

1st March, 2010

Important Customer Information - Food Waste Producer Responsibility

The Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009

Dear Customer,

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of new Regulations that will impact commercial premises from July 1st 2010 onwards. The Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations require that commercial premises:

-  segregate and separately store all food waste arising on their premises for
-  separate collection by an authorised waste collector.

As your waste management provider, Greenstar is an authorised waste collector and can offer a full range of options for the collection of food waste for all sizes of producers. Your account manager will be happy to explain the options available to you in good time before the Regulations come into effect on July 1st 2010.

The food waste regulations apply to businesses which are producing more than 50kg of food waste per week. If you are producing three 240 litre bins or one 1100 litre bin of General Waste per week, you are probably in this category and may be required to comply by 1st July 2010¹. For those premises producing less food waste than this per week, there is a one-year derogation available, but this must be applied for in advance of the July 2010 deadline. Greenstar can advise you as to whether your business is required to comply by 1st of July 2010 or 1st of July 2011.

The regulations are designed to promote the segregation and beneficial use of food arising from the commercial sector and to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfill. Diversion of this waste type from landfill will help Ireland to achieve targets set down in the EU Landfill Directive 1999/31/EC and form part of the commitments of the National Strategy on Biodegradable Waste 2006.

Who is subject to the Regulations?

The Regulations will be applicable to a wide range of premises including:

- Restaurants, Bistros, Cafés, Public Houses, etc.
- Canteens
- Industrial or office buildings where food waste is produced
- Hotels, Guest Houses and Hostels
- Shops and Supermarkets selling food
- Deli Counters
- Healthcare Sectors (Hospitals, Nursing Homes)
- Schools, Colleges, Universities, Training Centres and State Buildings
- Local Authority Offices, Garda Stations, Prisons and Army/Air/Navy Barracks
- Stations, Airports, Ports, Harbours and Marinas
- Events/Exhibitions where food waste is produced

¹ Greenstar guidelines suggest that 3 x 240 ltr or 1 x 1100 ltr general waste wheelee bins could produce approximately 50kg of food waste per week.



How to be Compliant

The Regulations take effect from 1st July 2010. If you produce more than 50kg of food waste per week from 1st July 2010, you are legally required to segregate in order to be compliant with the regulations. Examples of food waste which must be separated from your General and Recyclable bins are; Fruit, Vegetables, Paper Napkins, Paper Towels, Teabags, Coffee grinds, Eggshells, Bread, Cheese, Dairy and Cooked Meat only.

Temporary Exemptions

Whilst the main operational aspects come into force on 1st July 2010, occupiers of premises producing less than 50kg of food waste per week may be eligible for a temporary 12 month exemption to separate out food waste on their premises. Your local Greenstar representative is available to provide advice in this regard.

To qualify for this exemption, the producer/occupier must submit a claim in writing to the relevant section (Environmental Department) of their Local Authority. A sample letter is available from your Greenstar Representative and it is important that those seeking derogation submit a claim in advance of July 2010.

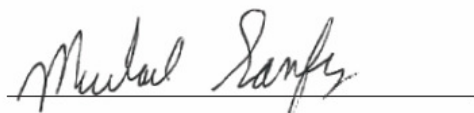
Remember, after 1st July 2011, **ALL** premises where food is produced including those producing less than 50kg per week will be required to segregate food waste in a separate bin. This is a legal requirement irrespective of the amount of food waste produced.

A copy of The Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009 - Food Waste Producer Responsibility (Commercial) can be located on the website of the Department of the Environment Heritage & Local Government at <http://www.environ.ie/en/Legislation/Environment/Waste/WasteManagement/FileDownload,21888,en.pdf> or simply ask your Greenstar Representative.

Your Greenstar Representative will be happy to assist. Please contact our Customer Service Department to arrange for your Greenstar Representative to discuss this further on:

LoCall 1890 600 900 or **email customerservices@greenstar.ie**

Yours sincerely,



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