



Media release  
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## Labels help bins stay with their owners

Missing bins are a common problem for Selwyn residents and to help ensure bins stay where they belong, over the next three months the Council will be adding address labels to rubbish, recycling and organics bins.

"Bins can easily get lost or blown away in strong winds. Currently if you bin goes missing it's hard to identify which one is yours and find where it is," says Gavin Sole, Selwyn District Council's Solid Waste Manager.

He says the labelling system will make it easier to identify and return bins and will be beneficial for both residents and the kerbside collection drivers.

There are around 30,000 refuse, recycling and organics bins in Selwyn district. New bins issued since 2012 will already have an address label on them, but most bins do not.

Bin labelling has started in Rolleston already and other towns and areas will soon have their labels added. The labelling is expected to be finished by December 2014.

Mr Sole says that currently there is often confusion about what to do with a bin when a property owner moves. "The bin stays with the property and labelling the bin with the property number and address will help make that clearer to people. This will make it easier for people moving to new properties as they should find their bins there and ready to be used instead of having to arrange for new bins to be delivered."

The new labels will show the number and first four letters of the street or road name of the property. The label sits on the side of the bin.

The labels will make it easier for residents to keep track of when their recycling needs to go out. "On the bottom left hand corner of the recycling bin label it states whether it is week one or week two for recycling. This will be a helpful reminder for residents about when they need to put their recycling bin out," says Mr Sole.

A recycling calendar showing collection dates for week one and week two is available online at [www.selwyn.govt.nz/rubbish](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz/rubbish).

Labelling the bins will also help waste collection truck drivers. "The new labels will help the drivers return a bin to the correct place when there are a lot of bins out, which there often are on cul de sacs or right of ways. Drivers will also be able to return any bins found further away to the correct address," says Mr Sole.

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