

# Have your say on a green bin

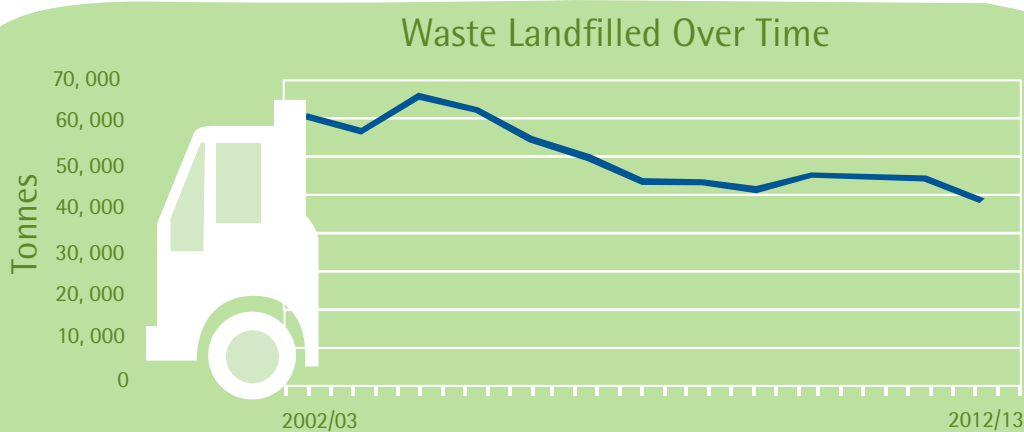
Blue Mountains City Council is committed to working with the community to reduce waste and increase recycling. The household waste and recycling services delivered by Council are essential to the community and are used by everyone, everyday.

During the development of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy in 2014, the community expressed interest in a green bin. Since then, Council has continued to explore more affordable options for providing a green bin. Council is asking the community to consider 3 options outlined in this brochure, 2 of which include a green bin. Please consider the benefits, cost and convenience of each service and select your households preferred option by completing the submission form on the back of this brochure or online at [www.bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/greenbin](http://www.bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/greenbin). Note: One submission per household.

Council will change the current 'small bin' weekly recycling service to a 'large bin' fortnightly recycling service in 2016. You will see that all 3 options have a fortnightly recycling service. This could save each household up to \$35 per year.

Where are we up to?

The Blue Mountains community has achieved an impressive 37% reduction in the amount of waste that goes to landfill in the last decade. Without these improvements, our landfill would have been full by 2023. Now, at current disposal rates, it will be full by 2030.



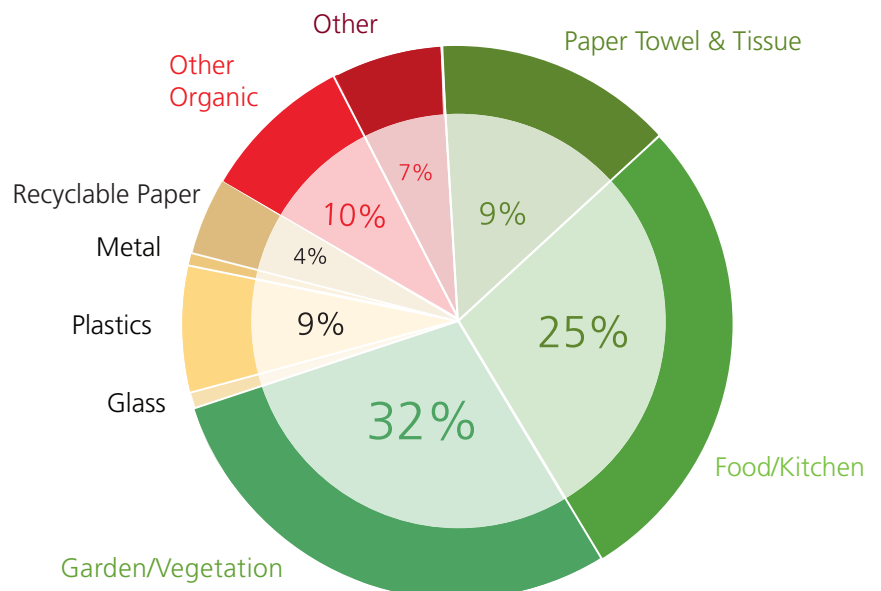
**But, we still need to do more.** The NSW Government has set a target to divert 75% of waste from landfill by 2020.

Once our landfill is full, residents will need to pay significantly more for our waste to be transported outside the City for disposal.

Reducing household waste is a key focus of Council's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy because it is the largest source of waste going to our landfill and most of it can be recycled.





## What is in our household garbage bins?

Did you know that more than half of your household garbage is made up of food and garden waste that could be recycled into compost instead of going to landfill.




## Council is now considering these three options for managing household waste:





### OPTION A GREEN BIN (FOOD & GARDEN)

<b>S</b>  FORTNIGHTLY	<b>L</b>  FORTNIGHTLY		<b>L</b>  WEEKLY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ General waste</li> <li>✓ Disposable nappies</li> <li>✓ Soft plastics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Paper and cardboard</li> <li>✓ Rigid plastic containers</li> <li>✓ Glass bottles and jars</li> <li>✓ Milk and juice containers</li> <li>✓ Steel and aluminium cans</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Branches and prunings, cut to fit in the bin</li> <li>✓ Lawn clippings</li> <li>✓ Weeds</li> <li>✓ Leaves</li> <li>✓ Twigs and sticks</li> <li>✓ Food scraps, including meat</li> <li>✓ Paper towel &amp; tissues</li> <li>✓ Soiled Newspaper</li> </ul>

### OPTION B GREEN BIN (GARDEN ONLY)

<b>S</b>  WEEKLY	<b>L</b>  FORTNIGHTLY	<b>L</b>  FORTNIGHTLY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ General waste</li> <li>✓ Food scraps</li> <li>✓ Paper towel &amp; tissue</li> <li>✓ Disposable nappies</li> <li>✓ Soft plastics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Paper and cardboard</li> <li>✓ Rigid plastic containers</li> <li>✓ Glass bottles and jars</li> <li>✓ Milk and juice containers</li> <li>✓ Steel and aluminium cans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Branches and prunings, cut to fit in the bin</li> <li>✓ Lawn clippings</li> <li>✓ Weeds</li> <li>✓ Leaves</li> <li>✓ Twigs and sticks</li> </ul>	

### OPTION C NO GREEN BIN

<b>L</b>  WEEKLY	<b>L</b>  FORTNIGHTLY		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ General waste</li> <li>✓ Weeds, leaves</li> <li>✓ Lawn clippings</li> <li>✓ Food scraps</li> <li>✓ Paper towel &amp; tissue</li> <li>✓ Disposable nappies</li> <li>✓ Soft plastics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Paper and cardboard</li> <li>✓ Rigid plastic containers</li> <li>✓ Glass bottles and jars</li> <li>✓ Milk and juice containers</li> <li>✓ Steel and aluminium cans</li> </ul>		



**S**

**Small**


A small bin is the same size as the current recycling bins at 140 litre



**L**

**Large**

A large bin is the same size as most current garbage bins at 240 litre

	 2 PER YEAR	Summary of Option A	Change in cost per household (for residential ratepayers)
	✓ General household items such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• furniture</li> <li>• mattresses</li> <li>• white goods</li> <li>• lawnmowers</li> <li>• tyres</li> <li>• computers</li> <li>• televisions</li> <li>• other large items</li> </ul>	<b>What is provided:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small garbage bin collected fortnightly</li> <li>• Large recycling bin collected fortnightly</li> <li>• New green bin for food and garden waste collected weekly</li> <li>• No booked kerbside chipping service</li> <li>• 2 booked bulky waste collections per year</li> </ul> <b>What it means for City's waste:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7,700 extra tonnes of waste diverted from landfill per year</li> <li>• Extra 3 years of landfill life beyond 2030</li> </ul>	\$17 more per year
	 2 PER YEAR	Summary of Option B	Change in cost per household (for residential ratepayers)
	✓ General household items such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• furniture</li> <li>• mattresses</li> <li>• white goods</li> <li>• lawnmowers</li> <li>• tyres</li> <li>• computers</li> <li>• televisions</li> <li>• other large items</li> </ul>	<b>What is provided:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small garbage bin collected weekly</li> <li>• Large recycling bin collected fortnightly</li> <li>• New green bin for garden waste (not food waste) collected fortnightly</li> <li>• No booked kerbside chipping service</li> <li>• 2 booked bulky waste collections per year</li> </ul> <b>What it means for City's waste:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4,000 extra tonnes of waste diverted from landfill per year</li> <li>• Extra 2 years of landfill life beyond 2030</li> </ul>	\$7 less per year
 2 PER YEAR		Summary of Option C	Change in cost per household (for residential ratepayers)
✓ Branches and prunings	✓ General household items such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• furniture</li> <li>• mattresses</li> <li>• white goods</li> <li>• lawnmowers</li> <li>• tyres</li> <li>• computers</li> <li>• televisions</li> <li>• other large items</li> </ul>	<b>What is provided:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large garbage bin collected weekly</li> <li>• Large recycling bin collected fortnightly</li> <li>• Any combination of 2 booked services per year (kerbside chipping and/or bulky waste)</li> <li>• No green bin</li> </ul> <b>What it means for City's waste:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No extra waste diverted from landfill</li> <li>• Landfill potentially full in 15 years (by 2030)</li> </ul>	\$35 less per year

*Note: Any increased cost for a new green bin would be an increase to the Domestic Waste Charge which appears on your rates notice.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Do my rates cover any increased cost for a new green bin service?**

A: No. Household waste and recycling services are funded by the Domestic Waste Charge which appears on your rates notice. Any increased cost for a new green bin would be an increase to the Domestic Waste Charge. This is because Council, by law, cannot use general rates to fund waste services.

**Note:** The additional income from the rate increase, commencing 1 July 2015, is dedicated to maintaining and improving existing infrastructure and services, continuing environmental programs, and improving emergency preparedness and response.

**Q: If a green bin was to be introduced under option A or B, could I choose not to have one?**

A: No. Any changes would apply to all households.

**Q: When would the new service to manage household waste begin?**

A: 1 July 2016.

**Q: Would there be a single bin for the food and garden waste in Option A?**

A: Yes, food scraps and garden waste would go into a single green bin.

**Q: Why would the kerbside chipping service stop with the introduction of a green bin?**

A: Branches and prunings would be managed through the green bin. The green bin would replace the chipping service.

**Q: Won't my garbage bin smell if it is collected fortnightly in Option A?**

A: Food scraps are the main source of smell in most garbage bins. Your green bin would be collected weekly for Option A.

**Q: Would I have to pick up my new bin from Council?**

A: No. New bins would be delivered to your property.

**Q: Would my bin collection day change?**

A: Possibly. Residents would be notified if any changes are made.

**Q: What if I need a larger or smaller bin, for my recycling or garbage?**

A: You will be able to request larger and smaller bins but these may come at an additional cost.

**Q: In Option A, would Council provide kitchen caddies and biodegradable bags for food scraps?**

A: The costs outlined in this brochure do not include the supply of kitchen caddies and biodegradable bags for food scraps; however Council could provide them at cost price to interested residents. Alternatively, a plastic container, lined with newspaper could be used.

## Contact Council

Web [www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au)  
Email [council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au)  
Phone 4780 5000 | 4723 5000 (East from Linden for local call)  
Facebook [facebook.com/bluemountaincitycouncil](https://facebook.com/bluemountaincitycouncil)



## SUBMISSION FORM

Please review the information for each option and select the one which your household prefers and is willing to use.

**Note:** One submission per household

MY PREFERRED OPTION IS (PLEASE TICK ONE BOX)

- ☐ A – Green Bin Food & Garden  
☐ B – Green Bin Garden Only  
☐ C – No Green Bin

## SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 31 JULY 2015

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post Code: \_ \_ \_ \_

