



# Domestic Kerbside Wheelie Bin Audit - July 2018

## Organic Compostable Materials

Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling (RRWR) is committed to the provision of cost effective, innovative and environmentally responsible waste management practices. RRWR manages a range of Waste Management Facilities and kerbside bin collection services throughout the Rockhampton Region.

### What is the purpose of domestic wheelie bin auditing?

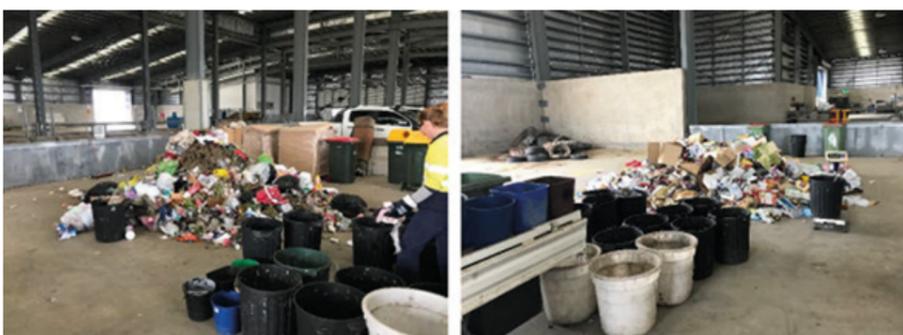
Kerbside wheelie bin audits are undertaken on an annual basis to assess how well Rockhampton Region residents are separating their domestic waste and using their general waste and recycling wheelie bins correctly. Audits help find opportunities to further divert materials from landfill by loss of potential reusable or recyclable materials in kerbside general waste bins.

### How are domestic wheelie bin audits conducted?

The audit was undertaken in July 2018, assessing 250 general waste bins sampled from households across the entire region (Mt Morgan, Gracemere, Allenstown, Wandal, Depot Hill, Berserker, Koongal, Norman Gardens, Frenchville, Park Avenue, Kawana).

Over five days a total of 3.3 tonnes of general household waste was assessed. Within this, the most prevalent type of waste materials were organic compostable materials (51.4%), non-recyclable plastic (9.1%), non-recyclable paper (8.4%) and recyclable paper (8.2%). Food scraps being the larger proportion of organic compostable materials over garden clippings.

Over five days a total of 2 tonnes of recyclable waste was assessed. Within this, the most prevalent type of waste materials were recyclable paper (40.2%), recyclable glass (25.7%) and recyclable plastic (7.1%).



### Focus on organic compostable materials in domestic kerbside general waste bins

As seen in the diagrams below, over 50% of domestic kerbside general waste wheelie bins are made up of organics and garden clippings. Food waste disposed of in general waste wheelie bins ends up at Lakes Creek Road Landfill, wasting all the resources it takes to grow, transport, package and purchase the food and taking up valuable landfill airspace and contributing to the production of methane gas.

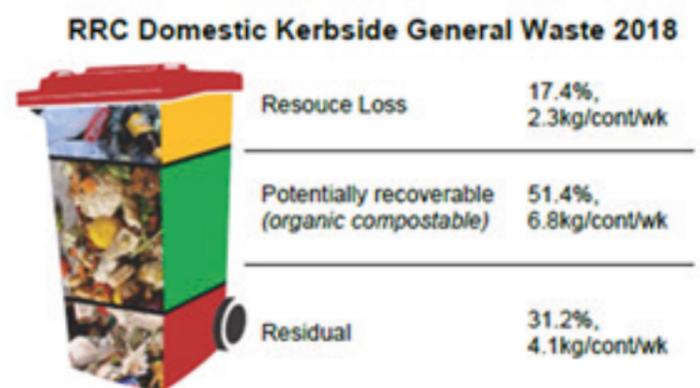
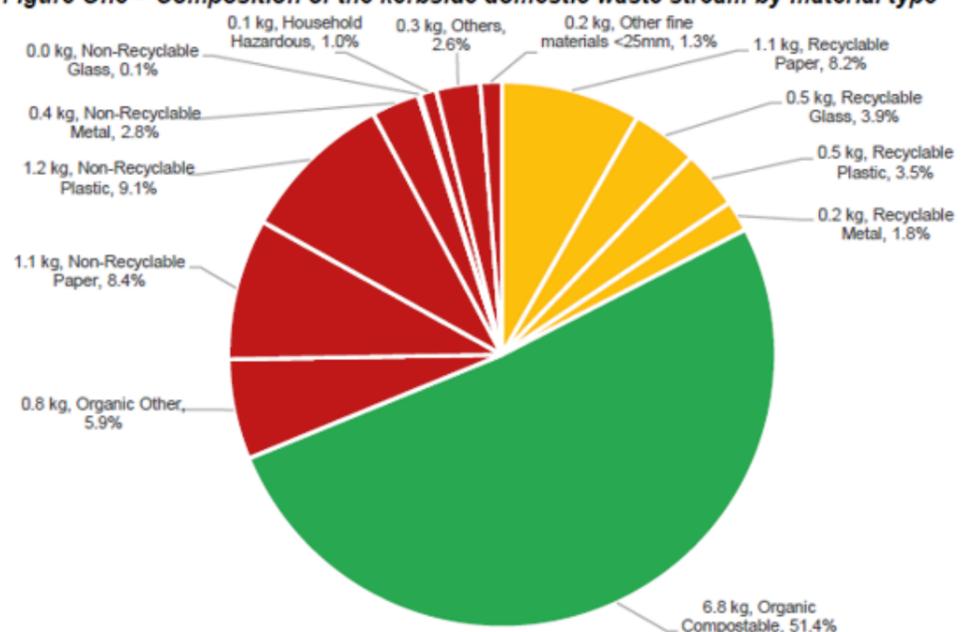


Figure One – Composition of the kerbside domestic waste stream by material type



### Household composting - Join the compost conga line!

Instead of going to landfill, your organics and garden clippings could be put to better use in your garden as compost or mulch. By using compost or mulch you can improve the soil quality, help soil retain moisture, and reduce the need for chemical fertilisers. Join the compost conga line and check out the resources available on the 'Reduce' page of Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling's pages of Council's website.