

Waste Management Changes— Frequently Asked Questions

June 2021



Are the Port Germein & Wirrabara Waste Transfer Stations closing?

Yes. These will be permanently closed.

Why has Council decided to close these Waste Transfer Stations?

Council has made a decision to close the respective waste transfer stations based on risk management, ongoing and increasing operational costs and aligns with Council's need to ensure there is focus on the ability to manage the increasing demand for recycling.

When will Wirrabara and Port Germein Transfer Stations close?

Port Germein Waste Transfer Station is already closed and will not reopen based on Council's recent decision to close the site permanently.

The Wirrabara Waste Transfer Station will formally close on 30 June 2021.

What about green waste?

Council will transition to a fortnightly bin service for green waste. As of July 1 2021, Green waste will no longer be free to dispose at the Transfer Stations.

Council will be working with our kerbside waste contractor (Clare Valley Waste) to begin rolling out the new green bins and provide new waste calendars, aiming to be ready by the end of July.

These bins will be provided to every property currently receiving the mandatory service and will be an 'opt in' for those residents/ratepayers whom choose. Presently Council has over 150 residences that choose to opt in for additional kerbside collections.

What can be put into a Green Bin?

Green waste bins can accept garden and kitchen organic waste only. This includes kitchen organic scraps, prunings, weeds, grass clippings, leaves and flowers. Items should not be in plastic bags, and bin liners should not be used, as plastic contaminates green waste.

Can go in:



- Fruit and vegetables
- Egg shells
- Seafood, meat and bones
- Shredded paper towels / paper tissues
- Dairy Products - cheese / yoghurt
- Bread, cake, pasta and rice
- Teabags/tea leaves, coffee grinds
- Hair / Fur
- Flowers, herbs, plants & leaves
- Prunings (less than 100mm in diameter and 800mm in length)
- Grass clippings
- Weeds
- Fallen leaves / flowers
- Old torn / shredded newspapers
- Sawdust (only from untreated timber)

Can't go in:



- Diseased plants
- Cans/Jars - metals and glass
- Ceramic products
- Plastic bags & any plastic products
- Large branches
- Magazines
- Plastic pots, garden tool / hoses
- Sharps
- Nappies
- Cigarette butts or ash
- Kitty litter
- Household garbage
- Textile material – e.g. clothing
- Vacuum dust
- Personal hygiene products
- Baking paper
- Bricks
- Animal fats or oils

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Will there be an increase to the annual waste charge?

Yes. Service charges can only be used as a mechanism to cover associated costs with the service being charged. The revenue collected from such a charge can also only be used for the purposes in which they have been raised. This means that all revenue collected from the annual waste charge is only to be used to offset costs against Council's management of waste.

The waste management charge will increase to include the cost of the new bin in the first year with collection, then each subsequent year will just include the collection.

Where will I be able to take my waste?

If residents still wish to take larger amounts of waste (which can include items from around the household, green waste, and hard rubbish items) these will still be able to be deposited at the Willowie site. The costs for this will be listed at the Willowie site and on Council's website.

The public is also able to take their waste to any appropriate waste site, including those at surrounding towns such as Port Pirie (Three Chain Road) or Port Augusta (Footner Road).

What is happening with the Willowie Landfill site?

Operational changes will be made at the Willowie Landfill site. Presently Willowie is designated as a landfill site, however Council has opted to make application to relevant regulators to seek a change in model to change this to a waste transfer station. In doing so, it then becomes consistent with the South Australia Waste Strategy 2020-2025 and also enables Council to actively recycle the waste rather than putting it into landfill.

The proposed changes would see a private operator manage the site in regards to waste disposal, collection and transport, however Council is proposing to open Willowie to the public every second Saturday morning from 9am until 11:30am.

The public will still be able to dispose of appropriate waste through the transfer station model at Willowie and fees and charges will be reviewed to be more consistent with the costs of managing such waste.

If my bin is not collected, or my bin is damaged, who should I contact?

Clare Valley Waste has been contracted by Council to manage the kerbside bin collection. If your bin is not collected or is damaged, you should contact Clare Valley Waste on 0438 884 340, 8842 1500, waste@cvws.com.au.

If you are wishing to raise a query in relation to the waste charge, or, you are looking to 'opt in' to a kerbside bin service, you should contact Council on 8666 2014, postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au.