



Plastic Free Riverpark Program

Round 5 grant funding

Riverfront businesses, vessel charter operators and sporting organisations

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) is calling for applications for grant funding from the Plastic Free Riverpark Program 2025-26.

Food or beverage businesses, vessel charter operators or sporting organisations may apply for a grant ranging from \$1000 to \$10,000* (plus GST) for a project that meets the eligibility criteria.

**Applications of \$5000 or more may include additional conditions.*



Objectives of grant funding

The Plastic Free Riverpark (PFR) Program aims to reduce single-use packaging, especially single-use plastic packaging, in and around the [Swan Canning Riverpark](#). The grants are designed to help Swan Canning Riverpark businesses and venues to adopt reusable alternatives to single-use packaging, by preferencing the provision and/or encouragement of reusable options.

The grant funding prioritises projects that align with the top of the waste hierarchy (avoid, reduce and reuse).

Eligibility criteria

The applicant

Must:

- Operate in the Swan Canning Riverpark, or within 2km of the [Swan Canning Riverpark](#).
- Either be:
 - A food or beverage business (café, restaurant, bar, pub) operating for at least three hours per day, three days per week. OR
 - A sporting organisation, such as a rowing club or yacht club, whose primary activity occurs in the Swan Canning Riverpark. OR
 - A vessel charter operator with one or more vessels operating in the [Swan Canning Riverpark](#).
- Be 100% compliant with [Western Australia's Plan for Plastics](#) at the time of the application and at any point in the future (random compliance checks will be conducted).
- Supply an ABN and notice of GST registration.
 - In some cases, notice of GST registration may not be required i.e., if the applicant is a not-for-profit or volunteer organisation.
- A business with more than one eligible venue may be able to apply for grant funds on behalf of the additional venues with funds awarded at the full discretion of the DBCA.

Must not:

- Be a service station, supermarket, deli, or other food or beverage business that does not prepare food and drink on-site, and whose primary form of business is not serving dine-in or takeaway food and beverage to customers.
- Be a charter operator that allows the public on board a vessel without a crew operating the vessel at all times.

The project

Must:

- Be able to be implemented within three to six months of receiving grant funding.
- Introduce a reusable alternative and eliminate single-use packaging/serve-ware items*, particularly single-use plastic packaging (*excludes Container Deposit Scheme containers).
- Show consideration of how the project will maintain the reusable alternative beyond the initial scope of the grant funding and embed reusable behaviour within the culture of the venue by educating customers and promoting BYO and reuse at the venue.

Must not:

- Be for staff salaries or wages, or training courses.



Program participants La Patisserie South Perth and Royal Perth Yacht Club (RPYC). Photo right by RPYC.

How to apply

Applications must be made by submitting a completed application form to plasticfreeriverpark@dbca.wa.gov.au.

Applications are encouraged before the closing date of **Thursday 30 April 2026**. Applications will be assessed and awarded on a first come, first served basis.

A panel of two members will assess and select the applications that most effectively meet the following criteria. The provision of funds will be conditional upon signature of a grant agreement.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

2. The business or venue is located in the Swan Canning Riverpark, or within 2km of the [Swan Canning Riverpark](#).
3. The project will eliminate the sale and supply of single-use packaging*/serve-ware items through the introduction of a reusable alternative (* excludes Container Deposit Scheme containers).
4. The project will deliver positive environmental outcomes for the Swan Canning Riverpark.
5. The project has considered how it will deliver positive behaviour change outcomes.
6. The project represents good value for money.

Emailed applications are preferred. Please contact the Plastic Free Riverpark Program Project Officer on 9278 0985 or 0467 538 518 if you are unable to email your entire application, including attachments.

Email to:

plasticfreeriverpark@dbca.wa.gov.au

Applications must be received by the Plastic Free Riverpark Program on or before:

Closing date: Thursday 30 April 2026.

Please note applications are encouraged before the closing date.

Acknowledgement of receipt of applications

You can expect acknowledgement of your application within one week of applying. If you do not receive acknowledgement within one week, please contact the Plastic Free Riverpark Program Project Officer on 9278 0985 or 0467 538 518.

Notification of funding decisions

Applicants will be advised of assessment outcomes within one month of applying. Successful projects will be notified of the conditional funding approved for their project. This funding will be subject to a letter with conditions being signed and notice of GST registration being provided.

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing and will have the opportunity to receive feedback on their application by contacting the Plastic Free Riverpark Program Project Officer at plasticfreeriverpark@dbca.wa.gov.au.

Media protocol

It is a condition of funding that all media and communication activities relating to the Plastic Free Riverpark Program is developed in collaboration with DBCA. This includes, but is not limited to, presentations, publications, signage, articles, newsletters or other written or digital works relating to the project or its activities.

Who to contact if you need further help

Please contact the Plastic Free Riverpark Program Project Officer by email at plasticfreeriverpark@dbca.wa.gov.au, or by phone 9278 0985, or by mobile 0467 538 518 if you require help with your application.