

## FOGO's Introduction Is The Perfect

## Time To Think Seriously About Waste

AFTER months of planning, advertising and consultation the time has come for all of us to go FOGO.

If you haven't already received your new bin with its distinctive lime green lid you will get yours in the next week. If you receive our kerbside collection service and don't get a new FOGO bin call Council to arrange to get one.

FOGO – Food Organics Garden Organics - represents a big change for of all us to come to terms with.

Under FOGO and for the first time as a Council we will start treating kitchen and garden waste as a resource rather than just more rubbish to dump into landfill.

The mechanics of FOGO are fairly straightforward.

Your new FOGO bin will be collected fortnightly and the contents will be transferred to a specialised facility at Launceston where it will be processed into nutrient rich compost. That will be available to farmers and gardeners and Council to enrich and revitalise soils.

Virtually anything which was once alive can go into the FOGO bin

which means the scheme effectively closes the loop of life.

By removing kitchen and garden waste from landfill FOGO also reduces the production of environmentally harmful methane and leachate.

FOGO makes environmental good sense, but on the eve of its introduction I hope everyone takes some time to think about the broader and much bigger issue of waste.

Every day ordinary Australians produce mountains of waste. In fact on a per capita basis we are one of the most wasteful nations on earth, producing 67 million tonnes of waste a year (2016-17) or around 2.7 tonnes per person.

Dealing with that amount of waste costs councils and ratepayers billions of dollars a year and takes up massive amounts of landfill space.

With waste production growing by around 6% a year, the bill – and landfill footprint - is only going to get even bigger.

If, as expected, the state government pushes ahead and introduces a waste levy on councils every time they access a landfill site, the

cost to all ratepayers is likely to be staggering.

Recycling is part of the answer to our waste crisis and sits perfectly with FOGO – the separation of food and garden waste – is another way to significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

We need to also get smart about reducing the amount of waste we produce to begin with.

Little things like not buying water in plastic bottles, and using a keep-cup for your morning coffee all add up and put a big dent in our waste footprint.

Avoiding plastic packaging is not only good for the environment but its sends a telling message to manufacturers to become more waste aware or risk going the way of the dinosaurs.

We are lucky on the Central Coast to also have two outlets for soft plastics recycling. My experience of using the Redcycle bins at Woolworths and Coles in Ulverstone has me convinced this is another easy habit which is great for the planet.

Tasmanians have proven very good at adapting to environmental

change and I'm sure it won't take long for people to adopt good FOGO habits just as they quickly learnt to embrace reusable shopping bags and to sort and separate goods which are recyclable.

Waste management is not optional - it is a shared responsibility.

It is something we all need to do, and to do as well as we can.

I know families who have become so good at avoiding waste, recycling, sorting soft plastics, re-using and adopting FOGO, they are now producing as little as a 5 litre bucket of waste a week.

We can overcome our waste crisis if we work collectively and put our minds to it. Check out our handy guide below and make a good habit out of sorting and separating, and where possible donating to charities and repurposing things which you no longer use.

It's time to go-go with FOGO – our environment and your wallets will surely appreciate it!

From  
The  
Mayor's  
Desk



Cr. Jan Bonde

## What Goes Where! - Your Guide To The

## Many Ways You Can Make A Difference

### FOGO

Bin with lime green lid - collected fortnightly

- Fruit & vegetable scraps, citrus
- Meat, bones & eggshells
- Bread, pasta & rice
- Dairy products
- Out of date & leftover food
- Takeaway food
- Oils & fats(absorbed liquid in paper)
- Tea leaves & coffee grinds
- Newspaper, paper towel & tissues
- Shredded paper
- Grass clippings & weeds
- Plants, leaves & flowers
- Prunings, twigs and small branches
- Human & animal hair, nail clippings
- Food contaminated pizza boxes

“If It Was Once Alive It's FOGO”

### RECYCLING

Bin with yellow lid - collected fortnightly

- Paper, paper products & cardboard
- Newspapers, magazines & junk mail
- Soft drink bottles & cans
- Bottles & jars (no lids)
- Plastic bottles & containers
- Steel & aluminium cans
- Empty aerosol & paint cans
- Aluminium foil (clean)
- Pizza boxes (not food contaminated)

### RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE

- Batteries
- Car parts & tyres
- Building materials
- Carpet & underlay
- Concrete, rocks, stones & bricks
- Cooking & motor oils

### REDCYCLE

Redcycle bins at Coles & Woolworth Ulverstone

- Bread bags
- Plastic bags & clean cling wrap
- Biscuit packet wrapping
- Lollie & confectionery bags
- Paper goods packaging
- Pasta and rice bags
- Frozen food & vegetable bags
- Old green bags
- Cereal box liners

### LOBSTER CREEK ROAD

- Electrical appliances
- E-waste & computer parts
- Fluorescent bulbs & tubes
- Gas bottles, scrap metal & steel
- Left over paint
- Inert non-recyclable waste

### GARBAGE

Smaller dark green bin - collected fortnightly

- Milk & juice cartons
- Cartons with foil linings
- Cigarette butts
- Broken crockery
- Waxed cardboard
- Disposable nappies
- Plastic strapping
- Polystyrene & foam
- Damaged clothing, textiles & shoes

### DONATE & RE-USE

- Saucepans, cutlery & crockery
- Plastic plant pots
- Good clothing & shoes
- Coat hangers -plastic & metal
- Books & toys
- Furniture & bric-a-brac