

Green Bin Case Study



Schools

Schools in Campaspe Shire Council have the potential to decrease their waste to landfill and save on waste management costs by implementing food and garden waste bins.

The purpose of this case study is to encourage the uptake of the food and garden waste kerbside service by schools

Why should your school reduce food and garden waste to landfill?

In 2015, the average kerbside waste bin in Campaspe contained 55% food and garden organic material. In 2019, Campaspe Shire Council implemented a food and garden waste kerbside service. Over 3,000 tonnes of food and garden material was diverted from landfill in the first year and composted at Biomix, a commercial compost facility in our shire.

By composting food and garden waste in Campaspe, rather than sending it to landfill, it is cheaper, better for the environment and healthier for our entire community. Diverting food and garden waste creates a safe and sustainable future for our children and our children's children.

How have other Schools reduced their food and garden waste to landfill?

The Echuca East Primary School and St Mary's Primary, Rushworth both experienced a decrease in their waste to landfill by trialling food and garden waste bins in 2019-20. Caddies, compostable bags, indoor and outdoor signage were supplied and used in classrooms and staff rooms. With assistance from their chooks and guinea pigs, the schools were able to reduce their food waste to landfill and the trial has greatly increased students' excitement about their sustainability efforts.

Average Campaspe Waste Bin (2015)



"The education surrounding the bins has been extremely successful for staff, students and parents. The students [can] clearly identify what belongs in the green bins and if they are unsure, [they] can utilise the signs or ask their peers. The students take great pride in ensuring the signs are well maintained and situated near all bins within the school." Mia Shanahan, St Mary's Primary, Rushworth, August 2020

School	Annual tonnes of food and garden waste diverted from landfill	Number of full 240 litre bins that were composted	Annual tCO _{2e} saved
Echuca East Primary School	7.6 tonnes	127	11.4 CO _{2e}
St Mary's Primary, Rushworth	5.1 tonnes	85	7.7 CO _{2e}
Total savings	12.7 tonnes	212	19.1 CO_{2e}



Left: One of the preps at Echuca East Primary using the classroom food scrap caddy

Right: Example of signage on bins at Echuca East Primary School



Together the Echuca East Primary School and St Mary's Primary School in Rushworth will save nearly 13 tonnes of food and garden waste from going to landfill each year!

How can your school reduce food and garden waste to landfill?

Campaspe Shire Council offers a suite of kerbside bin services to schools in the shire that consists of the following bins and sizes:

Kerbside Bin	Material Accepted	Sizes	Cost (2020/21)
Food and Garden Waste	All food scraps, garden waste, and other compostables including: paper hand towel, napkins, tissues and shredded paper and compostable bags (AS4736 only)	140L, 240L	\$55/year +GST
Recycling	Co-mingled recyclables including: plastic bottles and containers 1-6, aluminium cans and foil, steel cans, glass bottles and jars, paper, cardboard and cartons	140L, 240L & 360L	\$61.50/year +GST
Waste	General waste including: polystyrene, all soft plastics like plastic bags, takeaway coffee cups, broken items like crockery and toys	80L, 140L & 240L	Starting at \$180, visit website for more info

How can Campaspe Shire Council assist your School?

Campaspe Shire Council can assist schools by providing the following upon request:

- Support and recommendations for food and garden waste, recycling and waste bins (indoor and outdoor)
- Education activities and information for your school
- The following free of charge at commencement of service: food scrap caddies, rolls of compostable bags (AS4736), indoor and outdoor wheelie bin sticker signage



More information

To order food and garden waste bins for your school please visit council's website: www.campaspe.vic.gov.au and click on Waste & recycling – Bin collection services. If you would like more information or to discuss your school's bin options, please contact Campaspe Shire Council's Environmental Projects Officer – Organics on 03 5481 2200. #giveascrap