



HUON VALLEY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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Huon Valley Council's Garden Project

The Huon Valley Council hopes its latest education initiative will encourage residents to view their rubbish differently.

Huon Valley Council Commissioner Adriana Taylor says the Garden Project at the Southbridge Waste Transfer Station aims to teach residents their rubbish can be a resource rather than discarded waste.

“We have started constructing a vegetable garden entirely from re-used materials. Each component of the garden was previously discarded by residents at the waste transfer station.

“We have raised garden beds using discarded items such as old fridges and apple crates. The soil in the beds is composted green waste from the site.

“Once the project is fully operational, residents will be encouraged to donate their vegetable scraps to the garden. The scraps will either be fed to the resident chickens with the resulting waste composted or placed into the worm farm where they will be turned into valuable fertiliser for the garden.

“The entire garden is being planted with vegetables which we will donate to the Huonville Salvation Army for use in their soup kitchen or donations of food to the needy.

“We want to inspire people to find innovative ways of using the things they normally throw away and to demonstrate just how easy it can be to grow your own food.

“The benefits from a project like this are numerous. Every item which is re-used reduces the volume of waste which goes to landfill.

“The average bin contains in excess of 40% food waste, so if we can encourage people to turn that food into compost for their garden, the potential savings will be significant.

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“Further, if you are growing your own vegetables, you produce significantly less waste. There is no packaging for the things you grow yourself and you only harvest what you need for a meal.

“If you think about the vegetables you buy from a supermarket, they are usually packaged in some way, you often have to buy more than you can easily use, and the carbon footprint associated with the growing and transport of the food is substantial.

“All of these waste and carbon emissions are removed in the context of the home garden and most importantly, the food tastes better.

“The next time you are at the Southbridge Waste Transfer Station, come and have a look at the garden,” Commissioner Taylor said.

For further information
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