Waste Management and Recycling in Multi-unit Developments





Better Practice Guide for Waste Management and Recycling in Multi-unit Developments

Multi-unit developments (MUDs), mainly in the CBD and inner Melbourne but also in regional Victoria, have seen significant growth in recent years. Emerging waste streams, such as organics and e-waste also creates new management considerations in the design of buildings and how they function.

Sustainability Victoria has developed a new Guide to Better Practice for Waste Management and Recycling in Multi-unit Developments (Guide) to improve waste management practices and increase recycling rates. This is in line with the Better Apartment Design Standards developed by the Department of Environment Land, Water and Planning to improve the liveability of apartments in Victoria.

What is in the guide?

SECTION A Background Information	•	Background information and relevant policy guidance applicable to MUDs
SECTION B Essential Requirements	•	Essential requirements applicable to all types of development regardless of the dwelling type or building size
SECTION C Design Options		Better practice design options for different MUD types
SECTION D Appendices		Better practice guidance, infrastructure requirements and management options

Multi-unit Development Types



Two or more Residential Dwellings on a lot

- This development type has two or more dwellings on the same parcel of land.
- > Elements of this development type may also be relevant to nursing homes, retirement villages and the residential component of caravan and holiday parks.



Low-Rise Apartments up to 4 Storeys

This category includes two to three-storey walk-ups, with generally 4-12 units. They are called walk-ups because they are not required to have a lift, and access to the upper levels is by stairs.



Medium to High-Rise Development: ≥4 Residential

- > These developments are medium to large blocks of units that are over four storeys high, with one or more dwellings on each storey.
- > Blocks of units with four or more storeys must have lift access to the upper levels.



Mixed Use Developments

> Mixed-use developments incorporate both residential and commercial uses.



Precinct Scale Developments

- These are generally mixed-use developments incorporating residential and commercial uses across a number of buildings. They can also include urban renewal areas that are well-planned and offer the potential for shared services and precinct-wide alternative waste management solutions.
- Depending on the scale of the development, volumes of waste and materials may be greater, which presents both challenges and opportunities.



What waste/material streams are included?

The Guide is intended to be a helpful tool for relevant stakeholders associated with waste and recycling in multi-unit developments. Guidance is provided on how to collect, store and recycle or dispose of all waste streams including:

Waste/material stream













Organics

Recyclables

E-waste

Hard waste

Residual (garbage)

Who will use the Guide?

The Guide has been developed to assist:

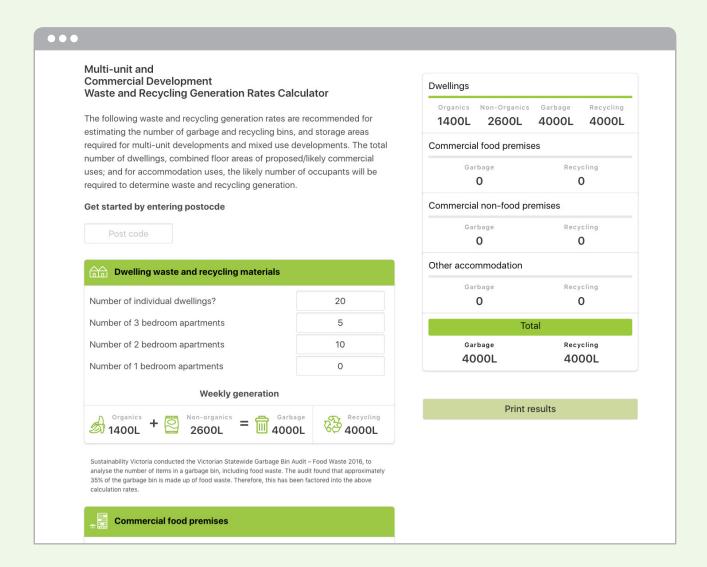
- Architects
- > Building designers
- > MUD occupants
- Developers

- MUD Managers
- Statutory planners and
- > Waste management officers

Online Calculator – waste and recycling generation rates

Complementing the Guide is an online waste and recycling generation calculator for both residential and commercial uses to assist in the preparation of waste management plans and infrastructure planning. This is accessible from the SV website and should be utilised in conjunction with the guide.

Online Calculator - Multi-unit and Commercial Development Waste and Recycling Generation Rates



For further information

For a copy of the Guide, refer to the Sustainability Victoria website.

www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/Government/Waste-and-resource-recovery/Waste-management-in-multi-unit-developments

Multi-unit Development Guidance muds@sustainability.vic.gov.au



