



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

WE'RE ON IT

Your recycling and waste handbook



Waste is changing in Glen Eira.

Starting from Monday 26 July, green bins will be collected weekly and red bins collected every second week.



Visit www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/onit for more information about the changes.

If you have concerns about the change, you can email recyclingandwaste@gleneira.vic.gov.au or call 9524 3333.

And if you want tips on waste sorting and minimising, follow us at @cityofgleneira on Instagram — we add new waste stories every week.

We also have a Facebook page — @sustainablelivingGlenEira

Why is waste changing?

At the moment, 40 per cent of the waste in our red bins is food and other organic materials.

In landfill, this food and organic waste releases methane and other greenhouse gases — contributing to climate change. If everyone in Glen Eira put food scraps in their green bin, we could prevent 22,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere every year.

Food and organic waste also contributes to rising landfill costs, as space for landfill runs out.

In the green bin, food and organic waste can be put to good use.

Once composted, it is used to nourish gardens, farms and parks.

Jump on it with us and create a greener Glen Eira.



40%
of waste in
our red bins
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organic waste

Your waste toolkit

This toolkit has all the information you need — how to sort your waste, who the changes apply to, and what to do if you need more support.

We've compiled tips on green, yellow and red bins, to ensure you're supported through this change.

How to use your green bin

This bin
is collected
weekly

Since May 2018, our community has been working to save food waste from landfill by placing leftovers in the green bin. Our residents are already on it — creating a greener Glen Eira for all of us.

If you don't already have a green bin, you can order one by calling 9524 3333, and we'll deliver one free of charge.

Instead of food and garden waste sitting in landfill producing large quantities of greenhouse gases, we can turn it into compost to help keep Victorian soil healthy.

Garden waste, like grass and clippings, can still be placed in the green bin. And your green bin can take the food waste that is harder to break down, like citrus scraps and onion peels.



Recycling food waste is easy — here's how

Free caddies are up for grabs to make it easier to recycle your food scraps. You can collect yours at Glen Eira Town Hall after contacting our Customer Service Team on 9524 3333.

Simply place food leftovers into your kitchen caddy and then empty into your green bin. You can also repurpose any container to collect your scraps — like an empty ice-cream tub.

How to sort green waste

Your green bin, collected weekly, is the best place for all your garden waste and food scraps.

We've made a handy guide to show you everything that can and can't be recycled in your green bin.

But don't forget! Make sure to leave plastic, compostable and bio-degradable bin liners out of the green bin, as these end up in landfill. Wrap food scraps in paper towel or newspaper instead.

✓ Yes	✗ No
✓ Fruit and vegetable scraps	✗ Plastic bags (including biodegradable or compostable bags)
✓ Weeds and flowers	✗ Packaging of any kind (including biodegradable or compostable)
✓ Egg shells	✗ Cigarette butts
✓ Dairy leftovers	✗ Nappies and baby wipes
✓ Coffee grounds and loose leaf tea	✗ Tea bags or coffee pods
✓ Bread, pasta, cereal and rice	✗ Coffee cups (including biodegradable or compostable)
✓ Meat scraps and bones	✗ Kitty litter (including biodegradable)
✓ Used paper towel, newspaper and white napkins	✗ Dishcloths
✓ Grass and leaves	✗ Dog or cat droppings
✓ Small branches and twigs	✗ Ash and tree stumps
✓ Garden prunings	✗ Vacuum dust
✓ Tissues (provided you are not in self-isolation and have not been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case)	✗ Hair (including pet hair)
✓ Seafood including shells	✗ Paper plates
	✗ Plastic cutlery and plates (including biodegradable or compostable)
	✗ Napkins or serviettes that have been printed on or heavily dyed (eg. black napkins)
	✗ Wooden icy pole sticks

Kitchen caddy tips

If you want to line your kitchen caddy, place some newspaper or paper towel in before any food — these can go straight in the green bin with your food.

Or, you can use your caddy without any paper liners and give it a quick rinse after emptying — our kitchen caddies are also dishwasher safe.

And if odours are an issue, sprinkle a little bicarbonate soda in your caddy.

What about bin liners?

Plastic bags in green bins — even compostable and biodegradable ones make it harder for our food waste to break down. They also break down at different rates, making it hard for our composting facility to process them.

Compostable and biodegradable bags can't be processed by our facility — so food in these will be sent to landfill.

Instead of using bin liners, we can wrap food waste in paper towel or newspaper. This way, our waste can be composted easily.

What if my bin needs a clean?

If your green bin needs a clean, we're on it. Everyone in Glen Eira can get their bin cleaned by The Bin Butlers, at a competitive price.

Contact The Bin Butlers on 1300 788 123 or visit thebinbutlers.com.au to book in a service.

Don't forget to enter your postcode-40% (eg. 3204-40%) as a coupon code at checkout to redeem your discount.



Green bin tips

- Put your green bin out for collection every week so it can be emptied.
- If you have garden waste, try layering grass clippings, dry leaves and prunings on top of food leftovers to soak up any smells and moisture.
- If you don't have garden waste, try layering your food scraps with pea straw.
- Try to keep your green bin in a shady spot with the lid completely closed.
- Add a sprinkle of bicarbonate soda or try making an 'odour-pod' to keep your bin extra fresh.



How to use your yellow bin

Our yellow bins are still being collected every second week.

This bin
is collected
every second
week

What about recycling?

By putting the right things in the yellow bin, we can turn our recyclables into roads, recycled paper and new plastic items.

Recycling helps manage our natural resources more sustainably — it reduces pollution, and means we use fewer raw materials to create new products.

Make sure you're getting the last bits of food off any containers and keeping recyclables out of plastic bags.

Which plastics can I recycle?

Many plastic items can be recycled through your yellow bin including takeaway containers and bottles without their lids. However, not all plastics can be recycled this way.

Items that don't belong in the bin can contaminate entire truck loads. Our kerbside recycling currently has a 15 per cent contamination rate.

We can get on top of our waste by keeping plastic bags, clothes and food in containers out of the yellow bin.

Our waste sorting page gives you a handy guide, with all the details you need — so we can make sure our recyclables have the best chance to get turned into something new.

Remember to compact and flatten recyclables

We know yellow bins sometimes end up full before collection day. You can make space in your recycling by crushing plastic bottles and flattening and pulling apart cardboard boxes.

You can also order an additional yellow bin at a much lower rate than the red bin.



If your household is included in the following groups, you are eligible for an additional yellow bin at no extra cost:

- families with children in nappies;
- families with six or more members;
- families with four or more members, where one or more members are concession card holders; and
- households with additional waste for medical reasons.



You can apply online through our website. Visit www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/onit for more information.

Council's on it with you.

How to sort recycling

Your yellow bin is for your recyclables including glass, metal, paper and some plastics.

Make sure to empty plastic containers of any food, and take the lids off glass jars or plastic bottles before putting them into the yellow bin. Plastic lids go in the red bin.

✓ Yes

- ✓ Office paper and cardboard (not shredded paper)
- ✓ Newspapers and magazines
- ✓ Clean pizza boxes
- ✓ Fresh milk or juice cartons (not Tetra Pak)
- ✓ Empty plastic takeaway food containers
- ✓ Plastic bottles (bottle only, lids go in the red bin)
- ✓ Detergent bottles (bottle only, lids go in the red bin)
- ✓ Empty plastic tubs (eg. yoghurt tubs, ice cream containers)
- ✓ Plastic meat trays
- ✓ Plastic plant pots (less than 10cm in diameter)
- ✓ Plastic fruit punnets and biscuit trays
- ✓ Aluminium trays and foil (clean and scrunched)
- ✓ Aluminium and steel cans
- ✓ Glass jars and bottles (separate glass from metal lids and place both in the yellow bin)
- ✓ Envelopes (including with plastic windows)

✗ No

- ✗ Aerosol cans
- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Soft plastics (anything that is plastic and can be scrunched into a ball eg. bread bags, cling film, pasta bags)
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Ceramics
- ✗ Batteries
- ✗ Plastic cutlery
- ✗ Garden waste
- ✗ Food waste
- ✗ Clothes or fabric
- ✗ Chemicals
- ✗ Hazardous waste
- ✗ Light globes
- ✗ Electronics
- ✗ Gas cylinders or canisters
- ✗ Shredded paper or newspaper
- ✗ Tetra Pak (long life milk) cartons





What about soft plastics?

Keep your soft plastics (any plastics that can be scrunched into a ball) out of the yellow bin and drop off at a nearby soft plastics REDcycle collection bin, located in most supermarkets.



Mixed packaging and soft plastics

Not all plastics can be recycled through your yellow bin, as our local recycling facilities only accept some types of plastics.

Many can't be recycled, even if they have the triangular plastic symbol on them. The triangle symbol refers to the type of plastic and does not necessarily mean that the item can be recycled.

And keep an eye out for the Australasian Recycling Label on packaged products, which can help with mixed packaging. For more information on how to recycle mixed packaging, visit www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/onit

How to use your red bin

Red bins will now be collected every second week, instead of every week.

This bin
is collected
every second
week

Make sure to throw food scraps in your weekly green bin.

Currently, 40 per cent of our red bins is food and organic waste, so if you're looking to save space in your red bin, throw food scraps in the green bin instead.

With this change, we're decreasing how much rubbish goes to landfill — reducing our emissions, and keeping the costs of waste in check.

Our handbook page on avoiding and minimising waste (18) gives other ideas on how we can keep more out of our red bins, and away from landfill.

What about nappies and pet waste?

We know some people will need additional red bin space in the case of medical needs and nappy waste.

Single use nappies cannot be recycled or composted — so these belong in the red bin.

Nappies smell their worst at day four, and the number of nappies doesn't make the bin smellier either, so less red bin collections won't mean more smell.

If odour is an issue, using smaller bags that can be closed tightly can help.

Like nappies, using small, tightly closed bags will reduce odour from pet waste in your red bin. Pet poo worm farms are also available at hardware and garden stores for residents interested in composting. You can also minimise odours by storing your red bin out of direct sunlight, keeping the lid closed and regularly checking for cracks.

You might be eligible for a larger red bin

If your household is included in the following groups, you can apply online for a larger or additional red bin at no extra cost (renters can apply as well):

- families with children in nappies;
- families with six or more members;
- families with four or more members, where one or more members are concession card holders; and
- households with additional waste for medical reasons.



You can apply online through our website.
Visit www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/onit for more information.

We're on it, with you.

How to sort red waste

As well as green waste and recycling, there are other items that cannot go in the red bin, like hazardous and electronic waste.

Use our online *A-Z Rubbish and Recycling Guide* to help find the best place for your waste.

✓ Yes

- ✓ Household rubbish (non-recyclable)
- ✓ Ceramics, crockery and glassware
- ✓ Plastic bags
- ✓ Plastic wrap and cling wrap
- ✓ Polystyrene
- ✓ Nappies (wrapped)
- ✓ Used paper towel and tissues (if you are in self-isolation, unwell, or have been in contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19)

✗ No

- ✗ Recycling
- ✗ Garden waste
- ✗ Hazardous materials or liquids
- ✗ Soil or ash
- ✗ Building materials
- ✗ Medical waste eg. syringes
- ✗ Electronic waste (batteries and electrical appliances)

What about e-waste?

Electronic waste (e-waste) including batteries, should never be placed in household bins.

You can drop off small electronic items for free at our e-waste recycling stations located at Glen Eira Libraries.

Our e-waste recycling stations accept batteries, phones, cords, x-rays, light globes and CDs/DVDs/video tapes. Large electronic waste such as DVD players and televisions can be disposed of at a waste transfer station or through our booked collections service.



How to minimise your waste

We can help build a greener future for Glen Eira by minimising our waste.

Australia sends 20.5 million tonnes of waste to landfill per year. But if we use a little less, we can all benefit a lot. Reducing how much waste we send to landfill is one of the easiest ways we can create a cleaner Glen Eira.

There are simple things we can do to make a big difference. We're on it, with you.



How can we reduce our waste?

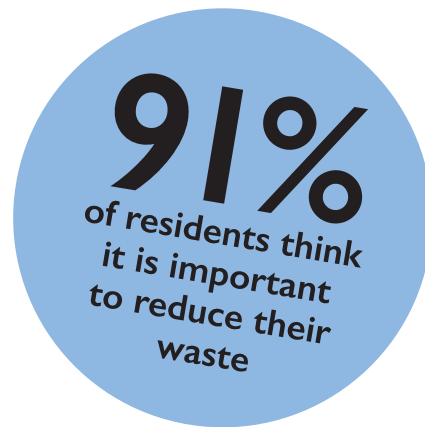
Let's prevent waste in the first place

91 per cent of Glen Eira residents think it is important to reduce the amount of waste they produce.

The best way to reduce waste is to avoid producing it in the first place. Most of our waste comes from what we purchase.

Before you buy something, think about the waste it will create. Could it be borrowed or sourced second hand rather than bought new?

And wherever you can, choose items and materials that are reusable and made to last.



Where possible, avoid packaging

Buying goods with minimal packaging, and bringing our own bags when we shop, helps to minimise our waste.

By using reusable bags for fresh produce, or bees wax wrap for food leftovers, we can avoid using packaging with our food.

And by taking reusable bags when you shop for clothes or other goods, we can avoid packaging for those items too.



Treasure what you own

By treasuring your belongings, you can extend their use and get the most value from them.

If something is broken, has a hole or is not needed for its original purpose anymore, can it be restored, repaired or used for something else? Give your things a second chance to be useful.

Borrow, swap, make it fun!

Our waste can still be useful even after we are finished with it.

Consider donating, lending or selling items that are in workable condition, and shop second-hand or borrow from friends when you can. Even broken items can be repaired and have second lives.

Anything we can keep out of the red bin, we keep out of landfill, reducing emissions and helping our community.



Concerns or questions about reducing your waste? We're on it.

Contact us at recyclingandwaste@gleneira.vic.gov.au or call 9524 3333 for more waste reduction tips.

You can also visit <http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/onit> for more information.

Remember your reusables

Our small choices have a big impact — by remembering our reusable drink bottles, shopping bags, food containers, coffee cups and cutlery we can avoid single use items.



For renters

We can all make a difference by saving food waste from landfill — and that includes residents who are renting in Glen Eira.

What do I do if I'm renting?

If your rental does not have a green bin, you can order one by contacting us on recyclingandwaste@gleneira.vic.gov.au or 9524 3333.



For shared bins

If you live in a residence with shared bins, please ask your owners corporation to contact us.

We will work with them to ensure that your property has appropriate waste services and bins.

You will also receive resources specifically to support people living in a residence with shared bins.

Booked collections

What about hard waste items that can't go in the bin?

Our hard rubbish, bulk cardboard and bundled branch collection services are also available to help you keep on top of your waste.

Our residents can book three (3) free collections of each service every financial year. To make a booking or for further information visit:
www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/booked-collection

Can your items be reused, repaired or donated?

If your items are in good working order, you can repair, sell or donate them — through repair cafes, charity stores and online.

It's important that we dispose of our waste properly. If you can't dispose of something through your regular household bins, search our *A-Z Rubbish and Recycling Guide*, to find out how to dispose of it correctly.



You can find the guide at
www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/recycling-az

Hard rubbish

Our hard rubbish collection service can be booked for free.

It comes on your regular bin collection day — so if you have hard rubbish booked, put it out at the same time as your household bins.

You are allowed to put out a maximum of four cubic metres (1m x 4m x 1m) for collection.

We can collect household furniture, appliances, mattresses. For a full list of accepted items and Council's collection guidelines visit:
www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/booked-collection

Bundled branches

Any leaves and small twigs can be placed in your green bin, but bigger branches need to be collected through our booked collection service.

Our Council collection service will come on a Wednesday to collect your branches — just make sure they are tied in a bundle with strong string.

Don't use plastic, wire or fabrics to tie the branches in a bundle, as these can't be broken down into compost with the branches.

We allow a total of 20 bundles per collection and a maximum of three cubic metres per collection.

More information is available at
www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/booked-collection

Bulk cardboard

If you have a lot of cardboard, this can be collected through our booked collection system — this will give you some more room in your yellow bin.

To get it ready for collection, flatten the cardboard and tie it in a bundle, using string.

Don't use plastic, wire or fabric to tie the cardboard, as these won't be recycled.

We collect up to three cubic metres per collection.





GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

BENTLEIGH
BENTLEIGH EAST
BRIGHTON EAST
CARNEGIE
CAULFIELD
ELSTERNWICK
GARDENVALE
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recyclingandwaste@gleneira.vic.gov.au
gleneira.vic.gov.au/onit

Contact us for waste information in your language

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