



Managing Australia's Organic Waste

In 2016–17, **Australians generated about 30 million tonnes of organic waste and sent 6.7 million tonnes to landfill.**



Organic waste includes food, garden, timber, agricultural and hazardous organic waste (i.e. sludge from grease traps and abattoir waste).

Organic waste sent to landfill generates about 3% of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.

When organic waste goes to landfill, we can't turn it into useful products that boost our economy and create jobs.

About **75% of the organic waste we send to landfill comes from food and our gardens.**



28% of Australians have their **food and garden organic waste (FOGO)** collected by their local council.

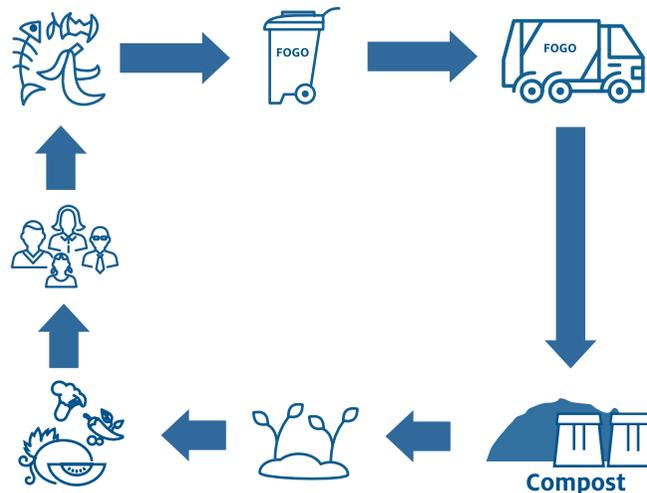
Another 40% have their garden organic waste (GO) collected.

Australia's governments have agreed to **halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill by 2030 through the National Waste Policy.**

This will help Australia meet its 2030 targets to:

- **reduce the annual total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person**
- **recover and reuse 80% of our different types of waste.**

Australia's governments will also significantly increase FOGO collection services for households and businesses.



If we recovered 95% of our organic waste, we could **create over 4,000 new jobs and add \$612 million to the Australian economy every year.**

Reusing our organic waste recognises that it is a valuable resource

It can be processed to increase its value and used in products including compost, cosmetics, alcohol and biofuels.

For example:

Businesses can **sell their organic waste** to be turned into energy or to create compost or fertiliser.

Households can save money by reducing the amount of food they throw out.

If your food and garden waste is not collected by your council, consider using a compost bin or worm farm. The **nutrient rich compost can be used on your plants or garden.**



Our waste. Our responsibility.

