



## Sustainability News



### Food waste recycling in Darebin

It's been great to see everybody talking rubbish following the second series of the ABC TV show *War on Waste*. Food waste in particular has been a hot topic.

Did you know that 38% of household rubbish bins in Darebin are made up of food waste? That's the equivalent of around \$2000 being thrown in the bin each year through food waste!

We all know the harmful environmental impacts of food waste going to landfill – wasted water, energy and resources used to grow, pick and transport food, plus increased greenhouse gas emissions. This is why Darebin is taking action!

We recently completed a Food Waste Recycling Trial to reduce household food waste going to landfill. More than 1000 Kingsbury households were invited to participate in the trial by placing their food scraps into the green waste bin and contributing to the creation of compost for Victorian farmers.

Evaluation of the trial is currently underway, with results of the trial set to inform the development of a final food waste collection model for Darebin. Roll-out of the service across the city will be determined by Council later in the year, once evaluation and reporting is complete.

If you're not a resident of the trial area, don't worry, you can still recycle your food waste at home! For more information on composting, worm farming or using a bokashi bucket at home, visit our [website](#). Or better yet, use the [Food Know How](#) toolkit to avoid creating food waste in the first place!

A final friendly reminder – biodegradable and compostable bags are not accepted in Darebin's green waste bins, whether you're in the food waste trial area or not. They do not break down in the in-vessel composting facility used by our organics processor, Veolia, causing contamination in the compost produced.