

Organics

In Australia, 7.5 million tonnes of food is wasted every year at a cost of \$8 billion¹

Almost half of Australia's waste could be converted into compost and returned to our soil systems²

Saving one-quarter of currently wasted food would feed 870 million people³

Mulched or composted organics are a valuable nutrient dense material which can help soil retain water and assist plant growth⁴

14% of the world's CO₂ emissions are caused by food waste⁵

50,000 litres of water is used to produce 1kg of beef¹

1. Future Directions International
2. Zero Waste SA
3. Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
4. Clean up Australia
5. CSIRO

Organic waste is organic material such as food, garden and lawn clippings. It can also include animal and plant based material and degradable carbon such as timber.

The recovery and recycling of garden and food organics reduces greenhouse gasses as well as water consumption, and protects our soil resources - one of the earth's most complex and biologically diverse ecosystems.⁵

ORGANICS

What happens to organics?

Collection

Garden and food organics are collected from homes and businesses, and sent to an Organic Resource Recovery Facility



Decontamination

Contaminants such as steel, plastic, glass, bricks and general waste are manually removed



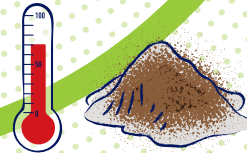
Shredding and stacking

The remaining organic material is shredded into smaller pieces and stacked in windrows. These are kept moist and turned regularly over a period of 16-20 weeks



Composting

Micro-organisms break down the material and heat is generated, destroying weeds and pathogens. Temperatures can range between 50°C and 70°C. Laboratory testing ensures that compost complies with standards



Recycled organics

The final product is ready to be used in horticulture, agriculture, landscaping, garden centres, rehabilitation and other end markets, returning nutrients and essential minerals to the soil and improving plant growth



Screening and grading

Compost is screened into required sizes. Different grades of compost are required for different applications

