What are we throwing away?

Brisbane City Council research from 2015 shows the average Brisbane general waste wheelie bin contains only 28% of actual waste, and more than 72% of other materials that could be recycled or composted.

More than 17% of the average general waste bin contains items that could have been recycled instead in the bin with the yellow lid.

More than 55% of the average general waste bin is garden waste and/or food scraps that could have been recycled in a compost bin or worm farm.

Throwing away these items in the general waste bin is a waste of valuable and often non-renewable resources as well a waste of money. Recycling waste materials reduces the volume of waste to landfill, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, helps eliminate non-biodegradable waste, and promotes a clean and green city.

The diagram below shows what the average Brisbane household throws away in their general waste bin each week. The contents of general waste bins are sent to landfill.

As you can see:

More than 17% of the bin contains items that could have been put in the household recycling bin.

More than **55%** of the bin contains garden waste and/ or kitchen scraps that could have been recycled in a compost bin or worm farm.



