WHAT WE HEARD

Kerbside Community Consultation

Over our kerbside community consultation period, Moira residents had the opportunity to share comments and concerns about both the introduction of a glass bin and changes of bin collection frequency. Here is what we heard.

You asked why we need a glass bin when we already put glass in your yellow lid recycling bin.
By separating glass from your mixed recycling, you will be improving the recyclability of all materials. Currently, glass is broken, crushed, and embedded in cardboard, paper, and plastic, contaminating these materials and reducing their quality and ability to be recycled, often ending up in landfill. Smaller fragments of glass also end up not being recycled. By separating glass effectively, it ensures all glass is recycled, including glass shards.

You told us you don't have a lot of glass to recycle, you get your 10c refund or reuse a lot of your glass bottles and jars.
Glass, even 1 jar, when mixed with other materials, shatters and contaminates other materials. To ensure glass is removed from the recycling bin, all households with a yellow lid recycling bin will be allocated a purple lid glass bin. The purple lid glass bin takes additional glass products that the 10c refund does not accept, such as sauce and wine bottles and jam jars. Households with minimal glass waste will have the option to apply for a smaller 80L purple lid glass bin.

You asked if we can opt out of having a purple lid glass bin.
To ensure households are separating their glass from other recycling items, households with a yellow lid recycling bin will be receiving a 120L purple lid glass bin. It is a Victorian Government requirement that all households have access to a separate glass recycling service and glass products will not be accepted in your yellow lid recycling bin from 2027. We believe the most efficient way to ensure these items are separated, is by providing an additional kerbside service.

You want to know why we can't stay the same.
To remain the same is not sustainable, we need to improve our waste habits. Our current kerbside waste system is inefficient with many items not sorted correctly and ending up in landfill. Each year, Moira Shire residents are landfilling over 3,000,000kgs of recyclable or compostable materials. State and Federal Governments have set targets of diverting 80% of waste from landfill by 2030. Moira's kerbside waste currently sits at 55% diversion. By transitioning to a more frequent food and garden organic collection, we hope to drive behaviour change to reduce food waste in landfill bins and create cleaner recycling streams.

You said it would be easier to transition from weekly to fortnightly if you had a larger red lid landfill bin.
If your household does generate greater waste, you can apply for an additional or larger landfill bin, however fees will apply. Currently, requests for additional landfill bins at no extra cost are only available to households with special considerations, such as medical reasons. We encourage all residents to consider what items they are putting into their landfill bin and ensure they cannot be recycled or composted.

You told us your landfill bin is full with a weekly collection and how will you cope moving to a fortnightly collection.
Firstly, we encourage everyone to look at what they are putting into their landfill bin. Are these items recyclable or compostable? If so, please use the appropriate bin. Moira Shire offers many ways to recycle other than your kerbside recycling bin. We want to help you reduce what goes into your landfill bin. Top things to consider when disposing of your household waste:

- Putting all food waste into your green lid organics bin
- Polystyrene can be taken to any Resource Recovery Centre for FREE

Moira Shire Council
ABN: 20 538 141 700
Post: PO Box 578, Cobram, Vic 3643

Cobram Administration Centre:
44 Station Street, Cobram
Yarrawonga Service Centre:
100 Belmore Street, Yarrawonga

Phone: 03 5871 9222
Fax: 03 5872 1567
NRS: 133 677

Email: info@moira.vic.gov.au
moira.vic.gov.au

- Have you considered the additional recycling options Moira Shire offer, such as soft plastics and textiles/clothing?

For more information, head to our website.

You questioned the waste build up over peak periods such as Christmas and how we will stop rubbish dumping.
We are looking at incorporating additional collections of landfill and recycling bins over peak holiday periods, such as Easter and Christmas. We will also continue to supply drop-off points for camper's waste and recycling at 9 sites over the Moira Shire. Residents are encouraged to report any illegal dumping. To do so:

- Contact the EPA litter 24hr hotline on 1300 372 842 (1300 EPA VIC)
- Visit EPA Report Litter and see the Roadside litter laws.
- Contact the Moira Shire on 03 5871 9222

You were concerned about the build-up of dirty nappies and the smell after two weeks.
If you have young children in nappies, or members of the family that rely on absorbent hygiene products, there are some simple measures you can take to minimise odour in your landfill bin. Try storing your bin in the shade out of direct sun light, if possible, use an odour neutralising product such as bicarbonate soda in your bin, and seal nappies or absorbent hygiene products tightly in plastic bags (you can use scented bags) before placing in the landfill bin. Moira Shire will be implementing a cloth nappy and reusable sanitary product rebate of 50% of the purchase price with a maximum refund of $150.

You were concerned about the smell and hygiene of your landfill bin after two weeks.
Unfortunately, bins can smell, particularly ones containing nappies, however, a community nappy trial carried out by Lake Macquarie City Council found that the smell of a landfill bin containing nappies was no worse after two weeks than it was after one week. Try storing your bin in the shade out of direct sun light, if possible, use an odour neutralising product such as bicarbonate soda in your bin.

By placing all food and garden organic materials into your green lid organics bin, and any odorous waste is wrapped, this should contain much of the smell from your red lid landfill bin.

You are worried about the lack of space for an additional bin, especially for units.
As your purple lid glass bin will be collected monthly and will have little to no odour associated with it, it may be suitable to house your glass bin in your garage or shed. We will also be offering a smaller 80L purple lid glass bin, which may assist you in finding a suitable spot for it.
Moira Shire will offer a shared glass collection service if you reside in multiple residents, unit complexes or similar, where a reduced number of bins are adequate for the volume of glass material being generated. Each application will be considered and needs to come at the request of the property owner or approved agent.

You asked why our waste charges keep increasing.
The cost of providing waste and recycling services has grown considerably in recent years and continues to increase. The Victorian Government has substantially increased the landfill levy it charges councils for waste disposal and will continue to do so. From July 2025, the Victorian EPA landfill levy for municipal waste will be increasing by nearly 30% from the 2023/24 charge. The currently landfill levy is $129.27/tonne and will increase to $167.90/tonne. One of the key purposes of the waste levy is to help reduce waste, encouraging waste generators to look for ways to reduce the amount of waste generated and sent to landfill. This increase will encourage more recycling and reduce waste going to landfill.

You asked how we are going assist rural households with no kerbside organics.
All households and properties have access to our 9 free organic drop-off points at all Resource Recovery Centres across Moira Shire. Kitchen caddies and rolls of compostable bags are available at no charge. If your rural household is on the organics kerbside route, you may be eligible for a kerbside organics service but will need to contact Council to confirm.