



Media Release
Thursday 2 October 2014

New green waste shredder to be trialled

A new green waste service will be trialled in Darfield over the coming weeks.

An 11-tonne shredder will be operating at Hawkins Pit near Darfield for people to bring along a trailer or car boot-load of green waste, such as branches and hedge clippings, to turn into garden chips.

Selwyn District Council's Solid Waste Manager Gavin Sole says it is important for residents in the Malvern area to make use of the service during the trial. "We hope to see strong support for this initiative from local people so that we can continue to make it available in the future - it's really a case of use or lose it during the trial period."

The shredder has been successfully operating at the Pines Resource Recovery Park in Rolleston for the past ten months. It has mulched more than 2,500 tonnes of organic material during that time. It will be trialled in the Malvern area as there is currently no green waste facility in the area.

As part of the upcoming trial, the service will be available free of charge on Saturday October 18 and Saturday November 1 from 10am - 3pm. People will then be surveyed on their willingness to pay if the disposal service continues near Darfield.

Around 50 percent of kerbside refuse collected from Selwyn households is organic material, which is mostly made up of food waste and green waste. "Using the shredder to break down branches and garden material is a very simple and effective way for people to get rid of their green waste," says Gavin Sole.

"The shredded chips will then be used in areas such as children's playgrounds and gardens around Selwyn."

Mr Sole is encouraging people to be sensible about what they drop off to be shredded.

"The shredder is very powerful so it's great for mulching branches and hedge trimmings. However hard objects like warratahs and gate latches can damage the cutting teeth of the shredder. What we don't want is people putting general rubbish in their green waste for shredding," he says.

"Food waste and lawn clippings are also on the list of things we won't accept because they may smell which would be a problem if the shredded material is used on children's playgrounds. Composting is a great way to get rid of this waste - worm farms and bokashi composting bins are available from the Council at a subsidised rate for Selwyn residents," says Mr Sole.

Following the two collection days, a report will be prepared for the council using residents' feedback on whether the service in Darfield should be continued.

People are welcome to drop off their green waste from 10am to 3pm on both days at Hawkins Pit on Cullens Road.

A fortnightly organics bin service is available to all Selwyn residents and can be used for food waste, lawn clippings and branches from pruning. It cannot be used for disposing of animal waste, cabbage tree leaves or soil. Information about what can go into refuse bins is available on the council website www.selwyn.govt.nz/rubbish.

Ends

Photos attached:

Shredder 01 - The new shredder at the Pines Resource Recovery Park

Shredder 02 - Selwyn District Council's Solid Waste Manager Gavin Sole beside the new shredder.

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