



MEDIA RELEASE

Ruapehu District Council

Contact: Paul Wheatcroft, Communications Manager, 027 24 33 064

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COUNCIL AND MITRE 10 LOOK TO START RUAPEHU COMPOSTING REVOLUTION

This Sunday July 10 anyone wanting to know all about composting is invited to attend free demonstrations being held between 10.00 am and 12.00 midday at the Taumarunui Mitre 10 store on Maata St.

The composting demonstrations are being sponsored by Mitre 10 and Ruapehu District Council (RDC) who is aiming to get as many Ruapehu residents as possible into the composting habit.

RDC Waste Minimisation Coordinator, Annie Petersen, said that an investigation of what people put out for kerbside collection showed that on average 40 – 50% of a rubbish bag is made up of compostable food waste such as left-overs, peelings, coffee grounds, tea bags, stale bread and old and unused food that has passed its use-by date.

“With nearly half of what we throw away coming from our gardens and kitchens there is a huge opportunity to reduce the volume of domestic kerbside rubbish that is currently going into the district landfill,” she said.

“The benefits to households are many including; removing the food odour from household rubbish, decreasing the risk of animals getting into their rubbish and creating a mess, reducing the environmental impact as well as reducing the number of official council rubbish bags they need to use and saving themselves money.”

“And for gardeners and people who grow their own vegetables they get high quality compost delivering healthy, vibrant plants and a bumper crop of veges.”

Mrs Petersen said that a significant decrease in the volume of domestic kerbside rubbish going into the landfill will also reduce council’s costs and in the longer term offer significant economic benefits for ratepayers and the district.

“People coming to the demonstrations will learn what composting options suit their situation and how to make really good compost and recycle organic waste,” she said.

“Different types of composting systems will be on show including the worm farm composting system.”

“People will be able to enter a draw to win some special composting worms to get them started.”

Mrs Petersen added that the demonstrations will be continuous so people can come along anytime between 10.00 and 12.00 and will also be able to have any questions they may have on composting answered.

DAVID HAMMOND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CJH : PRW