

# Otago Farmers' Market Waste Minimisation Policy

August 2010

## Background

The Otago Farmers' Market is committed to reducing the amount of waste that is generated on site or taken home by purchasers.

The Market is also committed to working with the DCC to introduce Dunedin's first public spaces recycling centre.

Both a reduction in waste, and public recycling, fit with the Otago Farmers' Market philosophy.

## Aim

- To reduce the waste created at the market and reduce waste output
- To educate the public and stakeholders on the benefits of, and options for, waste minimisation
- To reduce the environmental impact of the Otago Farmers Market on its community
- To meet the expectations of vendors and customers at the market
- To reduce the amount of waste at the Market through improved options in the supply chain
- To work with the DCC on resource recovery and waste management
- To champion public places recycling to the wider community

## Plan

There are two parts to the waste stream at the Otago Farmers' Market: the waste created onsite (coffee cups, napkins etc), and waste that is taken home with purchases (plastic bags etc).

1. We will be introducing a public places recycling centre on September 8, 2010.  
The centre includes mixed recycling, general waste, and worm farm recycling.  
We will work with our vendors to source suitable packaging to increase the amount of waste to be taken to the worm farm.  
Vendors able to find suitable packaging will be given until October 2011 to change voluntarily.  
All new vendors to the market will have to supply correct packaging.
2. Vendors will be given until October 2013 (this date is to be reviewed in 2012 to ensure it is an achievable goal) to remove plastic bags from the market.  
The Market will assist towards this aim by working towards offering customers more options, such as calico bags, plastic buckets, for example.
3. Other recycling options, such as recovering plastic bags used by customers at the market, will be considered in the future, if offered by the DCC.

## Review

This strategy will be reviewed annually, including an annual audit of site waste, to ensure it remains relevant, and goals are met.