



FOGO FAQs

Food Organics & Garden Organics Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is FOGO?

FOGO stands for Food Organics and Garden Organics. The kerbside collection service is for both food and garden waste including kitchen scraps, lawn clippings and small branches. It is an extension of the existing garden waste service which has been adopted by over 14,000 Hobart homes since it started in 2016.

2. When is it being introduced?

The service will start on the 11th of November 2019. Households will be able to start adding food to their organics bins from then. Anyone who doesn't already have a bin can opt into the service by filling in the application form found at: hobartcity.com.au/FOGO

3. How does it work?

Residents who currently already have a green waste organics service will be able to start adding food organics to their existing green lidded wheelie bin from the 11th of November (a new or additional bin is not required). These households will receive a kitchen caddy for the purpose of collecting food scraps in the kitchen which can later be transferred from the caddy into the green lidded 240L wheelie bin when full or ready for collection. Households that do not have an existing organics service can opt in and will receive both the kitchen caddy and a 240L green-lidded bin.

4. Why is it being introduced?

We know that approximately 50% of the average household waste bin in Hobart is food and a further 10% is garden waste. By collecting the organic material generated in Hobart homes and businesses and composting it into nutrient rich soil, the FOGO service reduces waste to landfill and the release of greenhouse gas emissions. The compost is later

used within agriculture and horticulture therefore 'closing the loop' and assisting the City in moving towards our aim of zero waste to landfill by 2030.

The introduction of FOGO is the second step in the City's plan to get organics out of waste bins following the successful introduction of the garden waste kerbside collection in 2016.

5. What can I put in?

In addition to your usual garden organics such as lawn clippings and small branches, you can put in all food waste including vegetable peelings, fruit, cooked food, left-overs, meat and bones, dairy and citrus. Dog poo and organic cat litter is also accepted.

6. Can I use bin liners?

To reduce the risk of contamination FOGO users should put their scraps in loose. All FOGO service recipients receive a kitchen caddy to collect their food scraps in which can then be transferred directly into the 240L FOGO wheelie bin when full or ready for collection. Plastic bin liners contaminate loads. Residents can use a piece of paper towel to line their kitchen caddy or can fold a purpose made liner from newspaper. Instructions for folding a newspaper liner can be found at hobartcity.com.au/FOGO

It is strongly preferred that residents opt for no or paper liners, however if a certified compostable bioplastic liner must be used then it must be certified under one of the following certifications: AS 5810, AS 4736, ASTM D6400, and EN13432.

7. Will my bin smell?

Not if you follow these few handy tips:

- Freeze fish & meat waste and put in your FOGO bin the morning of collection
- Keep your bin in the shade if possible



Contact coh@hobartcity.com.au Ph. 6238 2711

For enquiries and more information visit: hobartcity.com.au/FOGO



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- Try making a kitchen caddy liner from newspaper, DIY newspaper liner instructions here
- Use a sprinkling of bicarbonate soda to deodorise your bin
- Layer your food waste with garden waste such as lawn clippings & leaf litter
- Rinse you bin out regularly & let it dry completely

8. How often will it get collected?

The bin will be collected fortnightly on the opposite week of recycling. If you already have a green bin for garden organics, continue to put your bin out on the same day as per your usual schedule. Kerbside waste and recycling services will remain unchanged.

9. Will I get a fourth bin?

No. Residents who already have a garden organics service can put food organics in the existing 240L green lidded bin. Residents that are new to the service will receive a 240L green lidded bin for both food and garden organics.

10. What happens to the organic material after it's collected?

After the bin is emptied the organic material is composted at a commercial composting facility outside of Hobart. The material is composted to Australian standard AS 4454 Composts, soil conditioners and mulches. The finished compost material is later used within horticulture and agriculture – closing the loop. A snapshot of what happens to our organic waste can be found in Resources here:

hobartcity.com.au/towardsZerowaste

11. I already compost, can I opt out?

Yes, by application and addressing the opt-out criteria. However many home composters will still find it valuable to have a FOGO bin to process larger quantities of garden organics and also for the harder to compost items such as dairy, meat, citrus and bones. Automatic recipients of the service (those with an existing green waste/green bin service) can apply to opt out of FOGO here:

hobartcity.com.au/FOGO

12. I live in a flat, can I get a FOGO bin?

Yes. Multi-unit dwellings are able to receive a shared service as per other kerbside bin collections. Property owner/rate payer consent is required and a service fee does apply. An application form can be found at:

hobartcity.com.au/FOGO

13. I rent, can I get a FOGO bin?

Yes, however as per other services property owner/rate payer consent is required and a service fee does apply. An application form can be found at: hobartcity.com.au/FOGO

14. Can I have more than one bin?

Yes, a service charge does apply per additional bin. An application form can be found at:

hobartcity.com.au/FOGO

15. Can businesses join the service?

Yes. Head to hobartcity.com.au/FOGO for more information and an application form.

What CAN go in the FOGO bin:

Food scraps & left overs
 Dairy products
 Meat, bones & egg shells
 Cooked food
 Coffee grounds & tea leaves
 Paper towel & tissues
 Soiled paper & cardboard
 Grass clippings
 Weeds
 Small branches
 Pet poo & cat litter (organic)
 Compostable cups, plates & cutlery*
 Certified compostable bags*

What CAN'T go in the FOGO bin:

Plastics and plastic bag & liners without composting certification*
 Nappies
 Rocks/Concrete/Ceramics
 Large branches & stumps
 General waste or recycling
 Metals
 Treated timber & building materials
 Textiles

* Compostable bioplastic products that are certified under one of the following certifications; AS 5810, AS 4736, ASTM D6400, and EN13432 can be placed in your FOGO bin.