



Shire of Esperance

2026/27 Rates Booklet

Your go-to guide on rates, payments and services.



Your rates help maintain the roads, parks, community facilities and essential services that keep our region connected, from Condingup to Cascade and Salmon Gums to Esperance.

Early Birds Rates Draw Platinum Sponsor



SHIRE CEO, SHANE BURGE

Delivering services across one of WA's largest local government areas requires sound financial management and a long-term view. This Budget has been developed to ensure the Shire can maintain essential infrastructure, care for community assets and progress important projects despite rising costs and increasing operational demands.

The Budget is guided by the priorities our community identified, from maintaining roads and facilities to investing in projects that support future growth. By aligning spending with the Council Plan and Long Term Financial Plan, the Shire is working to meet today's needs while building a strong foundation for the future of Esperance.



SHIRE PRESIDENT, RON CHAMBERS

The difficulty of forming this year's budget was reflective of the challenging times we face. Councillors and staff looked for savings wherever possible while continuing to provide the services, facilities and programs our community relies on.

Like households and businesses, the Shire also faces rising costs, while government funding support has reduced. After careful consideration, Council adopted a 6% Rate increase to maintain community services and continue investment in the infrastructure supporting Esperance's future. As a regional community, we must provide the facilities and opportunities that larger centres can share, making careful financial planning more important than ever.



YOUR PAYMENT OPTIONS



OPTION 1 - PAY IN FULL

Pay your rates in one payment by
23 September 2026



OPTION 2 - PAY BY INSTALMENTS

Spread your rates across four payments, due on:

- 23 September 2026
- 18 November 2026
- 13 January 2027
- 10 March 2027

Please note: To remain in the instalment plan, your first payment must be received by 23 September 2026.

PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

We understand that from time to time, people may experience financial hardship that makes it difficult to meet their financial commitments when they are due.

If you are having any difficulty paying your rates, please contact the Shire's Rates Team on (08) 9071 0668 as early as possible. We're here to help and can work with you to discuss payment arrangements that suit your situation and support you in meeting your rates commitments.



HERE TO HELP

Our team are happy to assist with calculating the best options for you, provided your payments cover the dates set by Council.



CONTACT US

(08) 9071 0668 or (08) 9071 0653
rates@esperance.wa.gov.au



Early Bird Rates Draw
Gold Sponsor:

HOW TO PAY



DIRECT DEBIT: GET AHEAD ON YOUR RATES

Direct Debit is an easy, flexible way to pay your rates and can help you spread payments throughout the year. The Rates Team is happy to help you find a payment option that suits your circumstances.

- Flexible payments - Pay weekly, fortnightly, monthly, in full or by instalments.
- Avoid lump sums - Smaller, regular payments can make budgeting easier.
- Stay on track - Payments are made automatically.
- Easy & Convenient - Set up once and you're good to go.

BPAY



Please refer to the details under Payment Methods on your rate notice.

Biller Code: 12161

Reference: Your Assessment Number



ONLINE

Visit www.esperance.wa.gov.au/rates

PHONE



Have your rate notice and credit card nearby and call **1300 276 468**

IN PERSON



Bring your rate notice to the Shire Administration office during business hours

MAIL / CHEQUE



Please include the payment slip at the bottom of your rates form



**Early Bird Rates Draw
Silver Sponsors:**

PENSIONER & CONCESSIONS

Eligible pensioners and seniors may be entitled to a rebate on their rates.



Pensioner Concession Card or State Concession Card

Up to 50% rebate. Capped at \$750.



Commonwealth Seniors Health Card + WA Seniors Card

Up to 50% rebate. Capped at \$750.



WA Seniors Card

Up to 25% rebate. Capped at \$100.

To be eligible, you must hold one or more of the appropriate cards and, as at 1 July of the financial year, own and occupy the property as your principal place of residence. To register, contact the Water Corporation on 1300 659 951 or online at: www.watercorporation.com.au

Council also accepts Centrepay, a free bill-paying service for eligible Centrelink customers, allowing rates to be paid in manageable instalments.

INTERIM RATE NOTICES

An interim rate notice may be issued during the year if the WA Valuer General reassesses the value of a property. This can happen when:

- A new property is created through subdivision, amalgamation or strata title.
- A new building or major improvement is added to vacant land
- A building is demolished
- Additions or alterations are made, such as garages, bedrooms or swimming pools
- Bin service arrangements change

An interim notice adjusts your rates to reflect the updated property valuation from the effective date of change.

EARLY BIRD RATES DRAW 2026

Pay your rates early and go into the draw to win great prizes, thanks to the generous support of local businesses.

The Early Bird Rates Prize Draw rewards ratepayers who pay their 2026/27 rates in full by the due dates. The earlier you pay, the more chances you have to win.

HOW TO ENTER

You'll be automatically entered when:

- Your 2026/27 rates are paid in full, and
- Payment is received by the eligible dates below.

WHY PAY EARLY?

- More chances to win
- One less thing to think about
- Avoid last-minute payments
- Prepaid Direct Debit customers are automatically included

PRIZES TO BE WON

Thanks to the support of our local business community, there is over \$22,000 in prizes to be won, including:

- Weekly vouchers
- Cash prizes, plus
- Bonus major prizes

Due dates for 2026 payments each week are:

PAY BY WEDNESDAY	DRAW DATE FRIDAY
2 September	4 September
9 September	11 September
16 September	18 September
23 September	25 September

For full Terms and Conditions visit our website www.esperance.wa.gov.au/early-bird-rates-draw

ARE YOU A LOCAL BUSINESS INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED?

Get in touch with the Rates Team to register your interest to be part of the 2027 Early Bird Rates Draw.

rates@esperance.wa.gov.au



**Early Bird Rates Draw
Bronze Sponsor:**

Pagoda
Resort & Spa



THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS

Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



UNDERSTANDING RATES

Council rates help fund the essential services, facilities and infrastructure that support everyday life across the Shire of Esperance.

Each year, Council participate in workshops and budget planning sessions to determine the services, projects and infrastructure needed by the community. Rates income is one part of how these priorities are funded, with additional funding sourced through State and Federal government grants and other revenue streams.

WHAT YOUR RATES HELP PAY FOR

Your rates contribute to a wide range of local services, including:

- Roads, footpaths and drainage
- Waste and recycling services
- Parks, playgrounds and community facilities
- Library, leisure and recreation services
- Community events and programs
- Environmental management and public safety

These services support residents, businesses and visitors across the Shire.

COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan 2026-2036 sets the long-term direction for the Shire of Esperance, based on the priorities and aspirations of our communities.

This guides Council's decisions, services and investment over the next 10 years.

Adopted in March 2026, the Plan was shaped through community workshops, surveys and feedback.

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Key priorities identified by the community include:



Housing



Economic development



Infrastructure renewal



Community safety



Mental health and wellbeing

The community also highlighted the importance of local roads, town centre and airport facilities. Strong advocacy and regular reporting back to the community were identified as essential.

Read the Council Plan 2026-2036 at:

www.esperance.wa.gov.au

Hard copies are available on request from the Shire Administration Building.



WHY RATES MATTER

Rates help the Shire to:

- Maintain existing infrastructure
- Plan for future growth
- Deliver essential services
- Invest in new and renewed community assets

Councillors and staff work to balance service delivery with affordability, ensuring the services and facilities our communities rely on today can continue to be provided in the future.

HOW RATES ARE CALCULATED

Rates are calculated using a fair and consistent method set out in legislation and applied across all local governments in Western Australia.

STEP 1: TOTAL RATES REQUIRED TO RUN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Cost of running the Local Government



Minus revenue from other sources



Revenue required from rates to run the Local Government

-

=

STEP 2: RATE IN DOLLAR CALCULATED



Revenue required from rates

÷



Divided by the combined rental value of all rateable properties

=



The rate in the dollar

STEP 3: WHAT YOU PAY



The rate in the dollar

x



Multiplied by your property's value, set by the Valuer General

=



To calculate your rates for the year

LOOKING AHEAD

PLANNING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Guided by the Council Plan and other strategic documents, the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) maps out how Council will fund services, infrastructure and community priorities over the next 10 years.

Reviewed annually, it helps Council make informed decisions that support a strong and financially sustainable future for our community.

- Supports responsible financial planning
- Guides future investment
- Helps maintain financial sustainability

Find out more:
esperance.wa.gov.au



TEN CENTRE ADMISSIONS



Present this token at reception for complimentary admission to the gym, pool, fitness classes and spa/sauna.

Multiple admissions can be used at once.

-  GYM
-  POOL
-  FITNESS CLASSES
-  SPA & SAUNA



Expires
31/12/2026

Not redeemable for cash or services.

Offer excludes creche and swimming lessons.

Bay of Isles Leisure Centre terms and conditions apply.

YOUR COUNCIL

Your Councillors represent the community and are elected by local residents and ratepayers. Elections are held every two years, with Councillors serving four-year terms.



**Shire President
Ron Chambers**

TOWN



**Cr Jennifer
Obourne**



**Cr Garry
McWilliam**



**Cr Leonie de
Haas**



**Cr Gerry
Harp**



**Cr Gemma
Johnston**



**Cr Connor
Davies**

RURAL



**Cr Wes
Graham**



**Cr Sam
Starcevich**

Find Councillor contact details here:
esperance.wa.gov.au/elected-members



BUDGET SUMMARY 2026/27

Each year, Council adopts a budget that balances the delivery of essential services with responsible financial management.

The 2026/27 Budget reflects community priorities, maintains core services, and supports investment in important infrastructure, while managing rising costs and planning for the future.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS YEAR

Key focus areas in the 2026/27 Budget include:

- Commencing major capital projects
- Continued investment in roads and infrastructure
- Maintaining essential community services
- Careful management of costs in a challenging economic environment.

KEY BUDGET FIGURES



Total budget: \$119.4 million (income only)
Rates income: \$29.7 million
Grant funding: \$42.8 million
Fees & Charges: \$12.9 million
Reserves: \$18.2 million
New Borrowings: \$9.85 million
Other income: \$5.95 million

The total rate yield increase is 6%.

MANAGING COSTS

Council carefully monitors spending while continuing to provide the services, facilities and infrastructure that support our communities across the Shire. Regular financial reviews, including a mid-year budget review, help ensure Council remains on track, use resources responsibly, and can respond to changing circumstances throughout the year.

MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS

Capital works are long-term investments in infrastructure and facilities that support our communities today and into the future.

The 2026/27 Capital Works Program includes major projects that will improve community assets and support Esperance's future growth.



\$17.3M
**James Street
Precinct
Stage A1**



\$13.1M
**Myrup Waste
Transfer
Facility**



\$700k
Artificial Reef



\$500k
**Sand Back Pass
Pipe Line**



\$23.8M
**Capital Roads
Projects**

Go Paperless with eRates

eRates is a fast, secure and convenient way to receive your rate notice electronically.

WHY CHOOSE eRATES?

- No waiting for mail
- Easy access anytime, anywhere
- Reduce paper waste
- No replacement fee for lost notices

Sign up by scanning the QR code or visiting:



**[esperance.wa.gov.au/
erates](https://esperance.wa.gov.au/erates)**

It only takes a minute to switch.

HOW REVENUE IS GENERATED

THE MANY PIECES OF THE PIE

Council rates are an important source of funding, but they are only one part of the picture.

For the 2026/27 financial year, Capital Project Grants are the Shire's largest source of income, contributing 28.5% of total revenue. This reflects the Shire's success in securing external funding for major community and infrastructure projects.

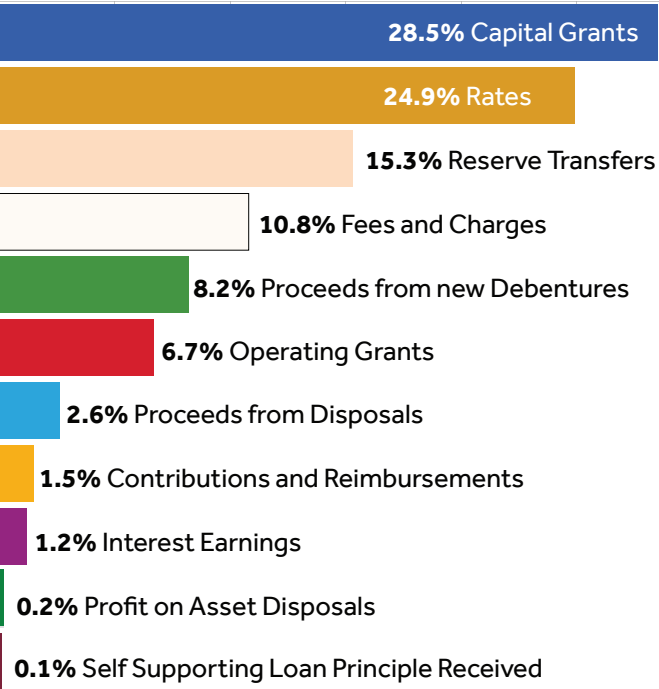
The Shire also receives funding through rates revenue, grants and contributions, fees and charges, and reserve funds. Together, these revenue sources help fund the services, facilities, infrastructure and programs that support the community. The chart below shows where the Shire's revenue comes from in 2026/27.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Using a mix of revenue sources helps us:

- Reduce reliance on rates
- Fund major projects through grants
- Continue delivering services for the community

The Shire actively seeks external funding to help deliver projects while keeping costs as affordable as possible for ratepayers.



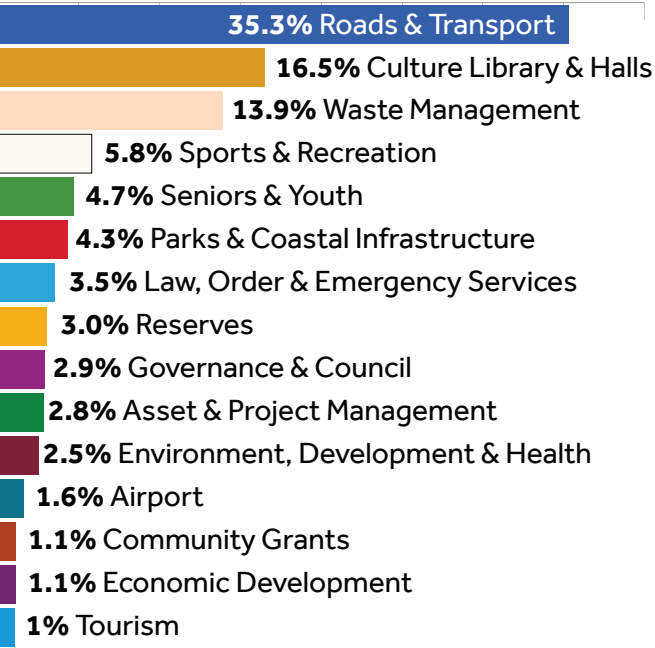
WHAT WE INVEST IN

WHERE YOUR RATES GO

From Condy to Cascade, Salmon Gums to Esperance, your rates help fund the services, facilities and infrastructure that support our communities every day.

Each year, Council invests in maintaining community assets, delivering essential services, and planning for the future of the Esperance region.

The breakdown below shows how Council's 2026/27 budget is allocated across key service areas.



COMMUNITY SCORECARD

Every response to the Community Scorecard helps build a clearer picture of our community's priorities. Your feedback helps Council:



Set priorities



Plan for the future



Advocate with purpose for our community



Direct resources where they're needed most

The next Community Scorecard opens in 2027.

Stay involved and help shape future decisions.

esperance.wa.gov.au/current-consultations



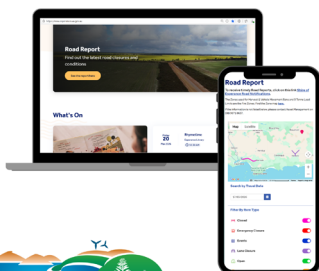
SIGN UP NOW

CHECK, PLAN, GO!

CHECK the website and sign up for updates.

PLAN your route around closures or road works.

GO! Head off on your safely planned route.



SCAN ME



www.esperance.wa.gov.au/road-report

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW ARE RATES CALCULATED?

Rates are based on the funding needed to deliver local services, maintain infrastructure and support community facilities across the Shire. After accounting for other income sources, such as grants, fees and charges, the remaining amount is collected through rates. Each property contributes a share based on its valuation.

WHAT IS GRV AND UV?

Gross Rental Value (GRV)

An estimate of the annual rental value of your property, determined by the WA Valuer General. GRV is generally used for residential and commercial properties. Unimproved Value (UV)

The value of the land as if it were undeveloped. UV is generally used for rural and vacant land.

CAN I OBJECT TO MY PROPERTY VALUATION?

Yes. If you believe your property valuation is incorrect, you can lodge an objection with the Western Australian Valuer General's Office within 60 days of the issue date shown on your rate notice.

Please note: Rates must still be paid by the due date.

If your objection is successful, and adjustments will be credited to your account.

HOW DO I UPDATE MY POSTAL ADDRESS?

Only the registered property owner can make a change to the address. Update your details:

- Online: esperance.wa.gov.au/rates
- Email: rates@esperance.wa.gov.au
- In person: Shire Administration Building, 77 Windich Street, Esperance

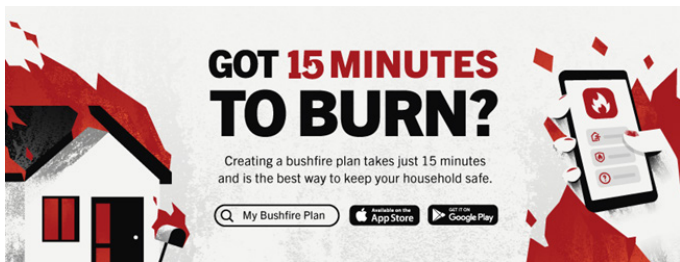


FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION

Provides details of the legal requirements for each property owner within the Shire & highlights information to reduce hazards on your property as well as information on being bushfire ready.

NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS OF LAND WITHIN THE SHIRE OF ESPERANCE

Pursuant to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, the Notice sets out the actions that you must take to prepare your property for the fire season. As a measure for preventing the spread or extension of a bush fire which may occur, all owners and occupiers of land within the Shire boundaries are required to clear firebreaks or to take measures in accordance with this Notice before **9 October 2026**. Maintenance of firebreaks and measures in accordance with this Notice must be kept up to and including the **31 March 2027**.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

ZONE	RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD
RURAL	18 Sept -12 Nov 2026
URBAN - RURAL	18 Sept -12 Nov 2026

These dates are subject to change depending on seasonal weather conditions. Updates will be posted on the Shire of Esperance website and shared to Facebook & Instagram account.

DEFINITIONS & GUIDANCE NOTE

For definitions and practical guidance on the requirements of the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice, please refer to Firebreak Information on the Shire's website.

DRY SEASON INFORMATION

Our region is facing lower rainfall and longer dry seasons, especially from April to October. It's essential for property owners and land caretakers to effectively control the build-up of fuel loads on their properties.

REQUEST FOR A VARIATION

Landowners/Occupiers can apply to the Shire for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative locations or to take alternative measures to prevent the outbreak or spread of a bushfire, if any of the listed requirements of the Notice are impractical.

After consultation, the Shire may approve a variation for either a 1 year or a 3 year period. Applications for a Variation to a Firebreak must be received in writing by 24 September 2026. Fees apply.

Forms available on the Shire website:
esperance.wa.gov.au/bushfire-information

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD	RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD
13 Nov 2026 - 31 Jan 2027	1 Feb -31 Mar 2027
13 Nov 2026 - 9 Mar 2027	10 Mar -30 Apr 2027

Find the **full Fire Hazard Reduction Notice** by scanning the QR code or visit our website:
esperance.wa.gov.au/bushfire-information



RECYCLING BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR 2026/27

Your recycling bin is collected every fortnight, on the same day as your general waste bin, which is collected each week.

RESIDENTIAL ONLY

YOUR RECYCLING BIN DAYS:

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK1	West Beach & Esperance CBD	Castletown A (East of Easton Road)	Gibson, Monjingup and Shake Lake	Nulsen / Sinclair	
WEEK2	Lake Warden & Pink Lake	Castletown B (North of Fisheries Rd)	Esperance Town	Chadwick and Castletown South (West of Easton Rd & South of Fisheries Rd)	

July 2026

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
W2				1	2	3	4
W1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
W2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
W1	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
W2	26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

September 2026

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30			

October 2026

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
W1					1	2	3
W2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
W2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
W1	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					

December 2026

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		

Collection Rescheduled
Bins will be collected the day prior

January 2027

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
W1						1	2
W2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
W1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
W2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
W1	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

February 2027

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28						

March 2027

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			

April 2027

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
W1					1	2	3
W2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
W2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
W1	25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

June 2027

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30			



BIN TIPS

- ✓ Keep recycling loose & clean
- ✓ No plastic bags
- ✓ Lid must close
- ✓ Put bins out the night before, or before 5AM collection day
- ✓ Clean bins regularly
- ✓ Freeze seafood/odorous waste until collection



WASTE VOUCHERS



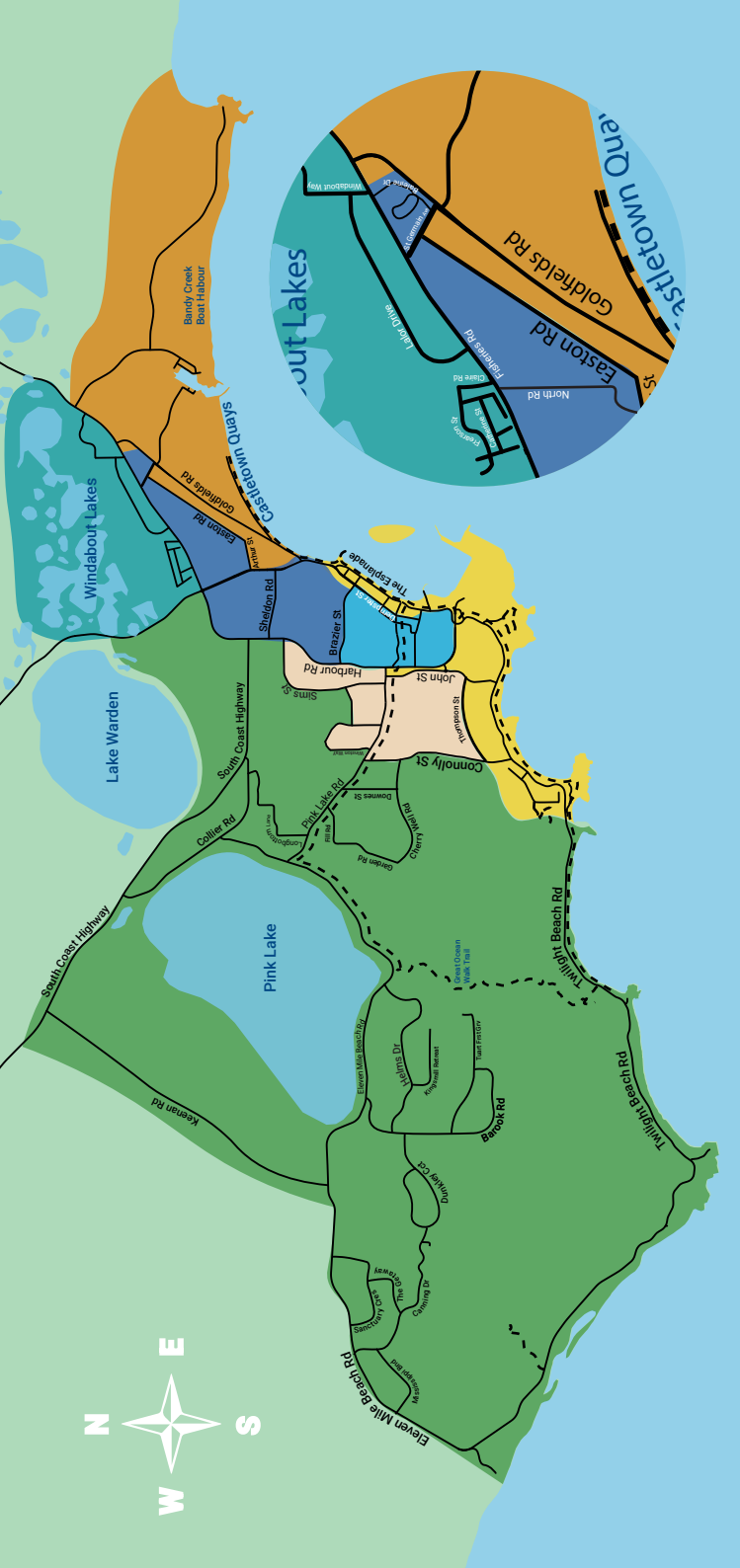
Issued with annual rates notice



Expires
31 August 2027



Replacement vouchers:
\$15 fee applies



SORT SMART SAVE BIG

Sort your waste before the gate!



Clearly separate your recyclable materials from your general waste to ensure a quick and cheap visit to the waste facility.

Why Pay for Landfill? Sort and Save



**For more information
scan here:**

 (08) 9071 0666

 shire@esperance.wa.gov.au



KEEP YOUR RECYCLING CLEAN

The right item in the right bin helps us recycle more and send less to landfill.



Esperance's Top 6 Recycling Contaminates

Put these in your general waste bin instead!

✓ YES Recycle These



Glass bottles and jars



Plastic bottles and containers



Cardboard



Paper (newspaper, magazines, office white)



Aluminium and steel cans



✗ NO Keep these out



Green waste



Food waste



Textiles



Soft Plastic



General Waste



Nappies and wipes



DID YOU KNOW?

One contaminated bin can cause a whole truck load to be rejected.



KEEP THESE OUT OF KERBSIDE BINS

♻️ Recycling

- UHT (long-life) cartons
- Polystyrene or foam
- Food & garden waste
- Soft plastics
- Sharps
- Nappies
- Batteries & E-waste

🗑️ General Waste

- Construction waste
 - Hot ashes
 - Batteries
 - E-waste
 - Motor oil
- Hazardous waste** such as:
- Poisons, chemicals, paint, liquids and oils



NOT SURE WHERE IT GOES?

Scan the QR code

Remember:

RINSE IT DONT BAG IT RECYCLE IT



CONTACT US

ADMINISTRATION -----	9071 0666
BAY OF ISLES LEISURE CENTRE ---	9083 1700
CIVIC CENTRE -----	9083 1565
DEPOT -----	9083 1522
HOME CARE -----	9083 1800
LIBRARY -----	9083 1500
MUSEUM -----	9083 1580
RANGER SERVICES -----	9083 1533
RATES -----	9071 0668
VISITOR CENTRE -----	9083 1555
VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE --	9083 1540
WYLIE BAY WASTE FACILITY -----	9071 7594

STAY INFORMED AND INVOLVED

Subscribe to our eNewsletters for the latest community news, events and updates.

esperance.wa.gov.au/newsletters

08 9071 0666

shire@esperance.wa.gov.au

www.esperance.wa.gov.au

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