, if not managed properly, there will come a time in the not-too-distant future, when it will run out. That's why we must rethink what we carelessly throw away – seeing our disposable items not as waste, but an opportunity to recycle and reuse..

The last decade has been the hottest on record, and we are now facing a climate emergency of unparalleled proportions. If we don't make significant and rapid changes now, a continued rising in global temperatures, the melting of icecaps, continental fires and rapid deforestation, will become the 'new normal'. The off-shoot will sadly be increased poverty, displaced communities, job losses, waste mountains and natural habitats disappearing completely.

The theme of Global Recycling Day 2024 is **#RecyclingHeroes**. This will recognise the people, places and activities that showcase the important role recycling plays in contributing to an environmentally-stable planet and a greener future, to the benefit of all life on Planet Earth.



The mission of Global Recycling Day, as set out by the Global Recycling Foundation, is two-fold:

- To tell world leaders that recycling is simply too important not to be a global issue, and that a common, joined-up approach to recycling is urgently needed.
- To ask people across the planet to think resource, not waste, when it comes to the goods around us.
- Until this happens, we simply won't be giving recycled goods the true value and repurpose they deserve.



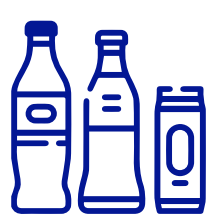
### How can I make a difference at work?

As Anglo American, we're committed to creating a healthy, sustainable environment for future generations by getting our waste to work rather than sending it to landfill. We've partnered with Imagined Earth, a green technology and recycling infrastructure provider, and are now using their cutting-edge reverse vending machines.

You can find one of these incredible machines at both 144 Oxford and GSS Oxford Parks. Recycle your waste there (plastic, Tetrapak and glass), and you'll earn monetary rewards that can be used on data, airtime, cash-out and voucher payments. [Click here](#) to read more about this fascinating project and if you aren't already, get involved now!

### How can I make a difference at home?

Here are eight easy ways for you to recycle goods right under your roof:



**1. Make your own watering can**  
Got any empty plastic bottle hanging around, one with a handle? Give it a good rinse, punch some holes in the cap and one at the top of the handle, then fill it up with water and watch your garden grow.



**2. Get organised with egg cartons**  
This one is great for the kids - empty egg cartons deserve a second chance. Have them add some colour to old cartons with a splash of paint, then use them as handy organisers for stationery, arts 'n crafts objects, coins, tokens etc.



**3. Make a homemade coffee scrub**  
Get even more out of your morning brew. Once you've had your caffeine fix, set the used coffee grounds aside, blend with melted coconut oil and some sugar to create a naturally exfoliating face and body scrub (plus it smells incredible). For extra eco points reuse your coffee filters up to four times before you throw them away



**4. Reuse old bedding**  
Rather than buying synthetic cleaning cloths, grab a pair of scissors and turn old sheets into rags. Tear up old towels into strips, tie them into knots or braids and you've got a (washable) new toy for your dog. Once you've reused all you can, any fabrics that are 100% natural can even be cut up and composted.



**5. Upcycle old glass bottles into reed diffusers**  
A few simple supplies are all you'll need to give empty glass bottles a new lease of life. Just blend your favourite essential oils with a base oil like sweet almond oil, then pop in a handful of diffuser sticks or bamboo skewers and let the beautiful fragrances do their thing.



**6. Make a tote bag from old jeans**  
When was the last time you wore that pair of jeans? Declutter your wardrobe, dust off your old denim and bag yourself a handmade tote, and don't worry – even beginner stitchers can make one of these. Learn how [here](#).



**7. Consider recycling potential when purchasing**  
In addition to buying recycled goods, keep an eye out for recyclable goods. Whenever you purchase something packaged, think about how you can reuse the packaging afterwards



**8. Recycle your water**  
If you're a homeowner, consider rearranging your plumbing so that rainwater or wastewater from your shower and tub is used to flush your toilet. If you have a garden, water it with leftover bathwater or dishwashing water (as long as you use biodegradable dishwashing liquid).