



**Rethink your  
commercial food  
waste recycling  
and reap  
the rewards**

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**REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.**

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CITY OF  
**GOLDCOAST.**

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# About food waste recycling

The City of Gold Coast is inviting you to rethink the way you dispose of the food waste generated by your business.

We now offer better ways to deal with food waste that are great for business and even better for our city's environment.

Our new commercial food recycling service provides you with an economical and responsible way to dispose of food waste. To support you on your food waste recycling journey, the City will:

- Work with you to understand the needs of your business.
- Provide tailored solutions.
- Help to reduce your waste collection costs.
- Support you to fulfil growing customer expectations for minimising waste.
- Make it easy to make the change.





## Reap the rewards

Changing the way your business deals with food waste makes growing commercial sense. More and more customers now want to know the story of the food they're eating – and what happens to anything they've been unable to consume.

We can divert your food waste from landfill to produce compost, returning the nutrients it contains back to the soil.

By composting your food waste, everyone's a winner. Your business can expect reduced waste costs, your customers will thank you for doing the right thing and our city benefits from an increased number of businesses rethinking their approach to food recycling.

\* City of Gold Coast Food Recycling Trial and Waste Audit 2017.

*Approximately 29,000 tonnes of commercial food waste is lost at our local landfills every year.*

*Nearly 50% of the waste from the Gold Coast's hospitality industry is food waste.\**



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# The food to earth cycle



Your food scraps will be recycled into compost so must be free of all unacceptable items. Both cooked and uncooked food is acceptable.

# Customer spotlight

## The Kitchens, Robina Town Centre

Since opening its doors in November 2016, Robina Town Centre's *The Kitchens* has been implementing a smarter process for its food waste, in partnership with City of Gold Coast.

Described as 'a bustling urban marketplace' bringing together chefs, artisan sellers and food lovers, *The Kitchens* has more than 50 retailers offering flavours from around the world, food events and even a cookery school.

Here, the food waste recycling starts as food is being prepared with food waste recycling bins installed in kitchens. Street diners also have access to dedicated food waste bins and a bulk collection of food waste is provided by the City of Gold Coast.

The successful trial has proven popular with retailers and customers alike and there are plans to continue the operation long term.



"We know that our customers not only want great food but to know the story of that food, and that's where our partnership with City of Gold Coast helps us by providing a food waste service that works for our businesses and works for our customers. It means that we can complete the local food cycle by returning any food waste back to the soil via compost, including to local growers."

*Damien Stacy, Robina Town Centre*



**FOOD PREPARATION** Chefs and kitchen staff separate food waste into smaller food waste containers as they prepare food.



**DINING** Organics waste bins are alongside other general waste and recycling bins in public dining areas.



**COLLECTION** Retailers deposit their food waste for recycling into dedicated bulk collection.



**COMPOSTING AND REUSE** City of Gold Coast collects *The Kitchens'* food waste three times a week for composting and use on local gardens.

# How it works

Food waste recycling is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

- Food recycling is separated from the mixed waste stream and placed in marked food waste recycling kitchen caddies.
- Kitchen caddies are emptied into your dedicated City of Gold Coast food recycling bulk bin.
- We collect your food waste to be composted and returned to the earth.



# What food waste can be recycled?

The following types of items can be included in your food recycling bin:

Food item	Can be composted
Meat and bones (raw or cooked)	✓
Seafood including prawn and oyster shells	✓
Egg shells	✓
Fruit and vegetables	✓
Cooked food and leftovers	✓
Dairy products (excluding packaging)	✓
Tea bags	✓
Coffee grinds	✓
Paper towels	✓
Shredded paper	✓
Serviettes	✓
Bread	✓
Flowers/plants	✓

Please ensure that the following types of items are **not** included in your food recycling bin:

Contaminated item	Cannot be composted
Disposable plates and cutlery	✗
Cigarette butts	✗
Polystyrene/meat trays	✗
Shrink wrap	✗
String	✗
Candles	✗
Plastic (bottles, film, wrap)	✗
Milk cartons	✗
Aluminium foil	✗
Waxed paper and waxed cardboard	✗
Packaged foods	✗
Lids and corks	✗
Coffee cups	✗

# Make the change

## Switching to our food recycling service is easy and can reduce your waste costs.

With just a few minor changes we'll soon have you up and running with a customised food recycling service that is both practical and financially beneficial, while being better for our environment.

## Support to make the change

We'll work with you over a transition period to help you adapt your processes for the new service.

As part of the commercial food recycling service, we'll provide you with:



A comprehensive start-up kit including kitchen caddies, training and education materials



24/7 on call customer support



Customised waste solutions resulting in real savings



Local area officer dedicated to your business



Ongoing expert food recycling guidance and support



## Reduce waste service costs

The food recycling service will replace some of your regular waste collection for any food recycling that you divert. You'll notice the value for money this can achieve, as the cost of our food recycling service is less than your regular waste service.

Call us on 07 5581 6799 or email [wasteadmin@goldcoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:wasteadmin@goldcoast.qld.gov.au) to find out more!

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### For information

P 07 5582 9399

E [wasteadmin@goldcoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:wasteadmin@goldcoast.qld.gov.au)

W [cityofgoldcoast.com.au/foodrecycling](http://cityofgoldcoast.com.au/foodrecycling)

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