

Composting & Worm Farming Apartment Resource Guide



Why compost or worm farm?

As apartment living becomes more common, finding sustainable ways to manage household waste is increasingly important. Composting and worm farming offer eco-friendly solutions that benefit both you and the planet.

Composting and worm farming helps to:

- ✓ Boost plant health. Compost and castings are full of nutrients for your garden.
- ✓ Repurpose food waste into a valuable asset! No need to buy fertiliser from the garden store which are often filled with synthetic ingredients and chemicals.
- ✓ Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfill where it decomposes and produces methane, a very potent greenhouse gas.
- ✓ Reduce the need to transport food waste in trucks to processing facilities

Get 70% off composting and worm farming equipment!

- | Eastern suburbs residents can receive subsidised equipment through
- | Council's award winning Compost Revolution Program
- | Follow the link or scan the QR code to learn more:
compostrevolution.com.au/easternsuburbs/



Tips and tricks

Order a system that is appropriate for your household size and type. If you have a balcony, an in ground worm farm may suit you best. If you have a garden with free draining soil, consider a compost bin or in ground worm (with strata approval).

Information is available. Revisit the online tutorials at any time, attend an in-person workshop, or download the 'What can go in my bin' guidelines to display as a poster.



Consistency is key!

- ✓ Turn your system regularly: using a stirrer or a garden tool, mix the contents around to ensure the system does not become anaerobic – this is when it can get smelly!
- ✓ Add water when it feels dry: the consistency should be damp but not dripping (think of the moisture level like a rung-out sponge).
- ✓ Be sure to feed your system a good ratio of 'greens' (high in nitrogen) to 'browns' (high in carbon): Having a container full of carbon rich materials (such as dried leaves, cardboard, or newspaper), next to your equipment can be a good reminder.

Composting & worm farming in common areas

You can set up a worm farm on your balcony, in your garage or even indoors. Compost bins can go in private gardens with well-draining soil. If you do not have private outdoor space, you may need to use a shared common garden, which could require strata approval. This can also be a great way to connect with neighbours and reduce food waste.

Follow these simple steps to start composting or worm farming at your apartment block today.

- 1 **Engage the strata committee and kindly ask for their approval.***
An example letter for the strata can be found below.



- 2 **Order your equipment!** Waverley, Woollahra and Randwick Council provide discounts of up to 70% off for worm farming and composting equipment for eastern suburbs residents through the Compost Revolution program: compostrevolution.com.au/easternsuburbs



- 3 **Invite others to join.**
Ask neighbours if they would like to participate and consider starting a 'Composting Club' to help manage the system. You can create a schedule for harvesting compost and worm castings, and set up a group chat using email, text or WhatsApp to share updates and solve any issues.



- 4 **Let building staff know.** Make sure to inform building staff such as cleaners and gardeners about the systems in common areas to avoid any confusion.



- 5 **Consider printing the Councils worm farming and composting guidelines** that can be useful to display as a poster in common areas as a handy reminder.



- 6 **Set up your system!** Using the knowledge gained from the Compost Revolution online tutorials, pick an appropriate location for your set up and start minimising your food waste!



*this is only needed for compost bins and worm farms on common property, not balconies or private land

Join the Compost Revolution!



Our building is using compost bins or worm farms to make our gardens healthier, reduce the need for fertiliser and avoid food waste being sent to landfill.

To find out more about using the compost bins or worm farms, contact



The compost bin or worm farm is located here



LETTER TO STRATA COMMITTEE

Attention Strata Committee at _____
Address: _____

Residents in your building are interested in setting up a worm farm or compost bin in the communal garden area. The interested residents reside at the following apartment/unit numbers:

Composting and/or worm farming has several benefits for individuals and the wider community who live in the building including:

- Reducing individual food waste and thus, reducing the amount of waste in the landfill bin.
- Mitigating climate impacts.
- Enhancing residents' wellbeing and sense of community.
- Providing nutrients to the soil which assist with garden vitality and health.

Currently 1 in 7 households in the eastern suburbs compost or worm farm with the Council providing this equipment at a subsidised price.

We plan to obtain equipment at our own cost. The number and type of equipment is as follows:

We will place this equipment in the following location/s:

The bin and/or worm farm will be used and maintained by residents.

Please inform the below contact of the outcome of this request, this would be much appreciated.

Key contact

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

