Disposal of Waste Free of Charge Policy

Council Policy - Strategic	
Corporate Plan Link:	Our Healthy Environments
Policy Owner:	City Operations
Responsible Manager:	Manager Waste and Resource Recovery
Date Approved by Council:	7 October 2026
Effective Date:	1 July 2027
Next Review Date:	30 June 2029
Version:	5.0

Purpose

This policy provides a clear and consistent framework for determining who is eligible to dispose of domestic waste and recyclable materials free of charge at Moreton Bay City Council waste management facilities. The policy supports equitable access to waste services while ensuring Council's waste management facilities are used appropriately and sustainably.

Statement

City of Moreton Bay (Council), through its Corporate Plan, is committed to providing services that deliver our community's shared vision: *Our Moreton Bay. Amazing places. Natural spaces*. This policy supports the outcomes and objectives of the Environment and Sustainability Strategy.

1. Eligible city residents, eligible ratepayers, Council approved events, community groups and charitable organisations are entitled to free disposal of general waste, clean concrete and clean soil at Council's waste management facilities within the limits prescribed in Table 1.

2. Domestic garden organics can be disposed free of charge and is not subject to the limits in Table 1.

3. Where a person is not able to present the required identification proving their residency or ownership within the city or a current Waste Disposal Authority, they will be charged to dispose of the waste or recyclable material in accordance with Council's Fees and Charges Schedule current at the time of disposal.

4. Waste not eligible for free disposal includes:
   (a) All commercial / industrial waste (C&I), unless specified in Table 2;
   (b) All regulated waste, unless specified in Table 2;
   (c) All waste in excess of the limits specified in Table 1 and/or the current fee schedule;
   (d) Any waste delivered on behalf of an eligible resident or an eligible ratepayer for a fee or reward; and
   (e) All waste with a moisture content of more than 10% and other hazardous materials, including explosives and hot embers.

5. On receipt of an **Application for Waste Disposal Authority**, the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee is authorised to:
   (a) Issue Waste Disposal Authorities to dispose waste fre
   (b) e of charge at Council's waste management facilities, as referred to in Table 2;
   (c) Issue appropriate Waste Disposal Authorities for the disposal of waste free of charge at Council's waste management facilities should extenuating or special circumstances apply;
   (d) Administer the terms of this Policy;
   (e) Apply additional terms and conditions in relation to disposal requirements and locations; and
   (f) Reimburse waste disposal fees charged at Council's waste management facilities where extenuating circumstances apply.

TABLE 1

Date and Year	Eligible waste disposal limits
1 July 2027	2.5 tonnes and/or 20 visits (whichever is reached first)
1 July 2028	2 tonnes and/or 15 visits (whichever is reached first)
1July 2029	1.5 tonnes and/or 12 visits (whichever is reached first)
1July 2030	1 tonne and/or 10 visits (whichever is reached first)

The limits from 1 July 2029 and 1 July 2030 be subject to review by the Council prior to 1 July 2029.

TABLE 2

Disposer	Type of Vehicle	Entitlements
Eligible resident or eligible ratepayer (with the presentation of the required identification)	Domestic vehicle and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Free waste disposal as per Table 1: • Additional limits apply to select products, as per current fee schedule and/or Council's website. • Any waste in excess of the above will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.
Friend or relative or volunteer, disposing of waste on behalf of eligible residents or ratepayers (where the service is not provided for fee or reward)	Domestic vehicle and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Waste Disposal Authorities are required in all instances and applied as per Table 1: • Additional limits apply to select products, as per current fee schedule and/or Council's website. • Any waste in excess of the above will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.
Owner of vacant land	Domestic vehicle and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Waste Disposal Authorities are required in all instances and will be limited to: • Unlimited garden organics only. • All other waste will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.
Council approved community groups, sporting organisations and charitable organisations	Domestic and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Waste Disposal Authorities are required in all instances and applied as per Table 1: • Waste levy exemption certificates for eligible programs/events are to be submitted with the **Application for Waste Disposal Authority**. • Any waste in excess of the above will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.

Disposer	Type of Vehicle	Entitlements
Retirement villages and relocatable home parks	Domestic and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Free waste disposal as per Table 1: • Additional limits apply to select products, as per current fee schedule and/or Council's website. • Any waste in excess of the above will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.
Caravan parks	Domestic and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Unlimited garden organics only • All other waste will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.
Schools and other education facilities	Domestic and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Waste Disposal Authorities are required in all instances and will be limited to: • Recyclable material; and • Unlimited garden organics. • Any waste in excess of the above will be charged in accordance with Council's fees and charges schedule current at the time of disposal.
Special circumstances • Council supported events • Hardships • Projects that benefit the whole community • Bushland and waterway restoration and improvement activities • Sporting carnival/s and fetes	Domestic and commercial vehicle (Note: Commercial Vehicle less than 4.5 tonnes gross weight only)	Waste Disposal Authorities are required in all instances and will be limited to: • Two annual clean-up events per organisation or group not exceeding 2 tonnes of garden organics in total; OR • Two annual clean-up events per organisation or group not exceeding 2 tonnes of recyclable material in total. **General Waste** Separate **Application for Waste Disposal Authority** required for any waste that will incur the waste levy. Waste levy exemption certificates for eligible events are to be submitted with the **Application for Waste Disposal Authority**. Charges for any General Waste will be based on community benefit delivered.

Human Rights Commitment

Consideration has been given to the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld) when approving this policy. These human rights will also be considered in any future review of the policy.

When applying this policy, Council will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to a human right relevant to any actions or decisions in accordance with the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

Application

This policy applies to the free disposal of waste and recyclable material by eligible residents, eligible ratepayers, waste levy exempt and/or Council approved events, community groups and charitable organisations at Council's waste management facilities and waste transfer stations.

This policy does not apply to any waste delivered by a commercial operator or person or entity that provides the waste services for fees and/or reward.

Related Documents

Relevant legislation

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
- *Environmental Protection Regulation 2019*
- *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*
- *Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation 2023*
- *Moreton Bay City Council Waste Management Local Law 2018*

Council documents

- Application for Waste Disposal Authority
- Fees and Charges Schedule
- Disposal of Waste at Transfer Stations Policy

Definitions

Term	Definition
Charitable organisations	An entity that— a) operates on a not-for-profit basis; and b) is registered as a charity under the *Collections Act 1966*; and c) is a Deductible Gift Recipient for the purposes of laws administered by the Australian Taxation Office of the Commonwealth; and d) actively and consistently operates a recycling or re-use program for— (i) providing emergency assistance; or (ii) otherwise supporting the charitable purposes of the entity; and e) Holds waste levy exemption status under *the State of Queensland's waste levy legislation.*
Commercial vehicle	A vehicle registered in a business name and/ or a vehicle being used for commercial activity for a fee or reward (e,g. trucks and any other heavy vehicles exceeding 4.5 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass), excluding vehicles that meet the criteria of a domestic vehicle.
Commercial / Industrial (C&I) waste	Waste defined as C&I waste in the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation 2023* and includes waste from schools, restaurants, offices, retail and wholesale businesses, and manufacturing industries. This includes garden organics delivered by commercial operators, and waste produced by the activities associated with community groups, charitable organisations, retirement villages, relocatable home parks and caravan parks.
Community groups and sporting organisations	Churches, schools, sporting clubs, scouts and other organisations working for the benefit of the wider community.
Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste	Waste defined as C&D *waste* in the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation 2023* which is generated as a result of carrying out building work within the meaning of the *Building Act 1975*, section 5 and is non-putrescible waste arising from a construction or demolition activity. It may include materials such as brick, timber, concrete and steel.
Council	City of Moreton Bay / Moreton Bay City Council
Domestic recyclable material	Recyclable material which has been generated by residents as a result of the ordinary use or occupation of their own domestic/residential dwellings.

Term	Definition
Domestic vehicle	Any vehicle that is registered as a private use vehicle and used by a household to transport waste generated from the normal domestic activities of a residence and which is not used in connection with any commercial activity for a fee or reward. This may include vehicles that present as domestic-style vehicles (e.g. passenger vehicles, SUVs or private utilities), including those exceeding 4.5 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM), where they are being used solely for domestic purposes.
Domestic general waste	Waste resulting from the ordinary domestic use or occupation of a house, flat, apartment or unit. It does not include waste discharged to a sewer, Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Waste or Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste. Domestic waste may also be referred to as Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) or household waste. In practice, domestic general waste includes the material that householders place in their general waste bins or the mixed waste they self-deliver to Waste Management Facilities and Transfer Stations from their own residential dwellings.
Eligible (for free Domestic waste/MSW disposal)	A residential dwelling located within the city and for which the annual urban or rural waste utilities charge is paid, and the waste is **not** delivered by a commercial operator or a person/entity for fees and/or reward or in a commercial vehicle.
Eligible resident	A householder who occupies a residential dwelling in the city.
Eligible ratepayer	A ratepayer in the Moreton Bay City Council local government area.
Fee schedule	The relevant commercial and/or domestic fees and charges for waste disposal at Moreton Bay City Council's Waste Management Facilities as set by Council.
General waste	Waste (anything left over, surplus or an unwanted by-product that cannot be re-used or recycled) other than hazardous or regulated waste.
Garden organics	Grass clippings, tree, bush and shrub trimmings, branches and other similar material resulting from domestic or commercial gardening, landscaping or maintenance activities. Generally, Garden Organics relates to separated material delivered directly to Council waste management facilities and transfer stations and does not include any contamination of general waste or regulated waste.
Gross weight	The total weight of the vehicle plus the waste load as measured by Council waste management facilities and waste transfer stations with weighbridges.
Load	A single visit to a waste facility to dispose of waste, within the load limits of that facility.
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	Has the meaning of *Schedule 13*: *Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation 2023*. 1. Municipal Solid Waste is - (a) waste generated by a household if— (i) the waste is collected from domestic premises— (A) by or for an occupant of the premises, unless the waste is collected under a commercial arrangement; or (B) by or for a local government; and (ii) the waste is not waste generated from an activity carried out at domestic premises under a commercial arrangement; or (b) any of the following waste collected by or for a local government— (i) waste generated from street sweeping; (ii) waste collected from public rubbish bins; (iii) waste generated from maintaining a public space, including, for example, a public garden and public park; (iv) large items collected from domestic premises by a kerbside collection service.
Recyclable material	Clean and inoffensive material that is declared by Council to be recyclable and which can therefore be re-used or recycled.

Term	Definition
Regulated waste	Waste classified by Queensland's *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act) and includes hazardous wastes listed in the relevant schedules of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008,* the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation 2023 and Environmental Protection Regulation 2019*. It includes asbestos, pesticides, a range of waste chemicals and chemical compounds, and other industrial wastes. e.g. tyres, oil, batteries, paints, chemicals. ▪ ***category 1 regulated waste***, for schedule 4, see the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2019*, section 43(1) ▪ ***category 2 regulated waste***, for schedule 4, see the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2019*, section 43(2).
Required identification	Suitable identification that demonstrates a person's residency or ownership of a rated residential dwelling within city. This may include a driver's license (including digital drivers' license) or other form of photographic identification displaying a city address. Alternatively, suitable photographic identification may be provided together with supporting documentation confirming that the person is either a resident of or owns a domestic property within the city. Examples of acceptable supporting documentation include a current utility bill (such as electricity, internet/home phone or gas) or a current water or rates notice.
Waste Disposal Authority (WDA)	A written authority issued by the Chief Executive Officer or nominee that authorises the disposal of the specified waste free of charge, within the defined limits.

Document Control

Document History				**Official Version: ECM76912605**
Version	**Approval**	**Date**	**Description**	**Word Document ID**
1.0	Council	17.3.2009	New Council Policy. 09/501-502	Version of PDF
2.0		16.02.2012	Amended to reflect new legislation	Version of PDF
3.0	Delegate	25/06.2019	Coordination Committee (MP. 19/1241) Supersedes Policy 12-2150-042 - Disposal of Waste Free of Charge at Moreton Bay Regional Council's Waste Management Facilities for Residents, Ratepayers and Community Groups	A17821291
4.0	Council	30.03.2022 (effective 1.07.2022)	General Meeting (MP. 22/540)	64019277
5.0	Council	7.10.2026	General Meeting (effective 1 July 2027)	75780936