

## Frequently Asked Questions for Independant Layouts

### 1. Why should we segregate waste at source?

As per BBMP guidelines and High court order, Segregation at source is mandatory. As you all know, years of irresponsible waste management has created numerous toxic landfills and polluted many surrounding villages. Now there is “No” land to fill. No one wants our waste in their backyard. In the interest of our city and environment, we need to take responsibility and manage our waste at source.

### 2. Even after segregating, BBMP vendor is mixing the waste and there are irregular pick-ups?

As BBMP is trying to move from dumping to processing, it takes a while to change old methods and contract policies. Change will happen, only if we insist on it. Please note down the number of missed pick ups or any other violations(with photos). Along with local volunteer team, please take this to higher authorities’ notice. Unless we are part of the solution, we can’t improve situations in our neighbourhood.

### 3. Why do we need two bin and a bag?

This standard colour coded bins and bag will make segregation very easy to follow for your family, maid and garbage vendor as colour is a universal language. This will also eliminate plastic garbage bags that usually get burnt and pollute the air, water and soil in your neighbourhood.

### 4. How do we reach out to large number of households?

This should be made a community initiative by involving RWAs, residents and students from neighborhood schools/colleges. This will enable reaching out to entire neighborhood and will make it sustainable.

### 5. What are the typical challenges?

Unlike apartments, in layouts communicating rules and guidelines by the RWA is a challenge. Resistance from residents, enforcement issues, theft of bins and bag and keeping track of new move-ins are common challenges.

### 6. How do we communicate rules and guidelines to residents?

Communication can be through community newspaper and/or social media/forums. Display hoardings in public places like parks, clubhouses etc.

### 7. How do we sustain this segregation process?

Sustaining segregation process is possible if the RWA, residents and BBMP work together towards this goal. Street volunteers play a huge role in this process. Remember, our efforts are going to keep our street, layout, ward and city clean.



### **8. How to keep waste away from dogs?**

Stray dog issue is very common in layouts. Usually, if dogs are fed well, they don't look for garbage. Also, keep your bins and bag out of reach by hanging these at the main gate.

### **9. What if somebody steals my bins and bag?**

Chances of theft will be minimised if you can handover the garbage when you are at home. Also, If you can compost organic waste at home, you don't have to wait for vendor everyday.

### **10. How can residents get in touch with volunteers for questions/clarifications?**

Each street volunteer should be available to clarify any doubts or queries residents have. Provide relevant guideline pamphlets.

### **11. In case of missed pick-ups by garbage vendor, how do we store our waste?**

Usually, kitchen waste when stored in bin without plastic bag, will not smell for two days. A home composting solution can work as a back up during these missed pick-ups.

### **12. Who will be interested to sponsor pamphlets and dry waste bags?**

Local businesses, schools and retailer shops will be interested to take part in this neighbourhood initiative as this will provide an advertising opportunity for them.

### **13. How can I help?**

You can volunteer to drive this initiative and/or to monitor your street regularly(role of "Suchimitra").

### **14. What if ward officials are not supporting volunteers?**

This is also a common challenge but we have seen many layouts overcome this due to persistence and diligence of the volunteers. Like we said, asking people to take responsibility of their waste is like telling them to change their attitude towards it. It takes time to bring that change. Same with officials. If we, as citizens, are convinced that we need to save our environment for our future generations, we will bring that change. Let's do our bit and change will happen with time and our efforts.

### **15. What should we do if residents are not segregating?**

Go along with the volunteer team to explain the process and make them understand the importance of segregation. Here is when you will need patience and conviction. It's not easy to convince everyone as most of them think throwing in plastic bags is very convenient. If they are adamant and continue to give mixed waste, notify BBMP officials. Ask garbage vendor to stop picking up mixed waste.