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Gawler residents gain access to free green FOGO bins



From July 2022, the Town of Gawler will waive the price of kerbside Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bins for residents who do not yet participate in the service, to divert recoverable resources away from landfill.

Not only will the upfront \$57 bin price be removed, but residents will also be able to choose between a standard 240 litre bin and a smaller 140 litre bin, which can be more convenient for small households and where space is an issue.

Council will provide a free ventilated kitchen benchtop caddy (made from recycled plastic) and a roll of compostable liners along with each new bin, to assist with collecting food scraps.

Diverting waste from landfill will also result in economic savings for Council.

In the 2020/21 financial year, Town of Gawler sent more than 5000 tonnes of waste material to landfill, which incurred more than \$700,000 in State Government levy costs.

Another improvement to the service is that the Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority (NAWMA), a waste management subsidiary part-owned by the Council, will now provide bins made from 100 percent post-consumer recycled plastic.

These days, everything from cooked foods like rice and meat bones, used paper towel and pet waste can be composted via the FOGO bin.

NAWMA has an extensive range of educational resources to help people understand what the FOGO collection service is about and how to use it correctly.

To coincide with the service changes, NAWMA is also launching a new video, parts of which were shot in the Gawler area, to give people insight into the broader story behind composting food and garden organics.

Residents who would like to participate in the FOGO service should order a bin from NAWMA, which will organise its free delivery.

This can be done by contacting NAWMA on 8259 2100 or visiting their website (www.nawma.sa.gov.au).



Quotes attributable to Gawler Mayor Karen Redman:

"The FOGO service provides so many benefits because diverting food scraps and garden waste out of the red-lid bin and into the green-lid bin, we can extend the life of our landfill at NAWMA's Uleybury site. This reduces harmful greenhouse gases to ensure a valuable resource is reused in farms and gardens instead of being lost.

"I know many Gawler people already put their food scraps in the green bin or in their own backyard compost areas, however if we can get more people to get on board, we ultimately save money and protect our environment."

Quotes attributable to NAWMA Education and Community Projects Coordinator Penelope Morrison:

"We have been able to source new bins that are made from old kerbside bins.

"We feel it's important to demonstrate the circular economy in action to the community and to show that products made from recycled materials can match the quality of those made from raw materials taken straight from nature."

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ENDS

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NAWMA Education and Community Projects Coordinator Penelope Morrison on 8259 2100