

3 Bin System

Top tips for summer

Factsheet



Prevention is the Key:

- A fly is more likely to lay eggs in your waste BEFORE it is placed in the bin. Therefore, it is important to keep your waste covered and place it in the bin as soon as possible.
- Maggots only exist if flies have been allowed to have access to your rubbish.
- Although maggots are unpleasant, they are not a health hazard.



Remove food and place food scraps in kitchen caddy right away.



Keep your kitchen food waste bin out of direct sunlight, preferably in a cupboard to prevent flies.

Tips to eliminate fly access

- Ensure all your bin lids close completely, and are stored in the shade in a well ventilated area. If your bin is broken, cracked or you are in need of a larger red or yellow bin please contact (02) 6670 2400.
- Empty your inside bins more frequently, every day or every other day.
- Remove food and place food scraps in kitchen caddy right away. Leaving food scraps exposed allows flies to lay eggs.
- Freeze meat, bones and seafood scraps and place them in your green bin on your collection day.
- Make sure you close (or lock - using the handle) your kitchen caddy and waste bin lids. This prevents flies and pests getting into your waste and laying eggs.
- Tie up compostable liners tight in a knot.

- Keep your kitchen food waste bin out of direct sunlight, preferably in a cupboard to prevent flies.
- Place green bin out for weekly collection (even it is not full).
- Rinse food packaging (recyclable and non-recyclable) before putting it in the yellow and red bins. Rinsing yoghurt pots, meat trays and other packaging will help reduce smells.
- Use thick pet food bags to dispose of pet waste and keep in a cool place before placing in red bin on collection day.
- Pet waste can also be placed in compostable bags before placing in the red bin on collection day.
- Wherever possible, dispose of waste from nappy in the toilet, then place nappy in a plastic bag, before placing in red bin.
- If you are using nappy specific plastic bags, bag them twice as they are thinner than regular plastic bags.
- Try not to buy, prepare or throw away more food than you need to. Plan your food menus and use your leftovers. Visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.nsw.gov.au for tips on how to cut down your food wastage, save money and reduce your impact on the environment.
- Consider other options, instead of disposal nappies use cloth diapers. Alternatively consider using cloth diapers at home and disposable nappies when away from home.

Further resources and information on cloth diapers can be found at www.australiannappyassociation.org.au or visit Council's webpage <https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/property-rates/waste-recycling/reusable-nappy-rebate> to discover how we support parents & guardians in our community to switch from disposable to reusable nappies.

Tips for fly deterrents

- Place garden waste at the bottom of your green bin before food waste is placed in.
- Layer your green bin with food organics AND garden organics. This helps reduce flies from getting to your food.



- Keep clean and tidy. Wash out your bins regularly. Good hygiene in the home is the best prevention.
- Purchase low cost products to eliminate insects and deodorise your green and red bin for months. (Some examples provided, however there is a range available in stores.)



- Before waste is placed into the green or red bin pour a capsule of daily household products to repel insects and deodorise your bins such as cloves, borax, vinegar or apple cider vinegar, eucalyptus oil, pine sol and witch hazel. Lemongrass and clove oil can also be used. (Some examples provided, however there is a range available in stores.)



- Wipe up spills inside your kitchen bin and wash or disinfect regularly both inside and out.
- Keep fly deterring plants and herbs near or on kitchen window sills such as lavender, marigolds, basil and mint, rosemary and citronella.

If you do have an incident

- Most maggots will go when your bin is emptied, however it is also a good idea to clean and disinfect your bin once it has been emptied to kill eggs.
- Maggots and fly eggs can be killed with boiling water and/or salt.