

Your Somerset guide to recycling and rubbish



- Your kerbside collections and recycling sites
- Reuse - beyond recycling!- and home composting
- Missed collection? Need a bin? Here's help



Waste less Recycle more Save money

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Why you and your neighbours recycle

Cut costs and protect services: Every year, you help save £13 million by recycling materials to keep them out of landfill, but a little more recycling effort could save another £6 million. With tight budgets for vital services and council tax payers feeling the pinch, recycling – from all paper, glass and cans to every scrap of food waste – is an easy way to cut costs.

Conserving the future: In landfill, materials decay with limited oxygen and produce the potent climate change gas methane. Reuse and recycling gives items and materials a new life, which saves scarce resources and protects the environment.

Collections

Most Somerset homes have weekly food waste and recycling collections, fortnightly refuse collections and can, for a fee, order an optional fortnightly garden waste service. Most blocks of flats have shared bins for recycling paper, glass and cans, and for refuse. For kerbside collections, please:

- Without blocking pavement or road, put containers where they can be easily seen on the edge of your property by **7am** on collection day and no earlier than the night before.
- Take containers in as soon as possible after collections.
- Leave containers behind if you move (except, subscribers only, your garden waste bin if moving within Somerset).

For latest information and ordering replacement containers: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk; for advice or action, including missed collections, contact your district council - see page 12.

Your weekly food waste collections

A kitchen caddy and a kerbside collection bin to help food waste to be easily and cleanly recycled into electricity and agricultural fertilizer at our Somerset anaerobic digester.

We collect all food waste, including:

- Cooked, mouldy and raw food
- Fruit and vegetables
- Meat, fish, cheese, eggs
- Bread, pasta, cereal
- Tea bags, coffee grounds
- Paper kitchen towel and napkins



Do not include any plastic, garden waste or any other materials with food waste. Store bin away from heat and direct sun.

Compostable liners

We recommend using compostable liners, certified with the “looped seedling” logo to show they are compostable, or newspapers to line your caddy or wrap food waste. Local shops and supermarkets sell liners. Do not use plastic bags, even biodegradable ones.



Clean caddies by wiping with kitchen towel or rinsing with washing-up liquid. Wash hands and surfaces after handling food waste.

Lining a caddy with newspaper

Use a few sheets of newspaper to line a caddy, leaving some to fold over the top edges. When full, fold the overlap back on the food and cover with another sheet tucked down inside. Tip out into the food waste kerbside bin, which can go out for collection after locking the lid with the handle fully forward.



Your weekly recycling collections To help recycling crews, separate and sort materials into boxes, but without using carrier bags. Use one box if that is all you need.



Box 1 (usually green)

Paper - newspapers, magazines, directories, leaflets, white envelopes and other paper.

Glass bottles and jars - rinsed, not broken; no table or cook ware or window glass.



Box 2 (usually black)

Food and drink cans - rinsed, and squashed with tops and steel jar lids inside if possible.

Aerosols - only when empty; do not pierce or squash; discard tops and nozzles.

Plastic bottles - discard tops, please rinse; bottles only - no pots, tubs, trays or film.

Cardboard - brown corrugated, grey card, greetings cards and brown envelopes – please flatten. Small bits of card can be put into larger boxes before flattening – cut or tear up large pieces. Very large pieces or more than the equivalent of two recycling boxes when flattened should be taken to a recycling centre and may not be collected at the kerbside.

Foil - Aluminium foil only; check with scrunch test: squeeze and if it stays scrunched, it can be recycled.

On top or alongside boxes Textiles - clothes, towels, blankets, sheets, curtains and covers, but not stuffed items, such as duvets, quilts or pillows; put out in plastic bags (not black sacks) to keep dry and please label “textiles”.

Shoes - tied in pairs and bagged (not black sacks) to keep dry.

Your rubbish collections



Domestic rubbish is collected every fortnight. If you have storage space, a wheeled bin is provided. The lid should be closed; only rubbish inside the bin will be collected; do not discard any materials that could be recycled into your rubbish bin or



black sacks. Extra rubbish beside or on top of the bin will not be taken. If a wheeled bin is unsuitable for your property, up to four black sacks of refuse will be taken each time.

✓	Taken in refuse collection	✗	No thanks
<p>Household waste that cannot be recycled or composted, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic pots, tubs, trays and film • Vacuum cleaner contents • Cat, dog or other pet litter • Disposable nappies (cut waste and save money with cloth nappies - see our website) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food waste • Anything you can recycle • Hot ash (leave to cool) • Hypodermic needles (see clinical waste page 11) • Commercial waste* • Rubble, earth, stones* • Garden waste* • Bulky household items* • Engine oil, paint, chemicals* <p>* See recycling sites page 8.</p>		



Home composting

Home composting saves money and, for most garden and some food wastes, is the best environmental option. Somerset Waste Partnership promotes home composting - check our website for special offers on bins and accessories.

Optional garden waste collections

Fortnightly garden waste collections are available for a fee with a wheeled bin or compostable sacks. To order, please see our website or contact your district council. Garden waste is only collected if contained within sacks or the wheeled bin with lid closed. Compost excess garden waste or take to a recycling site.



Most garden waste is collected, including:

- Flowers, plants, grass & weeds;
- Hedge prunings (not over 10cm or 4" thick);
- Straw or sawdust (if bedding material, only from domestic vegetarian pets, such as rabbits, not micro-pigs or racing pigeons).



Do not include: non-garden waste; pet or animal manure; cat litter; compost; plastics; soil or rubble; Japanese Knotweed, Common Ragwort or ash trees affected by Chalara dieback (for problem plant guidance, see our website).

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Recycling at shops

Batteries: most shops selling batteries have collection points.

Carrier bags and plastic film: most large supermarkets collect carrier bags; some accept plastic film in the same bins.

Inhalers: many pharmacies collect old inhalers for recycling.

Low-energy light bulbs: a few retailers have collection points.

Spectacles: collected by some opticians and donated to charity.

Recycling and reuse

The cost of processing every item taken to a recycling site has to be met through council tax. Before disposing of many items found around the home, consider if they can be reused for different purposes, such as by, home composting or donating items with more life in them. There are arrangements with merchants to reuse selected items at most recycling centres, including a Reuse Shop at Taunton.

Furniture reuse groups and other outlets

Furniture reuse groups, charities, and community organisations may be able to collect suitable furniture, appliances and other home items to sell at low cost or give away to households on limited incomes or in need. Items can also be given away via online networks, such as Freegle, Freecycle and some Facebook groups. Take care to stay safe online. Not online? Check local library for help. For a selection of offline groups and online networks, search “reuse” at www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Recycling sites

Somerset has 16 recycling sites; 14 free-to-enter recycling centres, and two community recycling sites with £2 cash entry fees. Larger sites have **QueueCams** for you to check online if they have traffic waiting. See: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Important Information

Permits - If visiting a Somerset recycling site with your household waste, your vehicle or trailer may need a permit. Both vehicle and trailer size are restricted. Permits are only available to Somerset residents, and must be displayed on all visits. Details on website.



Charges apply for materials not classified as household waste: asbestos; gas bottles; hardcore including stone, rubble, clay, tiles, ceramic/porcelain sinks, baths, toilets and construction materials; plasterboard; soil; tyres and vehicle parts (see also page 10). No charge for household waste.

Sort waste into different materials, deposit in correct containers, stay safe, wear suitable shoes and follow staff advice. **Call recycling site in advance** if taking bulky, hazardous or unusual items, to check disposal requirements or capacity.



Asbestos must be pre-paid online and then can only be taken to Bridgwater, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton and Yeovil. (Double wrap, check our website for safe handling advice, pay and then contact recycling site).

Plasterboard must be pre-paid online and cannot be taken to Castle Cary, Cheddar, Minehead, Somerton or Wellington.

Open seven days 8am-4pm

- **Bridgwater (Saltlands)** Saltlands Av, Chilton Trinity, TA6 3JS (01278 444877)
- **Frome** Manor Furlong, Manor Road, BA11 4RJ (01373 453622)
- **Minehead** Mart Road Ind Est, TA24 5BJ (01643 707894)
- **Taunton** (Priorswood) Crown Ind Est, Priorswood, TA2 8QY (01823 338615)
- **Yeovil** Artillery Rd, Lufton Trading Est, BA22 8RP (01935 411151)

Open five days (closed Thursdays and Fridays)

Mon 8am-7pm, Tue, Wed, Sat 8am-4pm; Sun 8am-1pm

- **Castle Cary** (Dimmer) Dimmer Lane, BA7 7JB (01963 351725)
- **Cheddar** Wedmore Road, BS27 3EJ (01934 744916)
- **Crewkerne Community Recycling Site** (£2 cash entry)
Blacknell Lane Ind Est, TA18 7HE (01460 78284)
- **Dulverton Community Recycling Site** (£2 cash entry)
Brushford Road, TA22 9AA (01398 323615)
- **Street** Farm Lane, (A39) BA16 9PB (01458 840076)
- **Wellington** (Poole) Poole Brickworks, Nynehead, TA21 9HW (01823 661617)
- **Williton** Roughmoor Ind Est, TA4 4RF (01984 632221)

Open five days (closed Tuesday and Wednesday)

Mon 8am-7pm; Thu, Fri, Sat 8am-4pm; Sun 8am-1pm

- **Chard** Beeching Close, TA20 1BB (01460 65855)
- **Highbridge** Isleport Business Park, Bennett Road, TA9 4JS (01278 784419)
- **Somerton** Bancombe Road Ind Est, TA11 6SB (01458 274643)
- **Wells** (Dulcote) Dulcote Hill, nr Wells, BA5 3PZ (01749 670973)

All recycling sites recycle the following...

Batteries (car & household)	Glass bottles & jars	Scrap metal
Cans (drink & food)	Low-energy lightbulbs	Shoes (tied in pairs)
Cardboard	Mobile phones	Textiles
Electrical appliances	Oil - cooking & engine	(clothes, sheets, curtains etc., not stuffed items)
Fluorescent tubes	Paint - water-based	Toner cartridges
Fridges & freezers	Paper	Wood
Garden waste	Plastic bottles (all except Cheddar)	

Beverage cartons (Tetra Pak) and plastic-lined single use paper cups are taken at Bridgwater, Chard, Crewkerne, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Williton, Yeovil.

Disposal charges at recycling sites

- Card-only payments for gas bottles, hardcore, soil, motor tyres, vehicle parts and commercial waste, plus Revive soil conditioner.
- Accepted - Visa and MasterCard credit and debit cards, Visa Electron and Diners Club, including contactless cards.
- Cash payment for entry to Crewkerne and Dulverton community recycling sites and purchases made at the Taunton Reuse Shop.
- The requirement for pre-payment for asbestos and plasterboard disposal on line via the website remains.
- For non-household material charges, see website.

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

Commercial waste facilities are available at Bridgwater, Chard, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton and Yeovil recycling sites. For materials taken, prices, and vehicle permit rules, visit our website.

Vehicle parts: Residents (not businesses) can recycle or dispose of vehicle parts for a fee at Bridgwater, Chard, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton and Yeovil recycling sites. For details, see website.

Other information

Assisted collection: Free service for people with mobility problems or impairment so they cannot move their recycling or refuse containers to the kerbside and no-one in the household can assist. Containers collected from an agreed external point.

Bulky waste collection: For a fee to cover costs, district councils - see page 12 - collect bulky items, such as furniture or domestic appliances. These can also be taken to a recycling site or suitable items can be collected for reuse by one of Somerset's furniture reuse groups.

Clinical waste collection: Free service for households that need clinical materials, such as syringes, collected on a one-off or regular basis.

Blocks of flats: These usually have large shared bins provided for recycling and refuse. Recycling boxes and food bins may be provided for individual use if there is an accessible and easily seen collection point; please contact us to ask.

For details of all waste services, see

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

Email: enquiries@somersetwaste.gov.uk

Please contact us if you need this information in large print, Braille, audio or another language.



Somerset Waste Partnership manages recycling and waste services for Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council. It is accountable to Somerset Waste Board, which consists of two councillors from each of our six partner authorities.

For collection enquiries, contact your district council:

Mendip District Council

T: 0300 303 8588

E: customerservices@mendip.gov.uk



Sedgemoor District Council

T: 0300 303 7803

E: customer.services@sedgemoor.gov.uk



South Somerset District Council

T: 01935 462462

E: ssdc@southsomerset.gov.uk



Taunton Deane Borough Council

T: 01823 356346

E: enquiries@tauntondeane.gov.uk



West Somerset Council

T: 01643 703704

E: customerservices@westsomerset.gov.uk



For recycling site enquiries, contact:

Somerset County Council

T: 0300 123 2224

E: somersetdirect@somerset.gov.uk



More information and advice at:

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk



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