

Garden Organics Management – Mt Vincent Waste Management Centre

Maitland City Council implemented a kerbside organics collection service in March 2017. Up until this time, vegetation was accepted at the Mt Vincent Rd Waste Management Centre (MVWMC) free of charge on Saturdays and Sundays. With the introduction of the kerbside organics collection service a fee of \$50 per tonne was introduced for vegetation delivered on weekends. A fee of \$189 applied to vegetation delivered on week days. Since 1 July 2018, the same fee has been applied for the receipt of vegetation irrespective of whether the material was delivered on weekdays or weekend days.

While vegetation was received on weekends free of charge, significant quantities were received with a commensurate high number of vehicle movements. At this time, vehicles frequently queued in front of the entry gate and onto Mt Vincent Road prior to the facility being opened at 8.15 am. With the introduction of the kerbside organics collection service in conjunction with the application of fees for the receipt of vegetation on weekends, the quantities of vegetation received and number of vehicle movements have significantly reduced. The following table provides a summary of vehicle movements between 8.00 am and 9.00 am prior and post the introduction of the kerbside organics collection service and introduction of fees for vegetation delivered on weekends:

Vehicle movements prior to the introduction of kerbside organics collection service in March 2017 (between 8.00 am – 9.00 am)					Vehicle movements post introduction of kerbside organics collection service in March 2017 (between 8.00 am – 9.00 am)				
Month	Vehicles delivering organics Saturday	All vehicles Saturday	Vehicles delivering organics Sunday	All vehicles Sunday	Month	Vehicles delivering organics Saturday	All vehicles Saturday	Vehicles delivering organics Sunday	All vehicles Sunday
Oct-15	18	30	20	31	Oct-17	5	28	1	10
Nov-15	30	42	18	31	Nov-17	7	22	3	13
Dec-15	3	7	3	8	Dec-17	5	14	0	5
Jan-16	26	33	49	74	Jan-18	5	21	2	8
Feb-16	30	37	18	25	Feb-18	1	10	2	8
Mar-16	34	50	8	13	Mar-18	2	7	7	16
Apr-16	16	24	13	26	Apr-18	8	23	5	16
May-16	19	27	13	18	May-18	8	18	2	6
Jun-16	14	28	14	27	Jun-18	4	14	4	15
Jul-16	9	13	12	20	Jul-18	0	15	0	12
Aug-16	12	19	12	21	Aug-18	3	17	1	7
Sep-16	16	39	8	19	Sep-18	1	15	4	16
Oct-16	28	36	12	30	Oct-18	3	11	0	13
Nov-16	25	49	14	23	Nov-18	7	28	3	16
Dec-16	41	53	0	0	Dec-18	7	17	6	12
Jan-17	24	30	17	25	Jan-19	2	14	1	8
Feb-17	30	41	11	12	Feb-19	1	12	1	6
Average	22	33	14	24		4	17	3	11

Since July 2017, the number of vehicles queuing prior to the site being opened on weekends is estimated to be about 3-4 vehicles. This low number can be accommodated on site without the need for any vehicles queuing onto Mt Vincent Road.

Until March 2017, all vegetation received at the MVWMC was stockpiled on site before being mulched approximately 1 – 2 times per annum. The resulting product was placed in windrows for pasteurisation and then made available to residents. Since March 2017, all vegetation has been removed from the site on a monthly basis. Organics are collected without prior size reduction or other form of processing. As a result organics processing other than loading them onto collection trucks is no longer undertaken at the MVWMC.

The following table shows the quantities of vegetation received prior and post the introduction of the kerbside organics collection service and the introduction of fees for the receipt of vegetation on weekends:

Year	tonnage received	mulch/vegetation removed
13/14	4,896	1,270
14-15	5,849	1,028
15-16	5,313	2,922
16-17	3,684	2,086
17-18	954	4,458
18-19 (projected to full year)	1,559	1,970

The table above shows that during 2017-18 a much larger quantity of vegetation was removed from the site than was received. This is the result of stockpiles of vegetation from previous years being removed.

Since July 2018, the median monthly quantity of garden organics stored at the MVWMC has been 178 tonnes. Prior to vegetation being regularly removed, up to 5,000 tonnes of vegetation and mulch were stockpiled on site.