



# Household Waste, Recycling and Organics Guide

**Bin Placement**

**Waste Bin**

**Recycling Bin**

**Organics Bin**

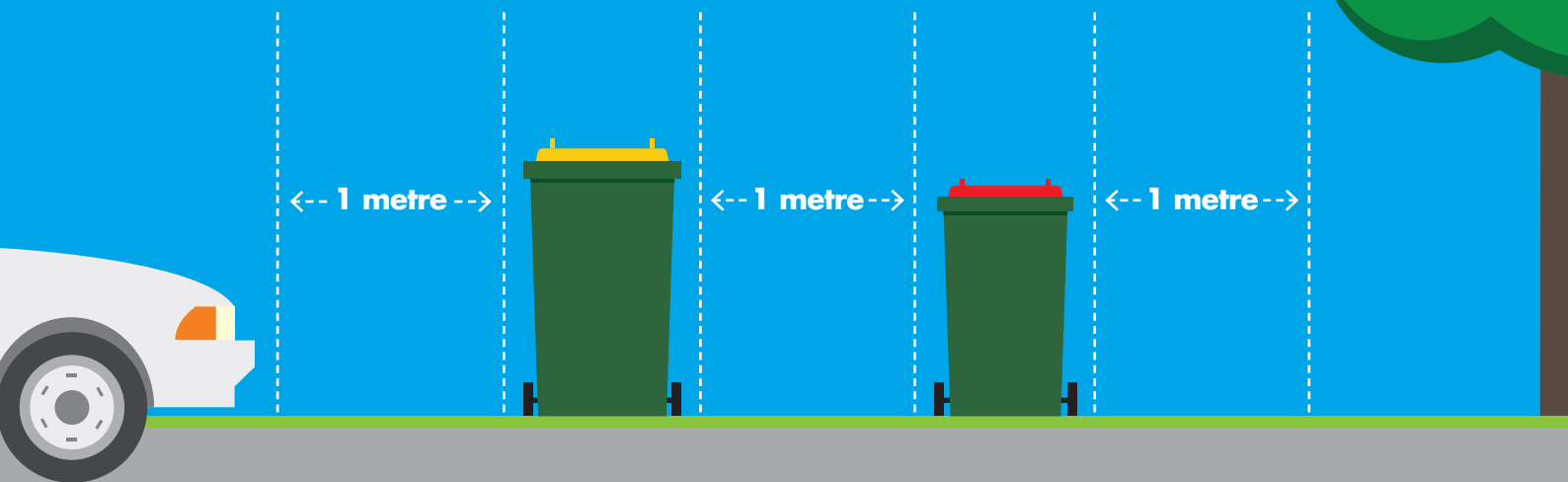
**Reducing Your Waste**

## Spacing

Face the wheels away from the kerb and leave at least an arm's length (about a metre) between bins and other objects.

## Overfilling

Please do not overfill bins. Make sure the lid can close. This prevents litter blowing down the street. Extra bags will NOT be collected.



## Bin Placement

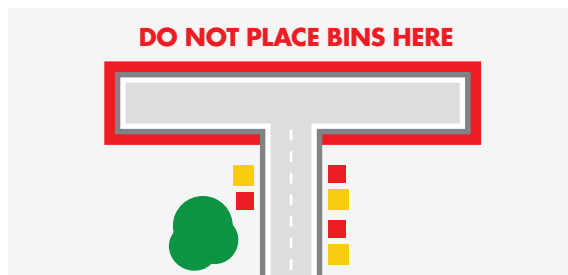
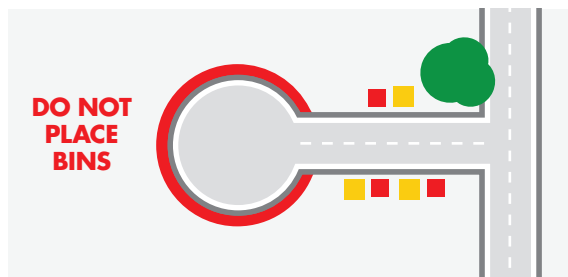
Collection of bins in courts and dead end streets can make collection difficult for the contractor. The less they need to reverse in streets, the safer it is for the driver and for residents.

To avoid bins not being collected, your help is needed to position bins along the straight sections of courts, bowls and dead end streets.

Waste is collected weekly. Your recycling bin is emptied fortnightly on the same day as your garbage bin and on the alternate week to your organics bin.

### Remember:

- Position bins out the night before collection day.
- Keep bins clear of obstacles for easy collection.
- Bins are collected on public holidays (except Christmas Day).





Food waste



Household rubbish, meat etc...



Nappies (wrapped)



Other plastics such as plastic bags and packaging



Window glass, mirrors, pyrex, ceramics and light globes (wrapped)



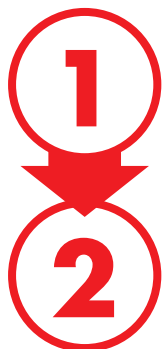
Plastic plant pots

## Waste Bin

Please bag all rubbish to prevent litter spilling during collection. Please do not overfill your bin or place waste on top or beside it.

If your bin is too heavy to be easily wheeled to the kerb it is probably too heavy to be emptied by the mechanical arm of the trucks. Bins that are overfull or too heavy cannot be emptied.

### What happens to my waste?



Non recyclable household waste goes into your garbage bin where it is emptied by a collection truck. The truck takes the waste to landfill.

At the landfill, your waste is buried by a waste compactor and there it stays for a long time.

### NOT IN THIS BIN!

- **Recyclables.**
- **Loose lawn clippings (must be bagged).**
- **Paint, pesticides, oil or solvents.**
- **Timber, building materials or hot ashes.**
- **Liquids.**
- **Hazardous or chemical waste.**
- **Syringes.**

**Your waste bin is the 120 litre bin with the red lid.**  
**Collected: Weekly**



Steel cans, aluminium cans, clean aluminium foil and trays and empty aerosol cans



Cardboard boxes, cereal and food boxes



Plastic containers marked  
1 2 3 4 5  
6 or 7



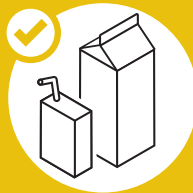
Envelopes, junk mail, flyers and brochures



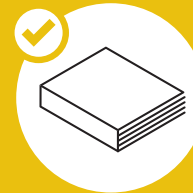
Glass bottles and jars



Newspapers and magazines



Milk and juice cartons



Telephone books, school and office papers

## Recycling Bin

Plastic containers labelled with the plastic codes 1–7 are now accepted. Please see the bottom of containers to find their code. This means that additional items such as meat trays, yoghurt and margarine containers can also be recycled. Soft plastics such as plastic bags are not accepted.

Rinsing out your containers in used dish washing water can reduce/prevent smells in your recycle bin.

### What happens to my recycling?



Recyclable materials go into your recycling bin. They are collected fortnightly and taken to a Materials Recycling Facility.

Materials are sorted, processed ready for manufacture and finally made into new products - many of which can be placed in your recycling bin to start the process again.

### NOT IN THIS BIN!

- **Plastic bags.**
- **Polystyrene cups or meat trays.**
- **Waxed cardboard or paper with food remains.**
- **Nappies.**
- **Motor oil or more oil containers.**
- **Hazardous or chemical waste.**
- **Broken crockery or pyrex.**
- **Syringes.**
- **Lawn clippings or other green waste.**
- **Scrap metal/steel.**

**Your recycling bin is the 240 litre bin with the yellow lid.**  
**Collected: Fortnightly**



Grass clippings



Flowers



Garden prunings



Leaves



Small branches  
(up to 75mm in  
diameter and  
75cm in length)



Weeds

**Composting** is an easy way to dispose of green waste, to reduce garbage, and to create food for the garden. A range of at home composting systems are available to suit everyone's lifestyle.

## Organics Bin

Make sure that all organic garden waste placed in this bin is loose and not in plastic bags.

If your bin is too heavy to be easily wheeled to the kerb it is probably too heavy to be emptied by the mechanical arm of the trucks. Bins that are overfull or too heavy cannot be emptied.

### What happens to my green waste?

1

Garden clippings, branches and leaves go into your organics bin. They are collected fortnightly and taken to a green waste facility.

2

Green waste is chipped, composted or mixed with other materials and used to improve soils on farms or old landfills as a part of the rehabilitation of the site..

### NOT IN THIS BIN!

- **Plastic bags.**
- **Soil, bricks or rubble.**
- **Food or household waste.**
- **Nappies.**
- **Logs or stumps.**
- **Hazardous materials or chemical waste.**
- **Recyclables.**
- **Plant pots.**

**Your green waste bin is the 240 litre bin with the green lid.**  
**Collected: Fortnightly**



Place **only approved items** in your green waste bin so they can be recycled properly. Plastic bags and other unsuitable items cause contamination of the recycling process and add to costs.

# Reducing Your Waste

## DID YOU KNOW?

East Gippsland Shire spends \$17 million per year on waste and environmental costs. Waste management costs have been a significant portion of Council's yearly expenditure. Costs include managing waste disposal facilities, landfill levies, street litter and recycling bins and kerbside waste collection.

What can you do?

- Reduce your household waste to prolong the lives of Council landfills. Building new landfills is extremely costly to Councils and consequently ratepayers.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Operators at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) do not open up plastic bags for health and safety reasons so everything inside a plastic bag is sent to landfill.

What can you do?

- Ensure your recyclables are deposited into the recycling bin loose, not in plastic bags, even if they are marked as biodegradable or recyclable. Plastic bags are to go in your rubbish bin, or recycled at participating supermarkets.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Around 3 million tonnes of food is disposed of in landfill in Australia each year. It is estimated that we throw away 20% of the food we buy each week. That's around \$600 per household each year.

What can you do?

- Plan your meals or create a list of what you need before you go shopping. Check that you don't already have the ingredients, buy only what you need.
- Store food in sealed airtight containers to keep them from going stale or spoiling
- Set up a compost bin or worm farm to dispose of organic food waste

## Reduce Your Food Waste at Home

### Limit your Packaging Waste

You can reduce your waste significantly by being mindful of the amount of packaging on the foods you buy. For example, one large container of juice instead of six small containers, buying unpackaged fresh fruits and vegetables, and making your own healthy muesli bars at home instead of a box of individually wrapped bars.

### Home Composting

Composting is an easy way to dispose of green waste, reduce household waste and create food for the garden. You can purchase a compost bin from hardware stores, nurseries, or online, or make one yourself. If you don't have space for a compost bin, try a bokashi system. Information about compost bins and bokashi buckets can be found online.

### Worm Farming

Worm composting is a method for recycling food waste into a rich soil conditioner.

Worm farms can live outdoors or indoors, and are a great option for schools and offices. Worm compost will provide nutrients for your plants, will help the soil hold moisture.



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## **Other information**

All the bins provided to your residence are marked with a serial number that is recorded against the property. These bins remain the property of East Gippsland Shire Council.

If you move house, please do not take the bins with you as the new resident will need to use these bins. If you move to a new location within the East Gippsland Shire where a service is available, you will be provided with bins for that property.

If you need a larger bin you will need to apply for a permit. The criteria is available at [www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au) or visit one of our customer service centres.