



## Nappies and the new 3 Bin Service

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The Shire of Capel will be introducing a 3 Bin Collection Service which will mean the general waste rubbish bins will now be collected fortnightly instead of weekly.

This means nappies could potentially remain in rubbish bins for up to two weeks.

As a lot of us are parents ourselves, we have thought about this problem and taken advice from larger metropolitan Councils that have introduced a 3 bin system with a fortnightly rubbish collection. Encouragingly, the majority of households that disposed of nappies found that they were able to manage using a 3 Bin system with a fortnightly rubbish collection service.

Our investigation has shown:

- Nappies disposed of in the rubbish bin will begin to progressively smell worse over 2-4 days. After 4 days the smell will remain constant (neither worsening or improving) until the bin is collected within the fortnight.
- The biological nature of disposable nappies means parents should take care to dispose of nappies in sealed bags and wash hands after handling.
- Most parents using nappies reported that after using the 3 bin system there was enough room in the rubbish bin to dispose of the nappies on a fortnightly basis, it was the smell that was the main problem.

Here are some suggestions that can help to reduce the smell from nappies being in the rubbish bin.

- Store the rubbish bin in the shade and out of direct sunlight.
- Wrap dirty nappies tightly in a nappy sack or plastic bag.
- The rubbish in larger rubbish bags is not easily compacted and air can easily circulate through the rubbish. Use smaller bags that can be closed tightly or double wrapped before placing them in the bin. This will reduce the amount of air circulating around the dirty nappies and reduce the smell.
- If possible dispose of any poo collected by the nappy in the toilet before disposing of the nappy (we realise that sometimes this is just not possible).
- Make sure your bin lid closes properly and there are no cracks in the bin sides.
- You can use general odour removing products including cat litter and crystals, bicarbonate of soda and others found in hardware stores and supermarkets.
- Products such as <http://www.binbombs.com/> can be using by filling placing the powder in the foot of an old stocking and hanging it on the inside of the bin tying the stocking to the lid handle.



If you find that you are unable to use any of the suggestions listed above you may apply to the Shire for an additional rubbish service. There will be a charge for an extra service so we encourage residents to try the new system and see if it can work before purchasing an extra service.

Should you require any additional information please contact Health Services on 9727 0222