

SAVING MONEY & THE PLANET IS...



# EASY AS 1-2-3

**DID YOU KNOW** **40%** OF WASTE TO LANDFILL IN HAWKE'S BAY COULD BE DIVERTED FOR COMPOSTING

If you are not sure what to do with your garden or green waste, follow the simple steps below to save space in your weekly kerbside rubbish collection and keep Hawke's Bay clean and green.

## THREE WAYS TO DISPOSE OF YOUR GREEN WASTE...

### What is Green Waste?

Any plant material that grows in your garden such as grass clippings, prunings, weeds, fallen leaves.



### TRANSFER STATION

Collect your green waste and take it to the transfer station.



### GARDEN WASTE BIN

Contact a local waste company and hire a Garden Waste Bin



### COMPOST & MULCH

Create a compost bin at home and use a mulching lawn mower

## Reusing garden greens for good

Tipping green waste into the landfill poses particular problems. Because it becomes buried with all the other rubbish and ends up underground, it rots very, very slowly and creates methane gas and a liquid called leachate – effectively “rubbish soup”.

Methane is a greenhouse gas which is far more damaging to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide, so there are very good reasons for limiting the amount of plant material that ends up in the landfill.

And there are a few ways you can get rid of your weeds, grass clippings, tree trimmings and fallen leaves.

One of the best is to put together a composting system - because you land up with a product that is very useful to you and your garden.

If you are not sure how to, contact the Hawke's Bay Environment Centre and register for one of their free composting workshops. See: [environmentcentre.org.nz](http://environmentcentre.org.nz).

Garden centres are also a wealth of knowledge – or, of course, there is good old Google.

Making your own compost can save you money (you won't need to buy it), help keep your soil healthy,

reduce the number of weeds you have to pull, and the amount of garden watering you need to do.

If you don't have the space or time to compost there are another couple of options for getting rid of garden rubbish. Most rubbish collection companies offer a green waste wheelie bin service. Those operators deliver the green waste to a composting company which converts the green waste into compost.

A third option is to load up the trailer and take it to a council transfer station. There is a fee, but it is about half that of general rubbish. Refuse transfer green waste goes to a company called BioRich, which shreds it and then composts it, and then sells it all over New Zealand. BioRich uses forced air aeration as part of their composting process which heats the compost to over 70 degrees celcius, which helps break the material down faster and kills all weeds.



Of course a lot of these messages can also apply to food scraps from the kitchen, and we will look at that more in-depth in next week's publication.

Any of those options means the green waste does not land up in the landfill – and that has to be a very good thing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RECYCLING VISIT

[HASTINGSDC.GOV.T.NZ/RECYCLING](http://HASTINGSDC.GOV.T.NZ/RECYCLING) & [NAPIER.GOV.T.NZ](http://NAPIER.GOV.T.NZ) #RECYCLING

