



Media Release

6 December 2017

Be a #GoodSort and embrace your third bin – the environment and your hip pocket will love you for it!

Our precious environment and ratepayers' hip pockets are the clear winners of the introduction of a third waste bin in the City of Cockburn.

But the key to its success is using the three bins correctly so recyclables are not wasted, pushing the increasing cost of waste disposal onto residents.

In what is Western Australia's largest bin rollout education program to date, over the next three years the City's Waste Services Unit will help more than 29,000 Cockburn householders learn how to use all three bins, including the new lime green-lid bin for garden waste.

Unpolluted garden waste can be transformed into high quality mulch that the City can sell to fund more projects, services and infrastructure in the local community.

And the recycled garden waste transformed into high quality mulch, will reduce garden water use in our drying climate.

Waste Education Officers are reporting some solid successes with the Three Bin System, despite some locals who complain bin audits are an invasion of their privacy, or those who are unhappy when they receive a 'sad face' tag for not putting their waste in the right bin.

"The attitudes towards waste is continually evolving as people realise it's up to them to sort their waste correctly for recycling," said City of Cockburn Waste Manager, Lyall Davieson.

"There will be people who take longer to learn about what goes in what bin. Repeat offenders will be left behind by the vast majority who are excited to play their part in reducing the waste they generate and helping to make useful by-products.

"The tide is turning. While some people are vocal about our education officers inspecting their bins others are hungry for information about how to 'Be a #GoodSort'.



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They want to do the right thing and sort their rubbish correctly.”

The City has hired disability employer Workpower to provide 10 staff members to deliver new 140L red-lidded rubbish bins and swap dark green lids for lime green ones on existing 240L bins, changing them to garden waste bins.

The 240L garden waste bin will be collected fortnightly, while the 140L red-lid rubbish bin and the yellow-lid recycling bin, for paper, plastic, metal, cardboard and glass, will still be collected weekly.

Waste Education Officers will visit residents to help them understand what waste to put in each bin, to prevent contamination of all three bins, including the new garden waste bin.

Did you know:

- Waste Education Officers all have a background in Sustainability and have a valid Police Clearance
- 21 suburbs will receive a third bin over the next three years
- Residents will incur no extra charges for the three bin system
- The City has received a grant from the Waste Authority of WA to help with the educational program and the purchase of the new 140L red lid bin costs for 2017/18
- No fines will be issued for contaminated bins
- People who repeatedly pollute their bins with the wrong rubbish will lose their garden waste bin
- Bins that are contaminated may not be collected

Mr Davieson will participate in a live question and answer session concentrating on the Three Bin System on the City of Cockburn’s Facebook page from 5.30pm on Wednesday, 13 December.

For more information about the Three Bin System, search the City’s website, or visit: <https://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Waste-and-Environment/Rubbish-Waste-and-Recycling/How-to-Use-Your-Bins/Three-Bin-System>



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