

# Road Watch—Adopt A Road

## Welcome back

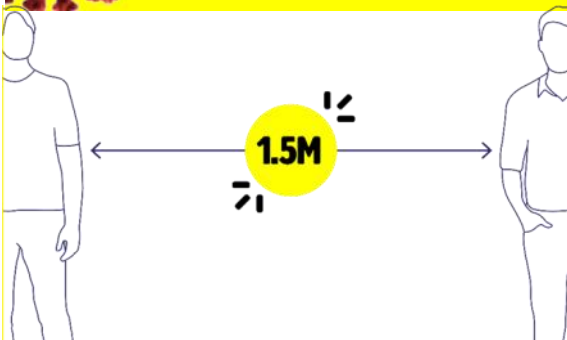


Please follow State Govt. & Health Dept COVID-19 directives

In this issue



## Remember to Keep Safe



In keeping with the current SA Government guidelines, please remember to look after each other when volunteering by maintaining safe physical distancing .

Wash all equipment in warm soapy water after each clean-up activity to ensure that you and others are safe.

- COVID-19 safety reminders
- A fresh start-resuming clean-ups
- Volunteer reports
- Corporate involvement
- Long-term data analysis
- KESAB education to support change
- Safety & equipment refresh
- New Co-ordinator
- Program Survey
- Single-use plastics ban

Clean-up activities resume

## A fresh start

2020 was a challenging year for many but we hope you will agree that there are often positives that come out of difficulties.

One positive is that we are excited to invite volunteers to resume clean-up activities, in line with current State Government and SA Health regulations.

Thank you for your patient understanding during these restrictions. Please continue to ensure that you follow current health and safety requirements and update any group members in advance of

clean-up activities.

Many South Australians have embraced local tourism and our parks and recreation areas have been popular with people wanting to get out and appreciate nature. Environmental awareness seems to have increased, which provides an opportunity to highlight the important work that you, within the Road Watch-Adopt A Road program undertake.

It will be interesting to track if the influx of local campers will affect litter data, so

we kindly remind you to submit reports so that this valuable information can be tracked. It will also be interesting to see if materials change in line with SA's single-use plastics ban (March 2021). Reported information informs engagement and initiatives which aim to influence behaviour change and reduce litter. You can see the data trends on the following pages in the report analysis.

You can submit reports in hardcopy, via email or online. For any assistance you can always call us on (08) 8234 7255 as we're always happy to help.



**Government of South Australia**  
Department for Infrastructure and Transport

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Contact: Sarah Bruns—Project Manager—8234 7255 or email [roadwatch@kesab.asn.au](mailto:roadwatch@kesab.asn.au)

# Resilient regulars

## Thank you for your efforts

A big thank you to the volunteers who were able to resume activities already and have reported findings. The group-provided images to the right show Rubbish Riders on the Tapa Martinthi Yala shared pathway and a tourism information bay in Mannum.

If you'd like to have your images shared, feel free to email them to [roadwatch@kesab.asn.au](mailto:roadwatch@kesab.asn.au) or post them on the [Facebook page](#).

Groups and individuals have reported that clean-ups are taking place along sections of road between 3-5km and take between 2-5 hours to complete. This commonly results in approximately 10kg of litter collected with the most common items reported being cans and bottles. This finding is a little surprising given that we know that SA has a well established container deposit scheme. It would be great to hear your insights as, so far the reasoning is that perhaps more people are utilising take-away and avoiding recycling centres due to COVID-19.

It's great to see that there have been very few hazardous/dangerous items found/ reported so far this financial year and we encourage you to continue to practice care if you come across anything of this nature. If you are not familiar with safety procedures, please contact us for a discussion/refresher.

Thank you for your continued efforts, you really are making a positive difference!



Did you know that a sign can be erected on the adopted roadside after 2-years of active participation in the program? This provides a highly visible promotional opportunity for groups and the program, raising awareness and encouraging positive behaviours. If your group has been active for over 2 years and would like a sign, please contact us.

# Corporate involvement

## Everyone welcome

Volunteering in the program is not just for community groups or individuals. Everyone is welcome, including businesses who may wish to use Road Watch-Adopt A Road to build relationships and engage with community whilst staying active and healthy. Police Credit Union in Adelaide's southern CBD area is one such group. They have adopted a section of road in an urban area and are focussing on both the personal and organisational benefits of the program. Participation in Road Watch-Adopt A Road keeps staff active, engaged and instils pride, all valuable elements of the organisation's culture. This also positively reflects on the organisation, showing that they are serious about corporate social responsibility and investing in the community and environment. The roadside around their organisation is kept clean and safe and there are broad engagement opportunities.



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# Report analysis

## Your data trends

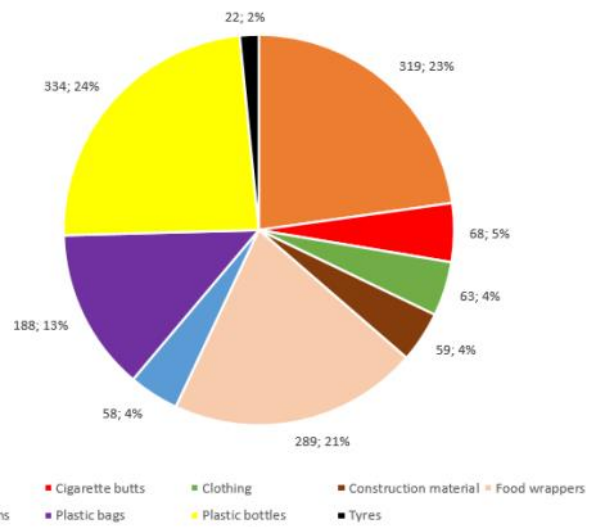
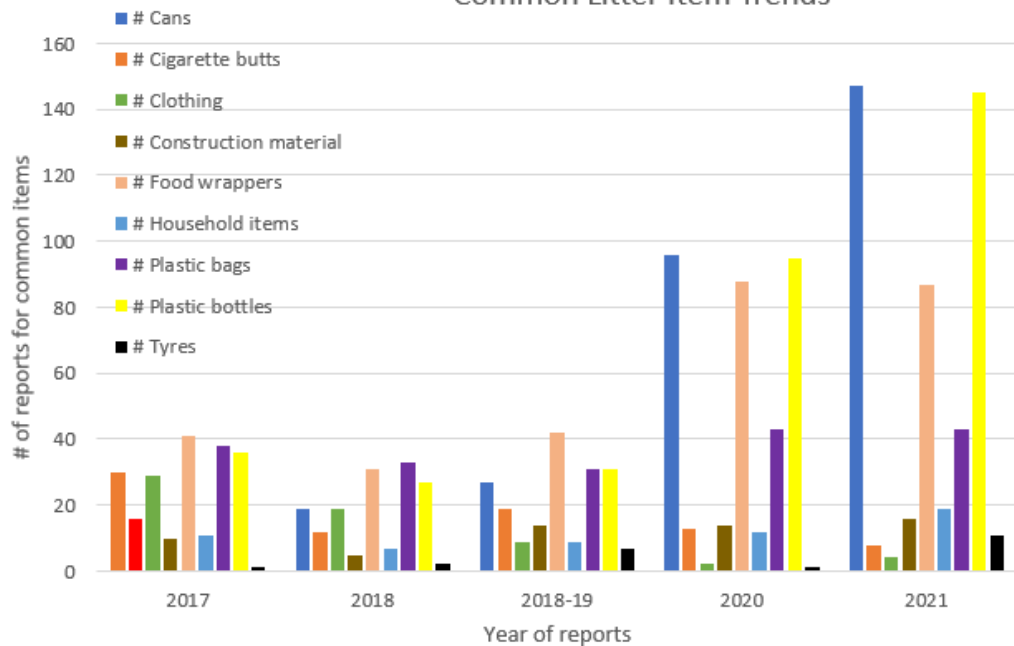
Thank you for providing reports. The simple reporting form was designed to be easily and quickly completed, with online reporting taking an average of two minutes.

Whilst this data does provide valuable information, it also reflects the simplicity and regularity of reporting. Data gives important insights into program involvement and litter trends and this helps to quantify impacts, supporting grant applications and equipment ordering, as well as informing other initiatives.

Your data has now been analysed from 2017 to date, in order to identify areas for further work and improvements.

From this historical snapshot, it seems that of the common litter items collected, the vast majority could technically be recycled (pie graph). Analysis of common items over time (bar graph) also shows a spike in take-away materials, potentially as a response during COVID-19 restrictions. The bar graph shows a reduction in cigarette butt and clothing litter but an increase in larger litter items like construction material and tyres. We will investigate this and welcome any insights you may have. Please also let us know if you require assistance with reporting of illegal dumping or logistical arrangements.

Common Litter Item Trends



# KESAB offerings

## Education to support change

Do you know that KESAB offers multiple programs that focus on different areas of sustainability?



**Community** education sessions include tours of waste/recycling facilities, informational presentations and workshops.

Interactive workshops include making beeswax wraps and DIY cleaning & personal care products to reduce single-use plastics, cooking with food scraps to reduce food waste, papermaking to recycle materials and composting or gardening workshops for learning about organic loops.



**School** education includes incursions and excursion options. Incursion activities are recycle relays to learn about bin systems, papermaking workshops to learn about recycling, beeswax wrap workshops to reduce single-use plastic, 'The journey of food waste' to learn about carbon footprints and 'Litter Less' activities to learn about global litter impacts. Excursions explore waste/recycling facilities and can be supported with follow-up school bin system assessments and/or audits.



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# Safety & equipment

Knowledge, cleaning and maintenance

Snake spotlight



Now is a great time to check your equipment, making sure that you have everything needed for clean-up activities and that all items are in good working order. If you require new equipment, please contact KESAB: 8234 7255 [roadwatch@kesab.asn.au](mailto:roadwatch@kesab.asn.au)

It is also important to refresh your knowledge of relevant safety requirements and review the safety information provided in the handbook issued with your volunteer packs/ available on request.

## SAFETY SPOTLIGHT: Snakes

Whilst the summer heat may be coming to an end, our slithering friends are still about. Please remember to have your first aid kit handy, wear sturdy enclosed shoes, walk with heavy footing to warn them and always gently prod an object with your tools before picking it up.

If you do come across a snake, quietly and slowly back away and move to safety.

## New Co-ordinator & Program review

New Litter & Sustainability Community Programs Co-ordinator

We want to hear from you!

Many of you will have received email notification in November last year that Louise Stewart has retired from KESAB and is pursuing other exciting opportunities.

KESAB would like to acknowledge all of Louise' great work on multiple programs and activities including the Road Watch-Adopt A Road program. We cannot thank her enough for the years of dedication and commitment.

While it's sad to say goodbye, it's also exciting to say hello, for me at least. My name is Sarah and I've worked casually for KESAB delivering community education since 2017. It is my absolute pleasure to now join the team to work on additional community programs including Road Watch & Sustainable Communities. I look forward to working with you and welcome any feedback.



Road Watch-Adopt a Road has been operating since 1996. In that time hundreds of volunteers have participated and there are currently over 120 active groups.

A lot has changed since the program began and we want to make sure that the program continues to improve. For this reason, **we are seeking your valuable feedback**. Does the program meet your expectations? Would you like something different? Are you itching to share some constructive feedback?

Now is your chance to shape the future of this program by completing the program survey: [online](#), in print or over the phone. We estimate it will take 10-15 minutes to complete and appreciate your considered responses.

## Single-use plastics ban

South Australia continues to lead the way and as of March 1st, is implementing the first wave of the [single-use plastics ban](#). The first wave applies to single-use plastic stirrers, cutlery, and straws. There is an opportunity to capture data to assess the impacts of the ban, so we encourage you to provide quantity information of these items in the new questions that have been added to the online survey. If you have existing hardcopy surveys, you can simply add this data as notes or email us.



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