



Mark Speakman
Minister for the Environment

MEDIA RELEASE

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GREEN BIN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES EXPANDED IN NSW

Seven NSW Councils have been awarded grants totalling \$3.5 million to introduce or expand kerbside green bin organic waste collection services, under the NSW government's Local Government Organics Collection Systems Grants Program.

Environment Minister Mark Speakman said a total of 38 councils had been awarded government funding to provide kerbside organic waste collection to more than 234,000 NSW households, following this program's third round of grants.

"The government is working hard to meet its ambitious target of ensuring 70 per cent of NSW homes have kerbside organic waste collection services by 2017," Mr Speakman said.

"With the inclusion of the seven new councils announced today we are now close to achieving this objective."

There are now 92 councils servicing 1,977,000 households in NSW with green bin collections. This includes the 38 councils awarded funding by the government to introduce new or improved services.

"This accounts for 69 per cent of all households which is only just short of the government's target of 70 percent," Mr Speakman said.

"The new organics kerbside collection services make a big difference in the amount of household waste being recovered and recycled in NSW rather than sent to landfill."

The councils awarded funding under round three of the Local Government Organics Collection Systems Grants Program are: Dubbo City, Kempsey Shire, Mid-Western Regional, Murray Shire, Narromine Shire, Shellharbour City and Wagga Wagga City.

This program is funded through the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative, which is a five year \$465.7 million NSW Government program designed to transform waste management and recycling in NSW.

For more information visit: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/lgo.htm>