



WA STATE BUDGET 2019-20

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

The State Budget includes important initiatives to protect Western Australia's unique natural environment while creating opportunities for jobs and tourism.

The McGowan Labor Government is committed to reducing waste and has implemented key strategies including a ban on single-use plastic bags and a new Container Deposit Scheme which will improve recycling to reduce the significant impact on our environment.

PLAN FOR OUR PARKS

- More than \$22 million extra to support the Plan for our Parks initiative
- On top of more than \$100 million already earmarked for visitor services and public programs provided in national parks and other lands and waters for 2019-20
- Ambitious plan to create five million hectares of new national and marine parks and conservation reserves will be delivered over the next five years
- \$10 million to establish visitor operations and infrastructure at the proposed Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park, with an additional \$3.8 million for ongoing management of the islands
- \$6.7 million to build public recreation facilities and implement traditional owner joint management of coastal reserves in the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area
- Close to \$2 million towards creation and ongoing management of the proposed national park at Helena and Aurora Range

CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

The State Budget includes \$4.44 million to begin implementing the McGowan Government's Container Deposit Scheme, which is expected to begin in 2020.

The Scheme will offer consumers a **10 cent refund when they return eligible bottles and cans** to refund points across the State.

Over the next 20 years, the State-wide scheme is predicted to reduce littered containers by 706 million, cut the number of containers sent to landfill by 6.6 billion and see an increase in recycled containers of 5.9 billion.

As well as diverting waste from landfill, the scheme will **boost employment and create hundreds of jobs at new container sorting and processing facilities**, and refund points across metropolitan and regional Western Australia.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- \$31 million for the **Natural Resource Management Program**
- Facilitating \$7.8 million of conservation projects from company offsets via the **Pilbara Environmental Offsets Fund**
- \$10.5 million to fast-track the creation of the **Preston River to Ocean Regional Park** and the **Leschenault Regional Park** in the Bunbury region
- \$18.7 million statewide for the **Aboriginal Rangers Program**
- \$8.6 million for the **Regional Estuaries Initiative**
- \$1 million towards the **establishment of a park and reserve network encompassing the fringing coral reefs of the Buccaneer Archipelago**, to protect the region's outstanding natural and cultural values

