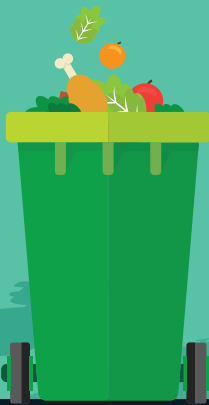




All About FOGO

Glenorchy's new waste collection service



What is FOGO?

Glenorchy City Council is moving to a three-bin waste collection service. The new bin will collect garden waste and food waste and is called FOGO (Food Organic Garden Organic).

You will receive a 240 litre wheelie bin with a lime green lid which will be collected fortnightly, on the opposite week to your general waste collection.

If you have limited space, access or mobility issues you can ask for a smaller 140 litre FOGO bin by calling or emailing us.

If you currently share recycling and waste bins (for example, where there are multiple units), you will be given a shared FOGO bin.

Every household will also get a small bucket with a lid and handle (called a kitchen caddy) and 12 months' supply of compostable liner bags.

Wheelie bins, caddies and compostable bags will start arriving in January 2020 with kerbside collection starting in February. More information will come through letterboxes closer to the time.

Please visit our waste website (wastestartswithu.com.au) for more facts, tips, and frequently asked questions about how FOGO will work for you.

Why do we need FOGO?

THE BIG PICTURE

There is a huge focus on food scraps and garden waste (together called 'organic waste') from both state and national governments - especially since household food waste is the largest source of food waste in Australia¹.

Over 80 councils throughout Australia already do FOGO, and many more are rolling it out.

The introduction of a FOGO service was identified as a key objective in Glenorchy City Council's Waste Management Strategy as the most cost-effective and environmentally effective way to manage the organic waste from 19,800+ households.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

When food and garden waste rots in landfills it produces two greenhouse gases—carbon dioxide and methane. Methane is a very potent greenhouse gas 25 times more powerful than carbon dioxide.

But food and garden waste collected by FOGO is composted and the nutrients returned to the soil. The soil becomes better for growing food, helps with water retention during droughts, reduces run-off during floods, and can reduce the need for chemical fertilizers.

When FOGO waste is taken out of landfills, space is saved for all the garbage that can't be recycled. There will also be a huge drop in the volume of greenhouse gases produced.

By FOGOing your food and garden waste you help farmers and the environment.

1: Food Waste Baseline, EPA summary, March 2019, page 3



Benefits for Residents

EASY:

It is an easy way for residents to recycle their organic waste (food scraps and garden waste).

It's a short-cut for those who can't compost - for example people who live in units can now do the right thing with their food waste and reduce their environmental impact.

It helps composters dispose of hard-to-compost organic waste e.g. meat, dairy, citrus, eggshells, banana skins and other food items that need to be chopped up really small.

It helps residents who pay to drop their garden waste off at the landfill—no more waiting for the trailer to be full! Garden waste will be collected from your home every fortnight.

It's an easy and environmentally safe way for pet owners to dispose of pet fur and pet waste.

It's an easy way to get rid of brambles, diseased plants and weeds without the worry of them surviving in compost that wasn't hot enough to destroy these problem plants.

COST SAVINGS:

State and Federal legislation and waste levies on landfills are expected in the near future—FOGO reduces the amount of waste going to landfill and will help save all rate-payers these future costs.

The FOGO wheelie bin is cheaper than moving to a weekly general waste bin collection, but still provides a weekly waste service.

Larger families that already pay for a weekly waste collection service or an extra large waste bin can save money by going back to a normal service.

It will be another option for getting rid of green waste instead of paying for a trash-pack or paying landfill drop-off fees.

What CAN go in a FOGO bin?

Your FOGO wheelie bin takes:

- ALL food scraps – e.g. vegetables, seafood, dairy, meat and bones (cooked or raw), teabags, coffee grounds, egg shells;
- Garden waste – grass clippings, leaves, bark, twigs, plants, weeds;
- Shredded paper, paper towels, paper napkins, tissues;
- Food-contaminated or food soiled cardboard (e.g. pizza boxes, compostable take-away containers);
- Personal cuttings – hair from hairbrushes or haircuts, nail clippings; and
- Animal waste – such as pet hair, pet poo, organic/natural kitty litter and soiled paper from bird cages.

What CAN'T go in a FOGO bin?

“If it didn't live or grow, it's not FOGO.”

If it doesn't rot or decompose, don't put it in. This means NO:

- Plastics (not even biodegradable plastic bags);
- Nappies;
- Fabric (e.g. clothing);
- Hard waste or broken household items, like furniture or plates and cups;
- Plastic take-away containers;
- Hazardous or contaminated waste, like asbestos;
- Thick branches; and
- Nothing that should go in your recycling bin or dropped off at the free recycling drop-off centre on Jackson St.

Can I opt-out of FOGO?

We encourage everyone to recycle their food waste and garden waste (if applicable) in their FOGO bin, and all households will get a FOGO bin in February 2020.

But we recognise that some people might not need or be able to use/afford the FOGO service. Ratepayers can apply for their home to have an exemption, based on the following:

Criterion 1: Home Composter

Applies if you can show you are effectively managing all the organic waste your property generates through a variety of methods. This includes meat, dairy, pet waste, diseased plants and other items that generally don't go into a home composting system.

Criterion 2: Financial Hardship

Applies if you can demonstrate that you are in genuine financial hardship under Council's Financial Hardship Policy. NOTE: This will not exempt you from the FOGO service, but will provide rates assistance.

Criterion 3: Exceptional Circumstances

Applies if you can show that there are exceptional or unusual circumstances which make the provision of a FOGO service unreasonable or impractical.

You can apply for an exemption in February 2020 by going to our website, or calling Customer Service who can send you the application form. If you are given an exemption we will collect the bin back in July. You can use the FOGO service until then, and the kitchen caddy is yours to keep.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact our Customer Service Team on 03 6216 6800 or email gccmail@gcc.tas.gov.au.

All information correct as at 17/10/19. Printed on 100% recycled paper.