

Disposing of nappies and other hygiene products

Fact Sheet



Tweed Shire Council is going to a 3 Bin System* for its waste collection service from 1 July 2017. This will mean changes to the frequency of the red bin collection and placing ALL food waste into the new weekly organics collection (if you are in the urban footprint).

Our community's aim is less to landfill

Along with the community, Council has a state target to achieve 70% of waste from our landfill (currently we are only at 42%). To do this, we need to work harder to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle more resources.

There are some products which cannot be recycled and must continue to be placed in your red bin. Single use, disposable nappies and hygiene products cannot be recycled, nor can they be composted. They belong in the red-lid bin.

Tweed has consulted with other Councils that have implemented this best practice collection service and they have not reported an ongoing issue with disposal nappies

Advice on how to dispose:

- Dispose as much solid waste as possible.
- Wrap dirty nappies tightly in a nappy sack or plastic bag
- Specially-designed nappy bins wrap the nappies as they are placed in the bin. Search nappy disposal units on the internet.
- Use smaller bags that can be closed tightly or double wrapped before placing them in the bin. This will reduce the amount of air circulating around the dirty nappies and reduce the smell.
- Store the red-lid landfill bin in the shade and out of direct sunlight.

*This service will only apply to domestic urban households. Rural households and Multi Unit Developments (unless they already have a green-lid bin service) will remain on the 2 Bin System at this time.



- Make sure your red landfill bin lid closes properly and there are no cracks in the bin's sides.
- Place a small amount of an odour control agent in the bottom of your bin to repel flies and odours. You can use natural products such as vinegar, eucalyptus/mint oil or crystals.

Disposing of nappies and other hygiene products continued ...



Consider other options:

- To control odours in your bin, you may like to try commercial products such as the Vm Purefier odour control pads or Bin Bombs. Visit www.vm3purefier.com or www.binbombs.com.au
- There are now many modern nappy systems available that use either cloth or compostable inserts with a fitted cloth outer. Search cloth nappies on the internet for stock lists.

Facts Nappy Trial – Lake Macquarie City Council, 2014 - (100 Households)

- The average odour of a red landfill bin with nappy waste for a week was approximately the same as the average odour rating of a nappy bin at the end of a fortnight.
- The amount of nappies in the bin also did not have a significant effect on the odour rating of the bin.
- Wrapping soiled nappies in at least one plastic bag and keeping it out of the sun are both key odour management behaviours.

Did You Know?

Every disposable nappy that has ever been disposed of in the red-lid bin is still sitting in landfill as they take centuries to break down.

For further information on Tweed Shire Council's waste services, visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/BinServices