

Organic Food Waste

Free Business Owners Guide To Arranging Organic Food Waste Services



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Dear Business Owner

Choosing an organic food waste company isn't easy because you're bombarded with misleading advertising, confusing claims, and simply bad information.

From super-low prices and high-pressure sales to unlicensed operators and hidden fees, how do you ever find a qualified, competent, and trustworthy organic food waste company?

You start by reading this Consumer's Guide. In this fact-filled booklet, you'll discover how to avoid organic food waste rip-offs, six mistakes to avoid when choosing a supplier, and also guidance on whether an organic food waste bin is actually right for your business!



We wrote this guide to help you better understand organic food waste bin collection services. Now, with this information, you can make an informed, intelligent decision.

If you have any questions about organic food waste bins or any other waste or recycling service please reach out to us.

You're invited to call us at 1300 927 837 or at info@waster.com.au. We've dedicated our business to educating consumers, we'll be happy to help you in every way.

Cordially,
Mr Waster



About Waster.com.au

Waster is an Australian waste and recycling company specialised in helping small and medium companies.

We provide all waste and recycling services such as medical waste, general waste bins and all recycling options.

We are different to other suppliers as we operate on flexible 30 day agreements – so you are never locked in to a contract that does not suit you. We also specialise in reducing your costs by boosting recycling. You can email us at info@waster.com.au.

How to avoid 4 organic food waste rip-offs!

RIP-OFF #1: DISPOSING OF ORGANIC FOOD WASTE IN GENERAL WASTE BINS Organic food waste should go to the organic food waste bin to save costs. Disposing of organic food waste in general waste will significantly increase your waste costs.

RIP-OFF #2: PAYING BIN RENTAL. Some companies will charge you rental for your bin. There is really no need if the service is on an agreed schedule.

RIP-OFF #3: OVER SERVICING. How often do you really need your bin serviced. You should ensure the bin is only picked up at the frequency you require – whether it is daily or monthly.

RIP-OFF #4: HIDDEN COSTS OR PRICE INCREASES If you sign a multi year contract for commingled bin services you may find yourself caught out by increasing prices or gradual increases that soon add up. Be careful with the small print in any long term contract that you consider signing.

6 costly misconceptions about organic food waste

MISCONCEPTION #1: Organic food waste is just an extra charge.

No. Organic food waste should be thought of in how much it can reduce your general waste bill (and help the environment). If you add an organic food waste bin service it should reduce a general waste service and save you money.



MISCONCEPTION #2: Organic food waste bins are unnecessary because food waste is biodegradable.

Whilst food waste is biodegradable, sending it to landfill generates methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Properly managed food waste diverts waste from landfills and promotes sustainable composting.

MISCONCEPTION #3: Organic food can become quite inconvenient or unsanitary. No. Concerns about odour, pests and inconvenience may discourage organic food waste bin use. But improved design, regular collection and more worthwhile services from Waster can make the service more user-friendly and hygienic.

MISCONCEPTION #4: I can throw some general waste in an organic food waste bin. No. If a driver finds that there is general waste in your food waste bin – it may be classified as contaminated and need to be collected by a general waste truck – at a much higher price.

What can be accepted in an organic food waste bin

Organic food waste bin is a very versatile waste option and can contain:

- Bakery items
- Grains and pasta
- Dairy products
- Egg shells
- Coffee grounds and tea bags
- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Flowers and herbs



MISCONCEPTION #5: Organic food waste bins are not that effective in reducing food waste.

Food waste bins alone may not eliminate all food waste, but they help divert organic food waste from landfills. Our organic food waste bin services, coupled with customized waste reduction and employee training, can enhance sustainability and lower costs whilst meeting responsibility goals.

MISCONCEPTION #6: I do not need a lock for my organic food waste bins.

In some cases – it is best to have a lock on the bin. Whereas you will not be charged extra for a heavy bin, a lock may still be a smart case. If the bin is in a busy area – with lots of pedestrians – a lock will prevent people dumping rubbish in your bin (and risking contamination).

Both kids and grown-ups can learn the importance of food and the proper disposal of food waste and other organic items, aside from the obvious benefits we have mentioned above such as saving money and the environment by getting our organic food waste service.

Check out this video to learn more about our offered organic food waste bin service.

<https://youtu.be/f1azcaYZGxk?si=08RfGtrj5rv0peL7>



5 questions to ask when choosing a commingled recycling provider

Value versus price

We are not going to dress it up and make it look like a luxury product – organic food waste bins are one of those necessary evils in life like paying your taxes. The smart decision is to know some simple facts and choose a reputable provider so you avoid any long term issues.

Minimising any impact to your business operations is vital. Thus regular servicing will ensure:

- Saving money on general waste
- Strong environmental performance
- Simplify systems and processes in your office

Cheapest in the long run

A good quality service will be the cheapest option in the long run for your business and will save you money.

A good supplier should ensure – no hidden extras, no extra call out fees and prices that stay reasonable stable year after year.

We have covered what to avoid and common misconceptions but what are the questions you should ask an organic food waste company before hiring them?

QUESTION #1: Can you provide pricing now?

- A reputable company should be able to provide pretty accurate pricing on the phone or in person – i.e. based on number of bins, access and frequency. They should not really need to do a site inspection or come to visit you to provide a “free quote”. There will be some caveats such as access and height restrictions.

QUESTION #2: Do I need to sign a long term contract?

- Many companies will want you to sign a long term – and sometimes multi year contract for them to start providing bin services. Think – is there any real benefit to you; the customer in this context. As a bin company does not have to provide any expensive equipment etc to you – there should really be no need for a long term contract.

QUESTION #3: Do I get charged by weight in the bin?

- As organic food waste is not disposed of at landfill (and so be impacted by landfill levies) – you should not be charged extra for weight in the bin. They may however charge if organic food waste is on the floor etc or if the bin is exceptionally heavy i.e. due to crushed glass. In this situation a crushed glass collection is required.

QUESTION #4: Are you properly licensed?

- This is vital – if the supplier is not licensed, then you really are risking your business. The company should be able to describe their operations and facilities – and provide evidence of certification etc.

QUESTION #5: Can I get a discount if I book other services?

- Yes. Of course you should ask for a better price and also a discount if you book other services such as general waste bins.



What does the organic food recycling process actually involve?

Organic food waste can be diverted from landfills and treated by waste management companies in several environmentally friendly ways, including electricity generation and composting. Here's how these processes work:

1. Anaerobic Digestion for Electricity Generation:

1. Organic food waste can be processed through anaerobic digestion, a biological process that breaks down organic materials in the absence of oxygen.
2. In anaerobic digestion facilities, food waste is placed in airtight tanks or digesters, where microorganisms break down the waste to produce biogas, primarily composed of methane and carbon dioxide.
3. Biogas can be captured and used as a renewable energy source. It can be burned to generate electricity or used as a source of heat for various industrial processes.
4. The remaining material, called digestate, is rich in nutrients and can be further processed into nutrient-rich fertilizers for agricultural use.

2. Composting:

1. Food waste can be sent to composting facilities where it is combined with other organic materials like yard waste, leaves, and wood chips.
2. During composting, the organic matter undergoes controlled decomposition, facilitated by microorganisms, heat, and aeration.
3. The end product is compost, a nutrient-rich soil conditioner that can be used in gardening, landscaping, and agriculture to enrich soil and improve its water retention and structure.
4. Composting reduces the volume and weight of food waste and transforms it into a valuable resource while diverting it from landfills.

3. Biological Treatment and Vermicomposting:

1. Some waste companies utilize biological treatment methods, including vermiculture or vermicomposting, which involve using earthworms to break down organic waste.
2. Earthworms consume the food waste and convert it into nutrient-rich worm castings, which are used as a high-quality soil conditioner and fertilizer.

The choice of treatment method may depend on factors such as the available infrastructure, regional regulations, and the specific goals of waste management companies. Many regions promote these methods as part of sustainable waste management practices, aiming to reduce landfilling and harness the energy and nutrient value of organic food waste while minimizing environmental impacts.

Overall, diverting organic food waste from landfills and treating it through these methods not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with landfill decomposition but also produces valuable resources and energy. It is an environmentally responsible approach to managing organic waste.



When you run a business – being locked into an unsuitable multi year contract is the last thing you need. Waster operates on flexible 30 day agreements – which basically means that if you are not happy with our service, or it just does not suit you anymore – you can cancel by giving us 30 days written notice.

Waster provides low cost waste and recycling services to small and medium Australian businesses.

You can book all your required services such as grease trap cleaning, general waste bins, recycling bins and all niche services such as sanitary bins and confidential document destruction.

Check out all your options at waster.com.au



Waster operates on 30 day agreements – so you are never tied to a long term contract