



MEDIA RELEASE | WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL

WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

Council has received a number of enquiries regarding our Grenfell Waste Management Facility and the fees and charges attributed to utilising this service. The fees and charges are adopted by Council on an annual basis. The items charged or free of disposal are listed in the adopted 2022-23 Fees and Charges which forms part of Councils Operational Plan which is publically exhibited for comment before its formal adoption.

The disposal charges for certain items have largely remained the same, with a slight cost variation applied each financial year in line with the increase in operational costs to provide the service. We understand that the application of the fees and charges have not been appropriately applied and with a new management team and new contract, we are looking at ensuring that the service that is provided is sustainable and compliant, not only financially but environmentally. Council's fees and charges dating back to 2008 are provided on Council's website for verification.

To clear up any confusion Council does not impose a charge for normal domestic/residential waste including general putrescible waste/general garbage (up to 2m² per load), green waste and other sorted waste including steel. For unsorted waste, building/commercial waste, industrial waste and other certain items such as tyres and mattresses, Council does impose a charge as these types of waste require further operational cost to manage and dispose of appropriately. An excerpt from the adopted 2022-23 Fees and Charges is provided below:



8.3.7 Rubbish Tips

Item	Details	Charge		Type
a) Disposal of Domestic/Residential Waste (maximum 2m ³ load – see commercial rate for loads exceeding this)	Putrescible waste/General garbage	Nil		
	Sorted waste (placed in appropriate area)	Nil		
	Unsorted waste	\$38.50	per load	3
b) Disposal of Building/Commercial & Industrial Waste	Clean mixed waste	\$28.00	per m ²	3
	Concrete/masonry	\$38.50	per m ²	3
	Contaminated (NOT A/C)	\$54.50	per m ²	3
	Wet grain	\$54.50	per m ²	3
c) Disposal of Commercial (shops, hospital etc.) Waste	General putrescibles	\$28.00	per m ²	3
	Clinical (non-hazardous)	\$44.00	per m ²	3
	Clean sorted waste	\$28.00	per m ²	3
	Green waste (un-chipped)	\$13.00	per m ²	3
	Cooking fats/oil	\$8.50	per L	3
d) Disposal of Prohibited Waste (specific approval necessary)				
- Asbestos or asbestos-contaminated waste (NOT PERMITTED at Village Facilities)		\$163.00	per m ³ (or part thereof)	3
- Tyres	Car/motorbike	\$26.00		3
	Light truck/4WD	\$28.00		3
	Truck	\$42.00		3
	Tractor:			
	1-1.5m diameter	\$163.00		3
	1.5-2m diameter	\$250.00		3
	Earth moving:			
Small	\$250.00		3	
Large	\$367.50		3	
- Animal carcass and offal	Dog/cat	\$29.00		3
	Sheep/goat/similar size	\$65.00		3
	Horse/cow/similar size	\$136.50		3
	Offal	\$11.50	per bag	3
- Chemical drums (by arrangement through DrumMuster)		Nil		
e) Disposal of Other Waste	eWaste (TVs, computers etc.)	\$17.50	each	3
	Mattresses/bed base	\$35.50	each	3
Note: any waste transferred from a regulated area will be charged the relevant waste levy as prescribed in the POEO Act				
f) Purchase of 240 litre Domestic/Commercial Bin		\$103.00	per bin	1

It is important to note that the fees and charges imposed for the disposal of certain items is more than what it might appear, that is, dumping it into the hole or pile. Proper waste management requires plant and equipment to dispose of the waste correctly including compacting materials and providing cover on waste material to minimise litter. For example, Council charges a mattress disposal fee as there are costs associated with engaging a contractor to collect and shred the mattress in order to recycle the available metals. This has a long term economic benefit by reducing the space that such items would have taken up in the waste cell while also achieving an environmental benefit.



Once a tip cell reaches its end of life, there are a number of rehabilitation requirements set by the NSW Environment Protection Authority that Council needs to comply with. By appropriately managing the tip will increase the life of the cell, reduce our carbon emissions and ensure we comply with our environmental requirements for future generations to come. Council is working with our Contractor through this new contract to ensure that we operate a compliant waste management facility in line with relevant legislation such as the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

Council apologises for any confusion that this matter may have caused in recent days.

We are now working on making sure that our fees and charges for our tip are understandable. This will include introducing more line items that make it clear on what will be charged and what is free for disposal and will go out for public consultation when it is agreed by the Council.

Please refer to our website for further information on the fees and charges:
<https://www.weddin.nsw.gov.au/Council/Rates-Fees/Fees-Charges>

In addition to the issues raised, we are navigating with our Contractor on ways to charge at the gate for items that are required to be charged. We understand that there have been delays in the past with invoices being sent out some time after utilising the service which is inconvenient. We appreciate your feedback provided and we hope that you can all agree that working towards better waste management is a benefit for our community and for future generations to come.

Noreen Vu

GENERAL MANAGER

1 February 2023