



To all residents of Silverwoods,

In December 2014, Moira Shire Council introduced a three bin system which added a green-lidded organics bin to its kerbside waste service. The introduction of the green bin was to:

- divert organics from the Cobram landfill and extend its life;
- protect the environment; and
- provide best practice waste services to residents.

Preceding the service introduction, there was a comprehensive education program designed to assist residents in using the green bin correctly. As a result, Moira Shire and its residents achieved the lowest contamination rate in Australia (0.4%) and were rewarded with a 2015 Premiers Sustainability Award.

It costs a lot of money to remove contamination; therefore a low contamination rate is the best way to ensure the lowest possible service charge for your green bin. Alternatively, high contamination will inevitably result in an increased service charge.

Unfortunately, as the Silverwoods estate has grown, the local contamination rate has risen from 0.4% to 1.6% - four times the shire average. The most common types of contamination appear to be plastic bottles (recyclable), cardboard (recyclable) and plastic bags (general waste). Even plastic bags full of clean organics are considered to be contamination; all of these items are not compostable and should not be placed in your green bin.

It is understood that many new residents in Silverwoods were not in Moira Shire during the rollout of this service and therefore did not receive the educational material. Therefore, please find enclosed Councils kerbside waste service guide. This easy to read guide should answer all your waste related queries including how to use each bin properly.

Additionally, you can download the **'Waste Management in Moira'** app that is free to all iOS and Android devices.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and please do not hesitate to contact Council if you have further questions.

Kind regards,

Sally Rice
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