

# Code of Practice

## Bulk Bins on Council Roads

### Introduction

The code of practice provides guidelines for the safe placement and use of waste bins on Council footpaths, nature strips and roads and in public places.

Designed as a reference document for the supplier, driver, hirer, the Code was created by VicRoads and adapted for use by Greater Shepparton City Council. The Code provides information on the following aspects of hired waste bins;

- Safe placement;
- Visibility, including the use of retroreflective marking;
- Identification;
- Relevant regulations; and
- Responsibilities for waste bins.

This Code is designed to be used for bulk refuse containers or waste bins and does not include mobile waste bins.

- **bulk refuse container OR waste bin** means a lidded refuse container having a greater capacity than one cubic metre used for the containment of refuse and waste materials. This does not include a mobile waste bin.'
- **mobile waste bin** means a mobile waste bin supplied to any property by, or on behalf of, Council for the purpose of disposing of waste material nominated by Council.



*A typical waste bin.*



## **Legal requirements**

There are a number of laws and regulations which protect road users from dangers arising from things or objects placed on roads.

This includes;

- Road Safety Act 1986;
- Local Government Act 1989;
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992; and
- Council Local Laws.

## **Guidelines for the placement of waste bins or bulk bins on Council roads**

Waste bins or bulk refuse containers should only be placed on roads, streets or in public places (Council land, reserves, open spaces, car parks) when there is insufficient space or access for the placement of the bin within the hirer's premise.

A Local Laws permit is required prior to placing a bin on any Council land or road. When applying for a Local laws permit, the following information is required;

- Evidence that you are unable to place the bin on private property;
- You have made adequate provision for the safe movement of pedestrians (including those having disabilities), cyclists;
- The footpath, verge or other Council assets are adequately protected from potential damage;
- Adequate passage is available for any motor vehicle (including large trucks);
- Access is not unduly or unreasonably obstructed; and
- The waste bin is adequately identified.

## **Location**

The following points must be considered prior to placing a waste bin;

- Will the placement obstruct the passage of any vehicle, cyclists or pedestrian?
- Will the motorists view be obscured by the bin?
- Will the bin present a physical hazard?
- How long will the bin be proposed to be placed at the site?
- Have you obtained consent of any resident immediately affected and whose access would be restricted by the bin?
- If the bin is to be placed in a parking bay, have you applied and obtained a Parking bay reservation permit from Council.

If the driver or supplier of the bin has any concerns regarding the proposed placement, advice should be sought before the bin is placed.

Points to be considered when placing the bin:

- Bins should not be located in high volume pedestrian and vehicle traffic areas.

- Clear access to laneways and rights of way must be maintained at all times;
- Access or egress from private driveways must be maintained;
- No obstruction to delivery vehicles;
- Bins cannot be placed in any area where a vehicle is not permitted to be under the Victorian Road Rules, including but not limited to;
  - No stopping or No parking areas;
  - Within 20 metres of an intersection with traffic lights;
  - Within 10 metres from any other intersection;
  - Within 20 metres before and after a school crossing or railway line or crossing;
  - On a median strip or traffic island.
  - Over any utility service manholes.
- All parking regulations must be complied with unless permitted under a Parking bay reservation permit;
- If placed on a roadway, it must be positioned as close to, and parallel to the kerb as practicable;

If placed on a hill or bend in the road, the bin must be visible for at least 100 metres in either direction.

### **Visibility**

The bin must have yellow retroreflective tape, placed on the corners of the bin. (This is considered the preferred option).

Council may also require a yellow flashing light between sunrise and sunset depending on the proposed location.

Waste bins should be bright in colour, so that they are easily seen during hours of daylight and darkness.

### **Material requirements**

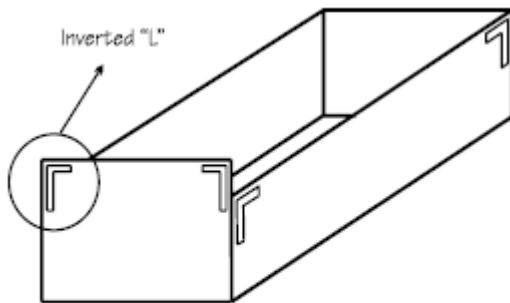
The material to be used shall be microprismatic retroreflective yellow material, bearing the European “E” marking on “C” class material. “C” class material is used for contour/strip marking and has specific retroreflective properties.

The material shall be pressure sensitive and applied in accordance with manufactures specifications and instructions.

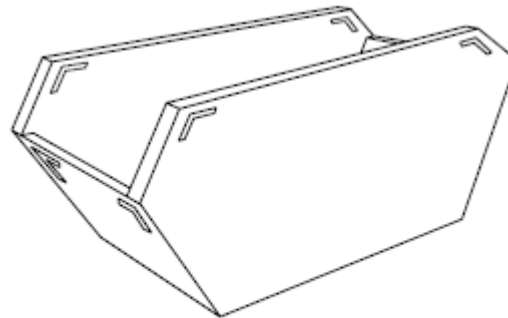
Retorelective tape must be kept clean and be subject to regular inspections by the supplier. Damaged tape must be replaced to ensure adequate visibility is maintained.

### **Pattern of material to be placed on waste bins**

The pattern to be used is an inverted “L” located as close as practical to each top corner of the bin to identify its length, width and height. Markings at opposite ends of each side shall be placed at the same reflective height.



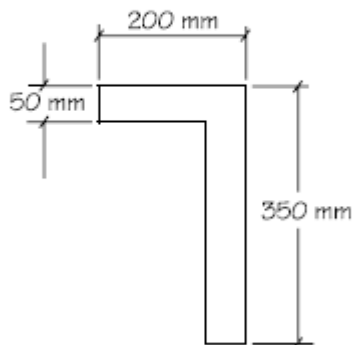
*The inverted “L” allows an approaching driver to ascertain the bin orientation and placement.*



*The tape may be placed at angles other than 90 degrees to enhance the general appearance of the waste bin.*

The material must be:

- at least 50 mm wide, and
- a minimum horizontal length of 200 mm and 350 mm high.



*The horizontal stem of the “L” is to face inwards.*



*All sides of the bin are to be delineated.*

## Supplier responsibilities

The supplier of the waste bin is required to;

- Maintain the bin in an acceptable standard at all times;
- Provide a valid Certificate of Currency of Public Liability Insurance as part of the Local laws permit application;
- comply with all Local laws permit conditions;
- ensure the hirer is aware of the type of waste that may be placed in the bin;
- instruct the hirer to load the bin in such a way as to prevent wind-blown litter;
- ensure the waste bin is removed within the allowable period;
- ensure that any Council asset is not damaged in any way;

- rectify damage to assets(including road reserves, nature strips or other assets) as a consequence of the placement or pickup of bins.
- Ensure the bin is placed in accordance with all permit conditions and Victorian Road Rules.

### **Hirer responsibilities**

The hirer of the bin shall, at all times, ensure that;

- the waste bin does not cause an obstruction;
- that all conditions of the permit are complied with;
- the bin is loaded in such a way as to prevent wind-blown litter;
- the site is left in a clean and tidy condition;
- the bin is not left in an overloaded state;
- the waste bin is made safe and removed when directed by Council or prior to the expiry of the permit.