



A brief history of recycling in the Hornsby Shire

1990's - The first Chemical Cleanout event occurred where residents could bring solvents, paints, acids and alkalis and other chemicals to the waste management depot for recycling. This was done by Sydney Water. Hornsby Shire Council began running Chemical Cleanout events approx 2005. Chemical Cleanouts now occur approximately 3 days per year in the Hornsby Shire area.

1991 – Council started planning for a new era of waste management.

1992 – Council resolved to no longer use the Shire for waste disposal.

1992 - Kerbside recycling started in the Hornsby Shire with a crate system. Items such as newspapers were sorted by residents and bundled and tied together for kerbside collection. Plastic (numbers 1 & 2 only) and glass bottles and aluminium cans were placed in a crate and the garbage collectors separated them into different bags in the truck.

1993 – Investigations into composting facilities began.

Mid to late 1990's - Council undertook audits and trials of different waste and recycling systems to determine a new bin system for the shire. These trials were very successful and continue until late the 1990's.

1995 – State Government introduced the Waste Minimisation and Management Act 1995.

1997 – New Waste Management Strategy was adopted by Council.

1998 – Hornsby Shire Council introduced collection of green waste (organic, garden waste) as a bundled and tied system.

Late 1990's - Waste boards were formed under the Waste Minimisation and Management Act 1995 to lead the waste management industry within the region.

1999 – Council again looked into green waste disposal options.



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2001 – Council's Waste minimisation and management strategy was updated to include the results of the bin trials and audits. It recommended the Shire go to a 3 bin recycling and garbage system.

2001 – Council went to Tender for a new garbage and recycling collection service.

2002- The new system was introduced in 2002 as a 3 bin system and recycling, green waste and general waste was collected in three separate bins. *Waste. It's not such a prickly problem!* was the slogan used. Hornsby was one of the first Councils to increase its recycling plastic containers from numbers 1 & 2 to 1-5 and collect steel cans.

2003 – Safe needle disposal began at 11 pharmacies throughout the shire.

Approx 2003 - The first Chipping Day occurred where residents could bring their bulky green waste that doesn't fit into their green lid bin to be transformed into mulch they could then use on their gardens. By 2005 Chipping Days occurred regularly. Chipping days now occur approximately 15 days of the year.

2004 – Plastic recycling was increase to include plastic containers numbered 1-7.

2006 - The 'bin crew' were created following research that suggested a consistent logo would encourage residents to recycle and use the new three bin system to its full capacity.

Approx 2007 - First e-waste collection occurred at the waste management depot. Since then, there have been two e-waste collection weekends a year (4 days where residents can drop off their electronic waste for recycling).

Approx 2008 - Drop off of household size batteries for recycling began at the waste management depot.

Approx 2008 - Drop off of light globes for recycling began at the waste management depot.

1 March 2010 - Trial e-waste drop off at Council's waste management depot begins for a period of six months.



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