

# FOGO FACTS # 1

WHY  
FOGO?

## ABOUT FOOD ORGANICS & GARDEN ORGANICS WASTE

Food and garden waste recycling services reduce the amount of organic matter that is buried in landfill and instead uses this valuable resource to create nutrient rich compost.

In 2018, an audit was done in the Cradle Coast region to see what types of waste were ending up in landfill. More than half of all the garbage bag contents by weight (51%) was found to be material that was suitable for composting.

If organic matter is buried in landfill, it is compacted with the other general garbage to push out air. The lack of air stops the natural composting process. Buried waste can also heat up to a level that causes food and garden waste to burn off carbon and release methane and other greenhouse gases into the environment.

Liquid coming out of the organic matter also mixes with the general rubbish to create leachate which has to be collected at the landfill and safely processed to stop it from entering Tasmania's waterways.

The Central Coast Council has been considering ways to tackle these problems for many years as a member of the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group.

Our FOGO service is designed to reduce the amount of food and garden organics that ends up in landfill. This is not only good for the environment, but it also helps to extend the life of the landfill.

## SHARING THE BENEFITS OF FOGO

For the many households that don't have animals or the space, time or physical ability for a home compost system, FOGO is an easy and sustainable way to dispose of organic waste.

For those already with a home compost system, FOGO offers a new, safe way to dispose of more items including perennial weeds, meat, dairy and pet waste.

The more people who compost either at home or via the Council FOGO service, the better it is for *everyone*. Composting reduces harmful greenhouse gases, helps our landfill to last longer, and it puts nutrients back into Tasmanian gardens and soils.

For more information on our FOGO service, contact Council on 6429 8900.

