

Three-bin system: Fact sheet



What is the new three-bin household waste system?

The new three-bin household waste system allows food and garden waste to be collected, as well as regular waste and recycling collections. The new system will begin in Wodonga on **Monday, June 29, 2015** with the following collection regime.

- WEEKLY collection of 240L organics bin (garden and food waste) - Green-lidded bin.
- FORTNIGHTLY collection of 240L recycling bin - Yellow Lid
- FORTNIGHTLY collection of 140L general waste bin - Red lid

This represents a more than 60 per cent increase in the volume of waste removed from each household compared to the current two bin system.

Will my garbage charges change?

Every year your garbage charge increases slightly in line with inflation. If you were previously charged for the 2-bin system your rates will increase to the cost of the 3-bin system. If you already have a green bin your rates will decrease.

What bins do I need for this system?

All households will be provided with a green-lidded organics bin, kitchen caddy and compostable liners about a week before the start of the new collections. This is in addition to your red-lidded rubbish and yellow-lidded recycling bins.

Do I have to do anything special to get my bin?

No, the organics bin will be delivered with clear instructions and directions for use. More information about how the system will operate will be provided to you closer to the start date.

Why will I be receiving an organics bin?

You will be receiving an organics bin for your food scraps and garden matter to reduce the quantity and content of waste going to landfill. Approximately half the content of the average household rubbish bin is organic material. This is now sent to Albury landfill which is rapidly filling up if present disposal patterns continue. If the council does not reduce the quantity and content of the waste going to landfill, prices will increase substantially. These costs will be passed on to ratepayers.

What will I be able to put in my green-lidded organics bin?

You can put in all your food scraps including fish, meat and bones, teabags, coffee grounds and cooked foods. Garden waste such as prunings, grass clippings, sticks, weeds and flowers can also be included. The new system will also allow collection of contaminated paper such as paper towels, pizza boxes, shredded paper and tissues, as well as pet droppings. However, you cannot include things like plastic bags, general household waste, treated or laminated timber or old clothing. These need to go in your general waste bin.

How will my general waste (rubbish) bin change?

Your red-lidded rubbish bin will stay at 140 litres, however, it will be emptied fortnightly instead of weekly. Wodonga Council's research has shown that about half of what is being put into the red bin could be composted through the organics service, reducing the need to collect the bin every week.

How will I sort food waste from my general household rubbish?

Each household will be provided with a kitchen tidy bin and compostable bags for the specific purpose of collecting food waste. These bags can then be placed in your new organics bin.

I have a green waste bin service now. Will I be required to have four bins?

No. Your current green waste service will be replaced by the organics service. You will still have three bins but the organics bin will take all your green waste along with food scraps and other organic materials. Please DO NOT start adding food to your current green bin until the new service commences.

Which other councils are introducing organics bins?

Three other councils in this region - AlburyCity, Indigo Shire Council and Corowa Shire Council - are also introducing the organics bin. More than 22 other councils around Australia have already introduced them.

How can I find out more?

You will be provided with detailed information about the new organics bin in the lead-up to its introduction. You can head to the Halve Waste website at halvewaste.com.au or phone the council's customer focus team on (02) 6022 9300 if you have any further enquiries.