Let's Talk Rubbish!

WASTE SERVICES GUIDE

Tamworth Council

Waste Hotline 1300 530 535
tamworth.nsw.gov.au
Tamworth Regional Council provides various waste services across the region which can include kerbside recycling, garden organics*, garbage services and bulky household waste collection.*

We work with a waste contractor to provide residents with their kerbside waste services.

This brochure outlines these services as well as providing information about alternative waste disposal options in our Region.

If you have any questions or require additional information please refer to tamworth.nsw.gov.au or call the Waste Hotline on 1300 530 535.

*Where available
For residents who have access to the green bin collection, Council provides a bin with a lime green lid for suitable garden waste. Residents are encouraged to use this service when disposing of their small tree prunings (thin branches up to 1m long), flowers, weeds and grass clippings at home.

*The Green Bin is collected fortnightly.*

By using this service, residents are helping to divert a large amount of green waste away from landfill, thereby reducing carbon emissions and saving valuable landfill space.

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For residents and businesses with access to the kerbside recycling collection service, Council provides a yellow lid bin. We encourage residents to maximise their recycling of empty steel cans, aerosol and aluminium cans, plastic bottles and containers, milk and juice cartons, glass bottles and jars, paper and flattened cardboard.

*The Yellow Bin is collected fortnightly.*

It is essential for the recycling process that only the correct items go into the recycling bin. Incorrect items can cause many problems in the sorting process and may result in recyclables ending up in landfill.

Recyclables MUST NOT be placed in plastic bags. Plastic bags can do damage to recycling plant machines.

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Residents and businesses with access to the garbage collection service are provided with a red lid bin. Any waste that is either not able to be recycled or non-hazardous, can be placed in your red bin. Anything you put in the red bin ends up buried in the landfill.

*The Red Bin is collected weekly.*

We all buy, use and consume goods every day and every one of us has a responsibility to manage our own waste at the end of this process. You use it, you dispose of it!

Council provides services and facilities to help our community manage their waste.
REDUCE

make less of the mess

Be a smart shopper, reduce your waste and save money!

Be a smart shopper:
- Create a meal plan to avoid food waste
- Create a shopping list
- Buy products with recycled content
- Buy products with recyclable packaging
- Buy more fresh foods rather than packaged foods
- Take your reusable bags to avoid plastic ones

Home Cooked Meals
Make home-made meals instead of buying packaged takeaway foods.

Repair, don't replace
Extend the useful life of things you already have by repairing them.

No thanks to disposable
Avoid using disposable straws or cutlery where possible.

Soft scrunchy plastic
Take soft scrunchy plastic food packaging to participating supermarkets that recycle them.
REUSE

choose to reuse

Before throwing an item in the bin, think about how it can be reused!

Donate or sell
Don’t just throw things out – have a garage sale or donate quality clothes and household items to charities (but remember, if you wouldn’t give it to your best friend don’t give it to a charity).

Reuse Empty Jars
Reuse empty glass jars to store things like coins, homemade jams or buttons.

Refill bottles
Refill reusable bottles with water for use at home, school or work.

Reuse paper & envelopes
Reuse the back of paper and envelopes as notepads before recycling them.

Buy second hand books
Buy second hand books and magazines, or borrow and swap them with people you know. Also, don't forget to check out your local library.

Get Crafty
Reuse materials around the home for art, craft and wrapping presents.
When placing items in your recycling bin, please:

- Do not place recyclables in plastic bags
- Place items loose in bin
- Flatten cardboard down so you don’t waste space in your bin
- Rinse all containers (use your washing up water when finished) to avoid smell or bugs in your bin
- Remove lids from bottles and jars and put them in your recycling bin separately (lids off but lids in!)

likeable recyclables
Recycling has environmental benefits because reusing existing goods or products means less materials need to be mined, drilled or harvested.
YES

- Empty plastic bottles and containers
- Empty steel, aerosol, aluminium cans and foils
- Empty glass bottles and jars from the pantry
- Flattened cardboard (including empty pizza boxes)
- Paper
- Empty milk and juice cartons
- Take-away coffee cups

NO

- Plastic bags of any kind
- Soft scrunchy plastics
- Foods scraps
- Nappies
- Garden organics
- Household garbage
- Building materials
- Household Appliances or metal frypans/pots
- China or crockery
- Clothes & shoes
If organic waste goes to landfill it takes up valuable space and as it decomposes, harmful greenhouse gases (methane) are produced.

To reduce the amount of organic waste sent to landfill, Council provides access to a **fortnightly** kerbside green bin service (where available). **This service is only for smaller garden organic material.** Larger and heavier garden organics such as tree stumps and large branches must be taken to your local landfill for appropriate disposal.

If it’s clean it’s **FREE to dispose of at your local landfill.**

**Green waste received is processed and turned into mulch** and is available for purchase at Tamworth’s Forest Road Waste Management Centre (subject to availability). Mulch currently produced is screened and tested to produce a high quality product.
**YES**

- Prunings and flowers
- Leaves
- Twigs and small branches
- Grass clippings
- Tree branches up to 1m long and 7.5cm diameter

**NO**

- Garden tools
- ANY plastic bags
- Food scraps
- Recycling
- Dirt and rocks
- Items that make the bin too heavy
BULKY WASTE

Certain locations within the Tamworth Regional Council area, where the service is available, have access to a twice a year bulky household waste collection.

Bulky household waste collections are conducted in June and November each year.

Items can be placed on the nature strip area in front of your property on the night before the collection. Collection is the same day as your garbage collection.

Items placed out for collection must not exceed 2m$^3$. The items should be placed neatly on the kerbside, without blocking the footpath or access, to ensure that they can be removed safely and easily.

For more information refer to tamworth.nsw.gov.au or contact the Waste Hotline on 1300 530 535.

This service is not a recycling service and items collected will end up in landfill.
**YES**

- General small household items
- Broken furniture & bedding
- Small white goods and electrical appliances (excluding oil heaters, fridges, freezers and air-conditioners)
- Items LESS than 30kg
- Items under 2m in length
- E-waste (TVs, computers, monitors printers)
- Small branches (That meet length & weight restrictions and are not tied or bagged)

**NO**

- Bags of household garbage & food scraps
- Fridges, freezers, air-conditioners (items containing refrigerant gas)
- Asbestos, concrete, bricks (demolition materials)
- Tyres
- Rocks or soil
- Motor vehicle parts, batteries transmission fluids or oils
- Full or partially filled containers of liquid
- Gas bottles or fire extinguishers
- Oil heaters
- Hazardous waste or toxic waste (e.g. chemicals or paint)
- Plate glass (windows, doors or fish tanks)
- Lawn clippings or leaves
- Commercial waste or items from commercial premises
OTHER WASTE

Mobile Phone Recycling

Mobile phone collection points are located at each of Council’s branch offices.

Printer and Toner Cartridges

A printer and toner cartridge collection point is located in the Tamworth branch office at 437 Peel Street, Tamworth.

Annual Household Chemical Collection

Old and leftover chemicals around the home can be hazardous to the health of our families, animals and our environment. In conjunction with the NSW EPA and the Northern Inland Regional Waste Group, an Annual Rural and Household Chemical Clean up is advertised each year.

For more information, please refer to tamworth.nsw.gov.au

For more information about these waste services please contact 6767 5555 or Council’s website tamworth.nsw.gov.au
Community Sharps Safe Disposal options

There are members of the community who require a safe disposal option for needles or syringes.

Residents are advised that the following locations are available to dispose of puncture proof containers for FREE in the large Community Sharps Bins located at the following locations:

- **Council carpark at rear of Robert Street Shopping Village** (Petra Avenue entrance), Tamworth
- **Tamworth Base Hospital** (located outside at the Tamworth Diabetes Centre)
- **Coledale Community Centre** (Kenny Drive), Tamworth
- **Community Recycling Centre** at the small vehicle transfer station, Forest Road Waste Management Centre, 123A Forest Road, Tamworth
- **Manilla Rotary Park**, Progress Lane near amenities, Manilla

Items must be placed in a puncture proof container with a lid on. Items MUST NOT be loose.

As more bins are installed in the community or for more information on safe sharps disposal when you are travelling, please visit: [safesharps.org.au](http://safesharps.org.au) to find disposal locations near you, or to download the free app.
Some items can’t be placed in the yellow lid recycling bin but can still be recycled!

Not all household waste can be put in your kerbside bins. Community Recycling Centres offer a **FREE** and **EASY** solution for the disposal of household problem waste such as paints, gas bottles, motor oils, batteries, smoke detectors and fluorescent globes and tubes.

Many of these materials can be reused and recycled if processed correctly. Recycling helps our environment because it saves water, energy and natural resources.

Items like gas bottles, batteries and oils can be taken to our community recycling centre at:

**Forest Road Waste Management Centre, 123A Forest Rd, Tamworth.**
How to recycle other household items:

- Visit www.cleanout.com.au to find your nearest CleanOut event to safely dispose of your household chemicals.
- Return unwanted or out-dated medicine to your local pharmacy for safe disposal.
- Recycle old mobile phones at Australia Post shops or look for the green Mobile Muster drop off bins at your local bank or phone shop.
- Drop off your used or empty laser and inkjet printer cartridges at participating Australia Post, Officeworks, JB Hi-Fi and Cartridge World stores.
- Go to www.recyclingnearyou.com.au to find where you can drop off TVs, computers or printers for electronics recycling.
- To learn about green cleaning in your own home visit www.safersolutions.org.au
- Businesses are not eligible to use the Community Recycling Centres. Visit businessrecycling.com.au to find out how to recycle your business waste.
DID YOU KNOW?

At rural waste management sites where household recyclables are diverted on site, if residents loads are comprised of 50% (or greater) of household recyclable items that are clean and are pre-sorted, disposal fees may be free or significantly reduced. (As determined by the attendant and with the exclusion of items that will attract a charge)

Household recyclables under this arrangement include paper, cardboard, aluminium and steel cans, food and beverage glass bottles & jars, plastic household containers with the recycling symbols 1 – 5. Domestic waste accepted under this arrangement is waste that would be able to fit into a red lid wheelie bin (in bags). It does not include bulky items (i.e. furniture) or items that have a charge applied to them.

Waste Hotline: 1300 530 535
Residents can call the Waste Hotline to report:
- Lost or stolen wheelie bin
- Missed collection service
- Damaged wheelie bin
- Waste contractor complaints
SORT & SAVE

If domestic residents pre-sort their waste, these items can be disposed of for FREE!

- Green waste
- Oil
- Clean fill
- Non-treated timber
- Metal
- Clean concrete
- Clean brick
- Clean tile
- Batteries
- Mobile phones
- Paint

- Fluoro lights
- Gas bottles
- Fire extinguishers
- Toner cartridges
- E-waste (TVs, computers, printers, monitors, keyboards, mice, modems – whole items only)
- Tyres with or without rim (motorcycle, car, 4wd) – 5 per visit/transaction to the landfill
- Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners - 1 per visit/transaction to the landfill
People often put their recycling in plastic bags to carry it outside to the recycling bin and leave it in the plastic bag. This is a waste of all your recycling efforts as this will end up in landfill.

REUSABLE BAG

One of the biggest contamination issues in the Yellow Lid Recycling bin is plastic bags causing your recycling to go to landfill.

To help stop this from happening, you can get a reusable bag from any of Council's Customer Service Desks to help carry your recycling out to your recycling bin.

If the bag gets dirty or smelly, you can spot clean with a wet cloth or put it in the washing machine to clean on gentle cycle.

These bags aren’t designed to last forever but they will last for a long period of time.

If it is no longer usable, it goes in the red lid bin and it will breakdown in the landfill as it is made of a compostable material.
GET THE APP!

Download the MyTRC App & never miss a collection.

If you are unsure of when you should put your bin out for servicing or whether it is recycling or garden organics week, download the MyTRC App and search for your address.

Please note that if you live on a corner location and you can’t find your address then it may be known in our system as a different address. In this instance please contact Council’s Customer Service on 6767 5555 for assistance.

The Council app will also advise if where you live receives the Bulky Household Waste Collection service and when the next one is.
**GREEN BIN**
- Prunings and flowers
- Leaves
- Twigs and small branches
- Grass clippings
- Tree branches up to 1m long and 7.5cm diameter

**YELLOW BIN**
- Empty plastic bottles and containers
- Empty steel, aerosol, aluminium cans and foils
- Empty glass bottles and jars from the pantry
- Flattened cardboard (including empty pizza boxes)
- Paper
- Empty milk and juice cartons
- Take-away coffee cups

**RED BIN**
- Food scraps
- Crockery & pyrex glass
- Plastic bags
- Nappies
- Other household waste that can’t be recycled