

FOGO

As we celebrate the 26th week of the Food Organics Garden Organics trial we would like to sincerely thank all the trial participants for contributing to the 220 tonnes of FOGO waste diverted from landfill.

We are proud to see the community tackling this global issue locally by establishing a circular economy in our region.

Deputy Mayor,
Cr Jason Cook
Community Facilities and Waste



Did you know grass clippings do not need to be bagged to go in the FOGO bin?

CONTAMINATION



Thank you to the volunteers who assist weekly in sorting the contamination from our FOGO collection to ensure clean organic material to compost!

Our waste trucks are helping Council's waste team to identify residents who are proactive and doing the right thing! Don't forget, every little bit of food and organic waste helps reduce the amount of waste to landfill!

220

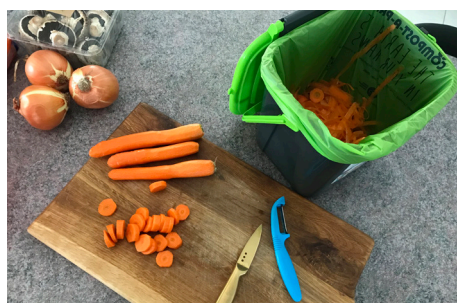
tonnes of organic waste diverted from landfill so far



MID-TRIAL FOGO PROGRESS

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Lockyer Valley Regional Council was successful in receiving a \$320,000 grant to roll out the trial Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection system. The trial includes approximately 1000 homes in selected areas across both Gatton and Laidley.



Managing waste effectively is both a global and local issue and comes at considerable cost to communities which is why everyone needs to share responsibility.

At the commencement of the trial our hope was to see a reduction in general waste that's unnecessarily going into landfill. This small change in household bin use has the potential to divert almost all organic waste from landfill into usable compost.

The trial commenced in August 2021 and over the past 26 weeks we have seen 61% of trial participants putting their FOGO bin out for collection. We have received 220 tonnes of FOGO and turned it into amazing compost; this waste ordinarily would have been captured in your general (red) waste bin, and by separating it into your FOGO bin participants have diverted 44 elephants worth of waste from landfill!



Is the FOGO trial being done to add more charges on my rates notice?

Quite the opposite! Council is being proactive in trialling a solution to divert organic material from the Gatton Landfill. The trial is exactly that- a test. If we do not trial a solution to address the problem, the cost burden on ratepayers will be unfortunately much higher within the next three to five years.



What if I don't produce enough green waste to have a FOGO bin? My chickens, dogs and worms eat all my FOGO waste!

We understand you may not produce enough to fill a 240L bin, but we still want what you do produce to help us make beautiful compost! Every little bit counts - even one small green compost bag of food waste helps! Cooked bones, grapes, tomatoes, mushrooms, citrus foods, apple cores, avocado and onions are food waste items that the FOGO bin will take.

In addition to this, the FOGO bin can take animal waste (hair, dog and cat poo or organic litter) just pop it in a compostable bag or wrapped in newspaper!

WE LOVE FOGO



ARE YOU A FOGO CHAMPION IN YOUR STREET?



Next time you bring your bin in keep an eye out for our Waste Champion bin tags as we celebrate the trial participants who get it right every week!

FOGO CHAMPION

Every participant that gets it right is contributing to the sustainable future of the Lockyer Valley by turning your waste into clean reusable compost!

Keep our FOGO contamination free, remember: if it GROWS it GOES!

YOU ARE INVITED

Now that we have come to the half-way mark, Council is inviting you to be a part of the celebrations.

The community is invited to come along and see first-hand how FOGO compost was used at Lions Park, Narda Lagoon on Wednesday 2 March 2022 from 11.30am - 1pm.

With less than six years' capacity remaining in the Gatton Landfill, we need a solution to decrease the amount of waste at the Gatton Waste Facility, and this Trial may give us the perfect answer.

Participants have kept contamination at under two per cent, which has resulted in an ideal compostable product. The general bin waste has been reduced by 50 per cent in the Trial area, which is exactly what we hoped to achieve during the Trial.



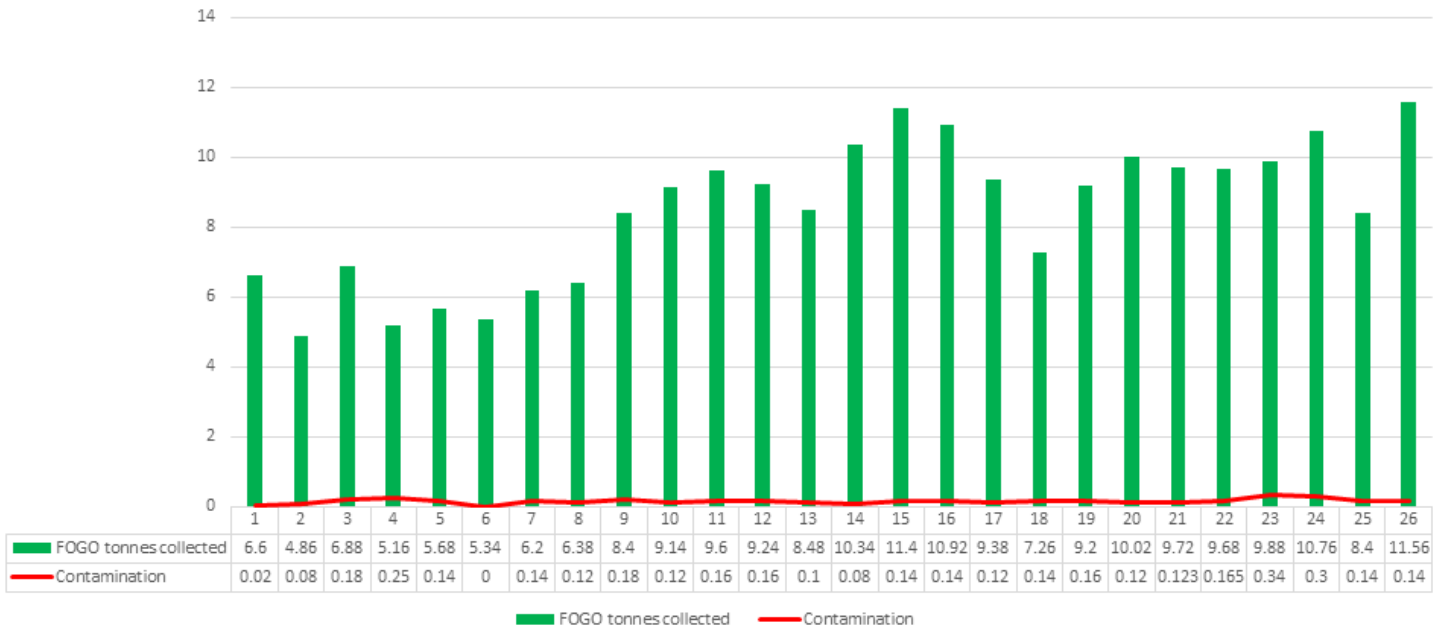
Residents who are separating their food and organic waste into the new FOGO bin have noticed how easy it is to separate their organic waste and show that good waste separation will produce lower general, red bin waste and landfill.

As an added bonus, we have now completed our first compost batch from the FOGO green bin waste which will be trialled as a soil conditioner in community parks and gardens

The FOGO bin accepts all garden waste, including trimmings, clippings and pruning; meat (including bones) and dairy; eggshells; seafood; leftover take away food; vegetable and fruit scraps; tissues, paper towels and shredded paper.

A tree planting day utilising FOGO material is also being planned at Cahill Park, Gatton for next month.

Total weekly tonnes diverted



LANDFILL IS REACHING CAPACITY

Council’s Gatton Landfill is nearing the end of its landfilling capacity and, when landfilling is no longer an option in the Lockyer Valley, Council will be faced with increased transport costs and gate fees to take our waste to a commercial landfill outside the region. These costs will ultimately be passed onto ratepayers so making our landfill last helps keep costs down for ratepayers.

LEVY ON WASTE

The Queensland Government has introduced a levy on waste sent to landfill. In coming years, this will cost Council around \$1 million per year. Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill reduces this cost burden on Council and, ultimately, ratepayers.

FOOD AND GARDEN WASTE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Food and garden organic waste is around half of your household waste stream and it’s a valuable material that can be converted to compost and used to improve soils.

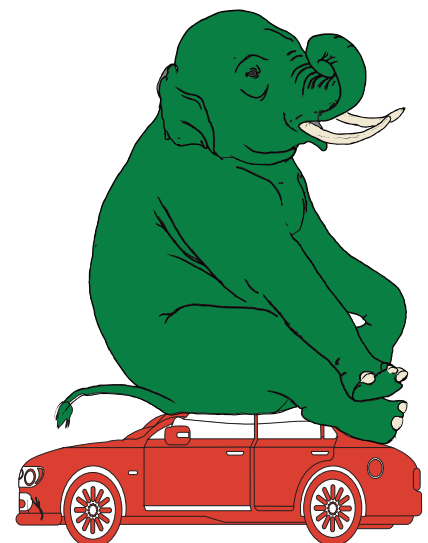
CARBON EMISSIONS

You have probably heard of carbon emissions (CO₂) in the news regarding global warming.

CO₂e, or carbon dioxide equivalent, is a standard unit for measuring carbon footprints. The idea is to express the impact of each different greenhouse gas in terms of the amount of CO₂ that would create the same amount of warming. That way, a carbon footprint consisting of lots of different greenhouse gases can be expressed as a single number.

We offset carbon through a process called sequestration—and no, this isn’t just a tricky spelling bee term. Sequestration is the process of finding ways to negate the carbon that’s being emitted.

In 26 weeks of the FOGO trial we have saved 251 tonnes of carbon emissions which equates to approximately 63 cars being taken off the road for 12 months!



FOGO



Council would like to thank you for participating in the FOGO trial and choosing the right bin to create a sustainable future for the Lockyer Valley.

Scan the QR code for more information and to keep updated on the trial.

General Waste



- Nappies
- Soft Plastics and Plastic Bags
- Broken Crockery and Glassware
- Clothes and Rags
- Ropes and Hoses
- Polystyrene
- Plastic forks
- Feminine Products



- No Recyclables
- No Food Waste
- No Green Waste

Recyclables



- Paper and Cardboard
- Aluminum cans and trays
- Steel and aerosol cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Milk and juice cartons
- Plastic containers
- Long life cartons



- No Plastic Bags
- No Paints and Oils
- No Food / Green Waste
- No Polystyrene and Foam

FOGO



- All food waste including;
- Eggs and dairy
- Meat and bones
- Tea bags and coffee
- Bread and pasta
- Pet waste/ litter
- Grass clippings
- Pruning and weeds
- Fruit and veggies
- Tissues and serviettes
- Paper and dust



- No Plastic Bags
- No Nappies
- No Food containers
- No Glass

UNSURE of which bin?



Do you have a waste item and are unsure which bin it goes in?
Text your waste item to **0417 416 223** and we will help!



Share your FOGO experience and get involved in educational material for residents around the importance of FOGO. Email fogo@lvrc.qld.gov.au for more details!