

## Waste Management Update

As was reported in last week's media release, NIRC have increased fees for the disposal of waste at the Waste Management Centre and Headstone facility. This increase is needed to assist in covering costs in operating the Council's waste management operations. Council would like to thank the community for their cooperation during these changes and their commitment to segregating waste streams. The fee structure is now available at the NIRC website.

A reminder that removal of food scraps and organic matter from the residual waste stream will assist greatly in reducing the tonnage of waste exported to the mainland. The organic waste stream is compostable and can be delivered to the centre free of charge. This stream is deposited into the commercial Hotrot composting unit for generation of compost. Please ensure that any organic matter and food scraps brought to the centre are deposited into the correct 240-litre wheelie bin at the drive-thru without a plastic or non-compostable bag.

The fee for unsorted loads is now \$200 per load. Waste Management staff have noted the recent effort from community members in segregating their waste and, once again, thank the community for this. This reduces both the effort required and the cost burden in appropriately managing waste at the centre. We will continue to provide support to customers, particularly at Headstone, to ensure that all compactable waste is diverted to the centre.

Finally, NIRC would like to congratulate the organisers of the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Workshop on Wednesday evening, which coincided with Plastic Free July. The event was extremely well attended with plenty of useful tips. NIRC is supportive of all community initiatives that seek to reduce waste generation and deliver value back into the community. We look forward to working with the community moving forward to address our waste management challenges.

Phil Reid

**MANAGER PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**

15 July 2021