

Food waste costs New Zealand \$870m

Almost 50kg of food waste pulled out of rubbish bins by WasteMINZ in Auckland and Te Awamutu. The average Kiwi household throws out twice this amount every year.



Kiwi consumers are throwing hundreds of dollars' worth of food away every year because they buy too much, do not store it properly and do not use it well.

WasteMINZ, the waste sector industry body, is set to formally launch its anti-food waste campaign, Love Food, Hate Waste, next year.

A similar campaign in England has reduced household food waste by 18 per cent since its launch in 2007.

WasteMINZ surveyed households and found most were throwing away much more food than they realised.

Most estimated they threw away about 5 per cent of the food they bought, or about \$390 a year, on average.

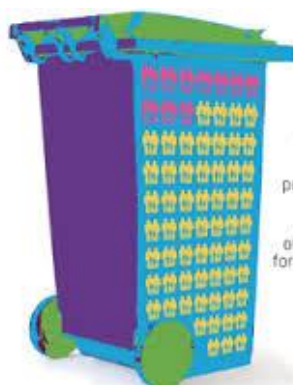
But a rubbish bin audit found they were wasting \$563 of food every year, or \$872 million as a country.

That does not include food put down Insinkerators, composted or fed to animals.

Bread was the most-wasted food, at 10 per cent of food rubbish. That was followed by leftovers, at 7 per cent, potatoes, 5 per cent, and apples, chicken, bananas and lettuces, all 3 per cent of food waste.

WasteMINZ chief executive Paul Evans said people with children aged under 15 and big householders were the worst offenders.

Adapted from.stuff.co.nz/business, Susan Edmund, November 6, 2015



ONE IN SEVEN
of the world's
population go hungry

ONE THIRD
of the food produced
for human consumption
is wasted