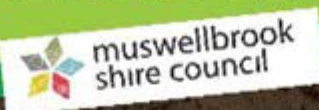




RETHINK YOUR WASTE

Start a Worm Farm

today!



WHY HAVE A WORM FARM?

- Reduce food waste to landfill - About 40% of household waste is food waste.
- Teach kids how to look after animals - simple way to give kids some responsibility.
- Create free but nutritious plant food
- Reduce harmful methane gas - a greenhouse gas.



TIPS

- Keep moist (especially in summer) but don't over water.
- Keep temperature correct. Not too hot not too cold. Aim for between 18 and 24 degrees.



Like to eat - Fruit and veggie scraps, small amounts of bread and pasta, coffee grounds, tea (check bags don't contain plastic), crushed eggshells, moist cardboard and paper.

Don't feed - Meat, bones, onion, garlic, dairy, citrus, grease, oils, dog or cat poo.

HOW TO HAVE A WORM FARM?



1. Get a worm farm and worms to suit your situation. Consider using an in-ground farm. You can even make your own.
2. Line the base of the middle level with newspaper or similar.
3. Add compost to top of newspaper to act as bedding.
4. Add worms and cover with newspaper and material (t-shirt or hessian).
5. Leave until this level is full. Once full put food scraps in top layer and cover with material. Worms will move to top layer.

Please contact Muswellbrook Shire Council for further information

p. (02) 6549 3700 f. (02) 6549 3701 e. council@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au w. muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

PO Box 122 Muswellbrook 2333





RETHINK YOUR WASTE **Start a Worm Farm** *today!*

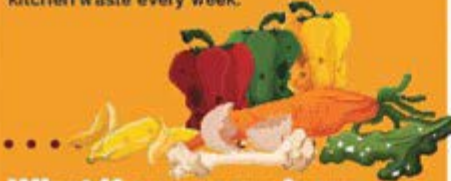


FAQS



How do I feed the worms?

Feed once or twice a week. Don't put food all in one spot. Worms eat up to 3-4kg of your kitchen waste every week.



What if my worm farm smells?

If the farm smells it could be because it is too hot, too wet, too much food or not enough air.



What do I do with insects and pests?

A well maintained farm reduces the likelihood of unwanted animals. It also helps to cover food layer with wet hessian. Not all bugs are bad but get rid of Flies, Mites, Springtails, Fruit Flies, Slugs, Cockroaches and Maggots.



What do I do with the products from the farm?

Collect the worm poo (vermicast) once or twice a year and add to garden. Take off cover and vibrate the surface to get the worms to move to the bottom.

What can I do if my farm gets too hot?



- Don't put your worm farm in direct sunlight.
- Use a watering can or spray bottle to keep the bedding wet.
- Keep the bedding moist but don't add too much water as this can boil them.
- Cover the worm farm with light-coloured materials. Build a custom cover for your worm farm like a polystyrene box.
- You may need to add some more carbon (i.e. paper) to offset the nitrogen.
- On hot days freeze a bottle of water, wrap it in some newspaper and bury it deep in your worm farm. Replace the bottle as it defrosts. You can also try adding a large ice block on top.
- Drape a damp cloth or hessian over the worm farm so it cools.
- Paint your worm farm a light colour so it reflects more heat.
- Add a lot of bedding by mixing in some compost with worm castings. Extra bedding will act as an insulator against extreme temperatures.

Please contact Muswellbrook Shire Council for further information

p. (02) 6549 3700 f. (02) 6549 3701 e. council@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au w. muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

