

Friday, 10 November 2017

Food waste bin trial is Perth first

- City of Melville trials collection of FOGO (food organics garden organics) in kerbside bins.
- New lime green-lidded bin rolled out to 7,000 households.

Residents in some areas of the City of Melville can now put food waste in their new lime green-lidded kerbside bins.

In a first for the Perth metropolitan area, Melville is trialling the 240-litre FOGO (food organics garden organics) bins which not only accept garden waste, but food scraps too.

The trial is supported by a \$1 million grant from the Government's Waste Authority-administered Better Bins kerbside collection program.

Lime green-lidded bins for organic waste—including garden clippings, meat, bones, citrus, and even pet droppings and kitty litter—were recently delivered to some households in the suburbs of Bicton, Willagee, Mt Pleasant, Brentwood and Bull Creek.

Residents also received a free kitchen caddy with compostable liners to encourage residents to separate their waste at the source—in their kitchen.

Waste Authority Chairman Marcus Geisler said the FOGO bin trial promoted improved recycling, giving community members the opportunity to make a difference and keep their food scraps out of landfill.

“Food and other organic waste make up around two thirds of the municipal solid waste stream in Western Australia,” he said.

“Kerbside services that collect food waste can achieve recovery rates of around 65 per cent—helping achieve Western Australia's landfill diversion targets.

“Recovered food waste can also be used to produce valuable products such as compost and biogas to produce renewable energy.”

The new bins will be collected weekly and sent to Southern Metropolitan Regional Council's (SMRC) Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC) in Canning Vale to produce high quality compost.

The RRRC's waste composting facility produces more than 20,000 tonnes of compost every year—diverting 40,000 tonnes of waste from landfill and preventing 32,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide entering the atmosphere—the equivalent of taking 7,000 cars off the road.

Media contact: 0437 228 870



Bicton resident, Alexis Lawrence, utilising the lime green-lidded bin to dispose of food organics.