



DID YOU KNOW?

Plastic can take more than 500 years to break down



'The Plastic Island', an area of floating rubbish is in the north Pacific. This island is made up of 3 billion tons of plastic garbage...yuck!



Every mile of ocean has about 46,000 pieces of plastic floating in it.



1 recycled tin can would save enough energy to power a television for 3 hours.



1 recycled glass bottle would save enough energy to power a computer for 25 minutes.



70% less energy is required to recycle paper compared with making it from raw materials.



As much as 50% of waste in the average bin could be composted.



Up to 80% of a vehicle can be recycled.



We can't keep ignoring our rubbish and hoping it will go away.
It won't.

KIRIBATI TE BOBOTO

NEI AKOAKO



Ngkoa, Ngkai, ao n Taai Nako
Environment and Conservation Division



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WASTE

in Kiribati



WHAT IS WASTE?

There are two types of solid waste:

organic waste which breaks down naturally over time, like fruit and vegetable scraps, grass and leaves; and



inorganic waste are man-made products like plastic, metal, aluminium foil, or glass which take many years to break down.

HOW DOES IT AFFECT OUR HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY?

-  Attracts rats, mosquitos and flies;
-  Leaks into the ground and pollutes our drinking water;
-  Spreads germs and sickness, especially nappies;
-  Injures and kills dolphins, fish, turtles and sea birds;
-  Clogs breeding habitats of fish and crabs which we like to eat;
-  The costs for waste management are high. This strains our economy and creates further reliance on donor funding. If we reduce our waste we improve our economy!
-  Burning rubbish produces chemical gases, metals and ash particles that are highly toxic. The ash can enter our water and food sources.
-  Litter can even make us feel bad :(It is unattractive and makes us feel like no one cares about our island of Kiribati.

What you can do



Avoid

Choose products that produce minimal waste



Reduce

Produce less waste



Reuse

Use a product again in its original form



Recycle

Produce new products from used material

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KIRIBATI?

Kaoki Mange

You can return some materials to the Kaoki Mange and get some money back:

- Aluminium cans—20c for 5 cans
- Drink bottle or cooking oil bottle made of PET—20c for 5 bottles
- Lead-acid battery—\$5 per battery

Green Bag—Kiribati te Boboto

The Green Bag has been a huge success. Green Bags can be bought from most shops for 20c.

They are for *inorganic* matter ONLY, so no organic waste (trees, leaves) or recyclable waste (cans, bottles).



Composting

Composting is growing in Kiribati. With all the spare leaf matter its easy! Contact the ECD or your council if you need information.

Legislation and enforcement

Under the *Environment Act* it is illegal to litter and dump rubbish. You could get up to a **\$500** fine and 1 month in prison.

Chemical Waste Management

There is now a focus on managing Kiribati's chemical waste as it is highly toxic and dangerous. It is a serious issue at the Hospital and in businesses. Contact the ECD for more information.

Funding and support

Many of the above strategies were implemented through the NZAid Urban Development Program and the ECD would like to thank them for their assistance.