

# Better Bins – New Bin Collection System

## Information Sheet

### Green Waste Bin (Lime Green Lid)

#### Why didn't I receive a green waste bin during the roll out?

There are a number of small blocks that do not have a big enough garden to warrant a second bin. Blocks under 400m<sup>2</sup> are generally considered a small block. These properties were sent a letter in March. If you did not receive a green waste bin during the roll out and have sufficient garden waste and space to store a third green waste bin, just let us know and one will be delivered on the next available bin delivery day.

#### I don't want the third green waste bin.

This is okay, as not everyone has a garden, the space for a third bin or may compost at home (which is awesome!). Please contact the City on 9528 0333. We can have your green waste bin picked up on the next available bin delivery day. (It is now too late to be removed from the delivery list for the upgrade in May to June). As it is part of the standard bin service there is no discount on the waste service fee.

#### Are the green waste verge collections going to be cancelled now that we have a green waste bin?

There are currently no plans to change the verge collection. The green waste collections are timed so that it gives people the opportunity to prepare their homes for the storm and fire seasons.

#### What can I place into the green waste bin (lime green lid)?

The green waste bin is only for garden waste; grass clippings (unbagged), leaves, weeds, small twig and branches, flowers, and pruning's (maximum 400mm length and 200mm diameter). Please do not place food waste or general waste into this bin. Items like garden hoses, plant pots, sand and brick rubble also do not belong in this bin.

#### Why can't I place food waste into the green waste bin?

The green waste bin is only for garden waste (grass clippings, leaves, weeds, sticks and pruning's). Food waste will contaminate the recycling of this bin, sending a whole truck load of green waste to landfill. Please either set up a worm/bokashi bin at home or place food scraps into the red lidded waste bin.

#### Are there plans to make the green waste bin into a full organics bin (food waste and garden waste)?

As there are no processing facilities in our local area at the moment, the bin will remain only for green waste until a time when this changes.



# Information Sheet - New Bin Collection System

## Recycling Bin (Yellow Lid)

### **I find it difficult to place the recycling bins out**

The recycling bins have larger wheels which make it easier to wheel out to the kerb. Make sure that you place the recycling bin on the kerb regularly to prevent it from becoming too heavy. If you experience serious difficulties a waste officer can attend your property to assess the situation. Your property may be downgraded to a 240 litre recycling bin (no cost saving) or if the change is because of health reasons the City may be able to arrange for an in home collection service.

### **Why can't the recycling bins be collected weekly?**

Firstly weekly recycling doubles the amount of recycling trucks on the road which is not good for the environment. Secondly, weekly recycling would mean that two bins are placed out one fortnight and three bins the fortnight after which is more difficult for residents. Thirdly, weekly recycling as an option is 3 times more expensive for the City and rate payers.

### **The recycle bin is physically too large for the property.**

A waste officer will attend the household and verify the issue. If a smaller 240 litre bin is necessary then it will be provided but with no waste service charge reduction.

### **What can I place into the larger recycling bin?**

Packaging materials found in the home can be recycled:

- Cardboard, paper, newspapers, magazines
- Aluminium cans, steel cans, empty aerosols and aluminium foil (rolled in balls) and trays
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles, containers and food wrappers with recycling symbol 1-7

Other items like green waste, clothing, kids toys, metal pots or computer equipment do not belong in the recycling bin and can damage machinery or the truck. Contact the City for alternative disposal or recycling of these items.

### **I need some easy recycling tips.**

Remember that only clean packaging materials listed above can be recycled. If your recyclables are dirty ie: an oily pizza box, please do not place them in the recycling bin if they can't be cleaned. Please:

1. Remove lids from containers and bottles
2. Rinse containers and bottles
3. Flatten boxes
4. Do not bag your recyclables. Placed loosely into the recycling bin so they can be separated at the recycle plant.

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## Waste Bin (Red Lid)

### **I have a large family how will I cope with the smaller waste bin?**

The new waste collection system is designed to reduce waste to landfill by changing habits and by increasing recycling. Don't forget that the recycling bin is much larger and there is an additional third lime green lidded bin to take garden waste. Visit the City's Waste and Recycling pages for tips on reducing waste at home. Homes just like yours in other suburbs of Perth and the eastern states have managed with much smaller bin volumes for years. Visit the City's website for ways to reduce waste in the home.

The City can provide an additional 140 litre red lidded waste bin for a fee. No 240 litre waste bins will be issued. The fee is pro-rata to the financial year. There are many options now for paying rates, including Rates Smoothing: <http://rockingham.wa.gov.au/Services/Rates-and-payments/Payment-options>

### **I have a medical condition that produces lots of waste.**

Please contact Waste Services. Proof must be provided to be eligible for a free upgrade to an additional 140 litre red lidded bin.

### **Why are the rubbish bin lids red?**

This is the Australian standard for waste bins lids. It makes it easier to communicate which bin is which if people move into the area.

### **I already filled my red lidded waste bin up, so I am just going to fill up the recycling bin with my waste.**

Correct waste and recycling is everyone's responsibility. Please try to separate your waste as best you can. If you need help then please contact the City. Collection trucks are now fitted with cameras. If a property repeatedly contaminates a recycling (yellow lid) or green waste (lime green lid) bin, the service will be removed. Another 140 litre waste (red lid) bin will be placed at fee to the resident.

## General questions

### **When is the rollout happening and when will the new service begin?**

The rollout will begin 1 May 2017 and take around 6 weeks for a contractor to cover the entire City. The first green waste collection will commence 26 June 2017. Residents will receive a letter/ flyer prior to the upgrade and the green waste service commencement.

### **Three bins are too confusing. I don't know when to put them out.**

Your waste and recycling bin collection days have not changed. On the alternative fortnight to the recycling is when the green waste (lime green lid) is collected. Each week there are two bins put out for collection. For example:

Week 1: waste (red lid) and recycling (yellow lid)

Week 2: waste (red lid) and green waste (lime green lid)

Keep your Bin Collection flyer on the fridge for easy reference or visit NEAR ME at [www.rockingham.wa.gov.au](http://www.rockingham.wa.gov.au)

# Information Sheet - New Bin Collection System

## **I work away so how do I keep track of when to place my bins out?**

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## **How much extra did the third bin cost me?**

The waste service charge on the rates notice did not change because of the new green waste service. In an effort to increase recycling, generous grants were offered by the Waste Authority to upgrade residents bin collection service. The 2016/2017 waste service charge only went up by CPI. A small increase to the waste service fee may be introduced in 2017/2018 due to the increase of the State Governments Waste Levy from 1 July 2017.

## **I try to do the right thing when it comes to separating waste and recycling, but my family are terrible!**

Lead by example and don't give up. In your kitchen, place a separate bin next to the rubbish bin for recycling.

## **What is happening with all of the old bins?**

Many of our bins are at the end of their life. The good bins will be converted to the new green waste bin with a simple bin lid colour swap. Some bins will be reused as public bins in parks or at events. The rest of the bins will be chipped and recycled by a plastics recycler and a few bins will be decommissioned and made available for purchase at the Landfill recycle yard later in 2017.

## **Can I purchase one of the old bins?**

Once the roll out is complete, the City is considering selling a few of the old bins at the Millar Road Recycling Yard. They can't be put out for collection on bin day.

## **Why can't I keep my old two bins?**

The new Three Bin System is the new standard of bin service for residents in the City of Rockingham. The new collection system allows for greater recycling, which reduces the amount of waste filling up the landfill. Over time the old two bin system will be phased out.