

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 19th August 2019



Keep Our Roadsides Litter free

Focus for the 47th Keep Australia Beautiful Week commencing today Monday 19th August is roadside litter reduction awareness.

The KESAB Litter Index trend analysis shows South Australian roadsides are amongst the State's worst littered areas based on regular counts at over 150 sites across the State.

Executive Director of KESAB John Phillips OAM said "Regular monitoring of 150 sites across South Australia show that improvement must be made by the community to reduce the impact of unsightly and costly litter. Littering demonstrates poor behaviour and irresponsible damage to the environment. Simple and easy behavioural change by individuals will reduce litter".

"Litter costs hundreds of thousands each year to remove, is bad for South Australian tourism and when litter and waste blows off trailers and transport vehicles is potentially dangerous to other road users, Phillips said."

To coincide with Keep Australia Beautiful Week, KESAB recognises and says a big thank you to our 500 Road Watch – Adopt A Road volunteers working to keep hundreds of kilometres of South Australian roadsides and rest stops tidy.

KESAB Road Watch program is a joint initiative with Department Planning Transport and Infrastructure partnering with community volunteers to remove thousands of kilograms of roadside litter and waste every year from uncovered loads that pollute highways and major traffic corridors.

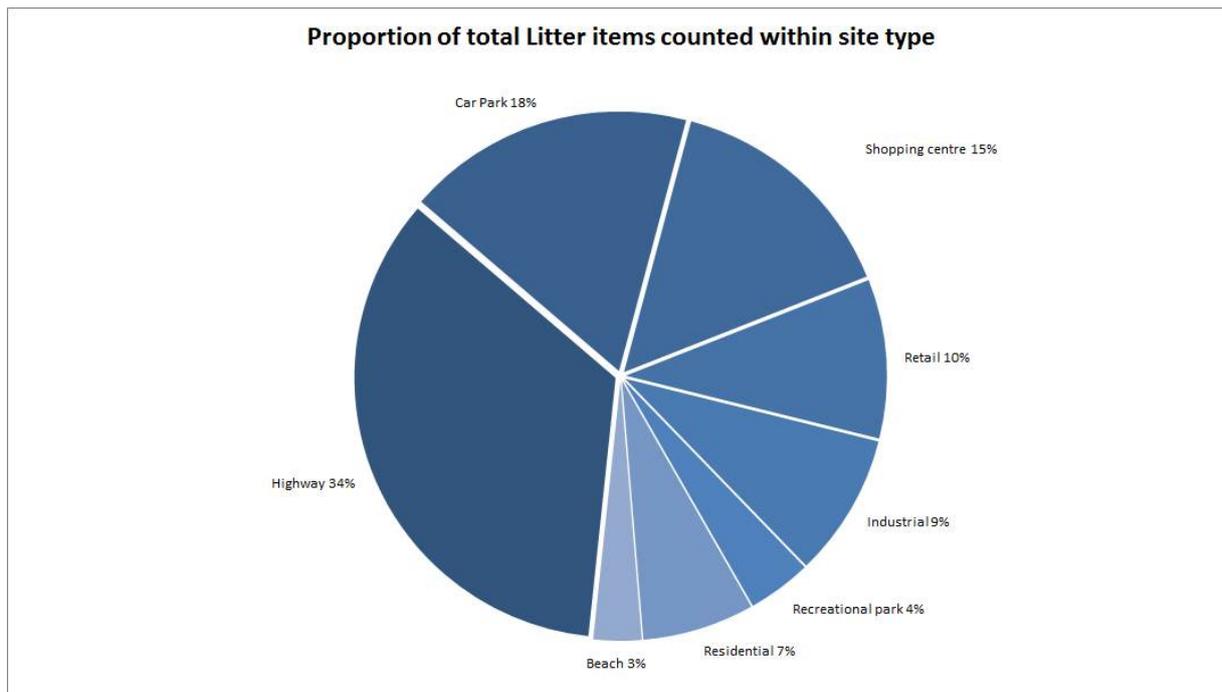
No Litter – Keep Australia Beautiful Week Travelling Tips.

- Keep a car tidy bag or any container in the vehicle for emptying into a bin.
- Take your rubbish home and help to keep public bins from overflowing
- Sort out all recyclables and reduce waste to landfill
- Place receipts or wrappers in a secured container rather than the map pocket or side pocket of a car door (car park litter ends up in waterways and creeks)
- Smokers should use a vehicle ash tray or carry a container for cigarette butts. Butts thrown from vehicles can cause bush fires or harm animals when ingested.
- Food scraps are litter. Bin your food scraps or take them home for composting.
- When travelling remotely carry a metal trowel in case you get caught short! Bury waste/paper/tissues etc.
- Non degradable sanitary items and nappies should be taken home or binned.
- If you come across someone else's rubbish, give something back to the environment - find a bin and put it in.

KESAB Litter Index data captured in the KESAB Litter Strategy Monitoring Wave 76 – Nov 2018 shows that highways remain the most significant contributor with 34% of total litter items counted at highway locations.

Cigarette butts take away food packaging, plastic straws, beverage container lids and sheeting are the most prevalent items in the litter stream.

SA Litter Stream (KESAB Litter Index November '18)



Media Comments

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