



# Snip Rings for Wildlife

Est. 2020



## Snip Rings for Wildlife Asset Bank & Guide

**Snip Rings for Wildlife**, established by the Society in 2020, aims to raise awareness and encourage individuals to protect Australia's wildlife by snipping through ring-shaped items such as plastic rings, rubber bands, hair ties, loops of facemasks, and plastic dome-shaped lids, in their entirety, before disposing of them.

Each year, thousands of birds and semi-aquatic, air-breathing species such as platypus, turtles, and water dragons are strangled, obtain significant injuries, and often die horrific deaths from discarded litter, including ring-shaped items. Wildlife often becomes entangled in ring-shaped items that wrap around their beak or muzzle, preventing them from eating. These items can also tangle up their feet, wings, or fins, limiting their movement. Young animals can become trapped in these items, and as they grow, these items cut into their flesh, sometimes amputating limbs or killing the animal.

Jars, bottles, and tetra packs now come with a ring that snaps apart from the lid upon opening or a peel-off seal under the cap. While it is a step in the right direction, it poses another issue: being made of plastic.

The campaign operates on three levels: community, organisational, and governmental:

**Community** – Engage and educate community members and encourage them to snip through ring-shaped items (and dispose of them correctly) to protect Australia's wildlife,

**Organisational** – Write to manufacturers and businesses to encourage them to improve the design of their products to a wildlife-friendly alternative. We also encourage community members to do the same and provide a template letter to make it easy for them to do so, and

**Governmental** – Meet with and write to Ministers, state and federal, to influence a positive change in legislation and policy by advocating for a ban on ring-shaped items to protect native wildlife from the risk of entanglement and death.

While we continue urging manufacturers and the government to take action, we ask our followers to Snip Rings for Wildlife. All you need to do is snip the ring-shaped item in half, place it in the bottle, put the cap back on, and then you can place the item in your recycling bin.

**SNIP RINGS FOR WILDLIFE  
ASSET BANK & GUIDE**

Safeguard our precious wildlife!  
Join the fight against entanglement  
in ring-shaped objects.

Image: WRES Northern Rivers.

The QR code provides access to our Snip Rings for Wildlife Asset Bank & Guide, which contains everything you need to share the campaign and encourage people to snip through ring-shaped items to protect Australia's wildlife. Please also visit our website: <https://www.aws.org.au/snip-rings-for-wildlife/>

**We must remind ourselves that when we work together, we can create real change!**