

FOGO

PUT IT IN THE RIGHT BIN

WHAT IS FOGO?

FOGO stands for Food Organics and Garden Organics. The FOGO kerbside collection is for food and garden waste such as kitchen scraps, lawn clippings, small branches and weeds. Council's FOGO kerbside collection service begins on July 1 2020.

WHY DO WE NEED ANOTHER BIN?

The service is an easy way for householders to actively make a positive difference to our environment. Around 56% of rubbish in our garbage bins is organic – food and garden waste. The collection of FOGO material reduces the amount of waste going to landfill, decreases greenhouse gas emissions and produces quality compost.

The State Government has announced it will be increasing the Landfill Levy for the next three years, so the cost to Council of putting waste in landfill will continue to increase. Reducing the amount of rubbish put into landfill reduces this cost.

Additionally, under the State Government's recently announced Circular Economy Policy, all Councils in Victoria will need to implement a FOGO service over the next few years.

WHAT DO I PUT IN THE FOGO BIN?

All food waste (raw and cooked), meat, bones and garden waste. This includes any type of food scraps, unwanted leftovers, bones, eggshells, tea bags and tea leaves, seafood shells, coffee grounds, weeds, small branches, grass clippings, cuttings, dead flowers, pet fur and pet droppings.

WHAT CAN'T GO IN MY FOGO BIN?

Plastic, food packaging, nappies, garden hoses, rocks, tree stumps, plant pots, building material, soil, glass or metal, household rubbish, treated/painted/laminated or stained timber.

WHEN DO I PUT OUT MY FOGO BIN?

FOGO bins will be collected fortnightly, on the alternate week to the recycle bin (yellow lid).

During Spring (September to November) we will collect it weekly to assist with removing the large amount of garden waste produced in Spring.

DO I HAVE TO PAY FOR THE FOGO BIN?

Yes. You will have to pay Council for the new FOGO Bin (lime green lid), then it will be delivered to your property. The cost of the new bin is \$85.00.

You will also receive a kitchen caddy free of charge for collection of food scraps. The annual kerbside waste fee for garbage, recycling and FOGO will be charged via your Council rates.



HOW DO I PREVENT ODOURS IN THE BIN?

- Wrap and place any smelly food scraps such as seafood shells in the freezer until collection day.
- Keep your bins in the shade with the bin lids tightly closed.
- Layering cardboard, newspaper or green waste at the bottom of the FOGO bin can help to absorb liquids and prevent waste sticking to the inside of the bin.
- Where possible, allow lawn clippings and garden cuttings to dry out before going in the bin.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE FOGO WASTE?

FOGO waste is taken away by our kerbside waste contractor. It is then turned into compost by an EPA-licensed composter and used as a soil improver on farms and in gardens.

I ALREADY COMPOST AND HAVE CHICKENS. WHY DO I NEED A FOGO BIN?

If you're already composting, we encourage you to keep going. FOGO is complementary to your home compost system or worm farm. It provides additional capacity for garden waste, excess food waste and hard-to-compost items such as meat, citrus, chilli and processed foods.

Additionally, under the State Government's recently revised Circular Economy Policy, all Councils in Victoria will need to implement a compulsory FOGO service over the next few years.

WHAT IS THE KITCHEN CADDY FOR?

The kitchen caddy is for easy collection of kitchen waste such as vegetable peelings, food scraps, egg shells, tea bags etc.

WHAT KIND OF BIN BAGS CAN I USE IN MY KITCHEN CADDY?

All bags used with the kitchen caddy must be compostable (AS4736) bags. 'Biodegradable' or 'Degradable' bags cannot be used, as these can still contain plastic and just break down into smaller bits of plastic. The correct bags can be purchased from Customer Service at 111 Brown St or 1 Market Place, Hamilton.

The use of compostable bags in the caddy is optional. It can also be lined with paper towel or newspaper or, you can go without a liner all together and just rinse your caddy after emptying.



WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Please call Customer Service on 5573 0444, email your questions to council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au or visit our website www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/FOGO

