

Guide to Somerset Recycling and Waste Services



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Waste less Recycle more Save money

September 2016

Why recycle

Cut Costs and Protect Services: Every year in Somerset we waste about £6 million because things that could go in recycling boxes are thrown in the landfill bin. When budgets for essential services are under pressure and council tax payers feel the pinch we all need to think about easy ways to cut costs.

Protecting the Future: In landfill, materials decay and produce potent climate change gases. By taking materials and giving them new life you save scarce resources and protect the environment.

Collections

Most Somerset homes receive 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:

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

See www.somersetwaste.gov.uk or contact your district council to check collection days, bank holiday changes or to request optional services.

Weekly food waste collections

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

We collect all sorts of 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 away from heat and direct sun.

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 one or two sheets of newspaper to line your caddy, leaving some to fold over the sides at the top. When full, fold the overlap back on the food and cover with another sheet that can be tucked down inside. It should then tip out cleanly into your bin to put out for collection.

Weekly Recycling collections To help collectors, please separate and sort materials into boxes. 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 broken window glass.

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



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; remove plastic tops.

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

Cardboard - brown corrugated, grey card, greetings cards and brown envelopes; small bits of card can be put in larger boxes; please flatten; take large quantities to recycling site.

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.

Refuse collections



Domestic refuse is collected fortnightly.

A wheeled bin is provided, if you have space to store it. Only refuse inside the bin will be collected; the lid should be closed.

Additional refuse alongside or on top



of the bin will not be taken. If your property is unsuitable for a wheeled bin, 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) • Business or 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 through special offers on compost bins and accessories - for details or to order, see our website or contact your local council for a leaflet.

Garden waste collections

Optional fortnightly garden waste collections are available for a subsidised fee using either a wheeled bin or compostable sacks. To order, please see our website or contact your district council.

Garden waste is only collected if contained inside the sacks or the wheeled bin with lid closed.



Most garden waste can be collected, including:

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



Do not include: any non-garden waste, plastic, cat litter, dog poo, compost, soil or rubble.

Japanese Knotweed, Common Ragwort or ash trees affected by Chalara dieback must not be included (for problem plant guidance see our website).

Recycling at shops

Batteries: most shops selling batteries have collection points.

Carrier bags and plastic film: most large supermarkets collect carrier bags; some also accept plastic film packaging, which is labelled as suitable for recycling, in the same in-store 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 paid for through council tax. Before disposing of many items found around the home, consider whether they can be re-used for different purposes. Help keep your council tax down by, for example, home composting or donating items with more life in them to charity shops, Freecycle and similar online networks, or furniture reuse stores.

There are arrangements with merchants to reuse selected items at most recycling centres, including a Reuse Shop at Taunton.

Furniture reuse groups

The following charities can collect suitable furniture and appliances to sell at low cost to households on limited incomes:

Engage West Somerset: Minehead - 01643 707484

FurnEquip: Glastonbury - 01458 831188

FurniCare: Yeovil - 01935 433416

FurniTrust: Taunton - 01823 253053

Sedgemoor Furniture Store: Bridgwater - 01278 425055

Find more information 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 entry fees. Larger sites have **QueueCams** for you to check online if they have traffic waiting. See: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.



Important Information

Permits - to cut congestion, improve services and maintain safety at recycling sites, new rules from Monday 3 October 2016 restrict vehicle size, trailers, and access times.

Details:- www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/permits

Charges apply to dispose of asbestos, gas bottles, hardcore, plasterboard, soil and tyres, which are not classified as household waste (see page 10 for details). There are no charges for household waste.

Please sort waste into different materials, deposit in correct containers, stay safe, wear suitable shoes and follow staff advice.

Please call your local recycling site in advance if taking hazardous, bulky or unusual items, to check on disposal requirements or capacity issues.

Asbestos can only be taken to Bridgwater, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton and Yeovil. (Must be double wrapped. See our website for safe handling advice).

Plasterboard cannot be taken to Castle Cary, Cheddar, Minehead, Somerton or Wellington (Poole).

Open Seven Days 8am-4pm

- **Bridgwater (Saltlands)** Saltlands Av, Chilton Trinity TA6 3JS (01278 444877)
- **Frome** Manor Furlong, Manor Rd BA11 4RB (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 7NR (01963 351725)
- **Cheddar** Wedmore Rd BS27 3DT (01934 744916)
- **Crewkerne Community Recycling Site** (£2 entry) Blacknell Lane Ind Est TA18 7HE (01460 78284)
- **Dulverton Community Recycling Site** (£2 entry) Brushford Rd 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 Bus Pk, Bennett Rd TA9 4JS (01278 784419)
- **Somerton** Bancombe Road Ind Est.TA11 6SB (01458 274643)
- **Wells** (Dulcote) Dulcote Hill, nr Wells BA5 3PA (01749 670973)

All recycling sites recycle the following...

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

Also... book and music charity banks at Street, Somerton and Wells; **cartons** (Tetra Pak) at Bridgwater, Chard, Crewkerne, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Williton, Yeovil; **vehicle parts** (charged, see website) at Bridgwater, Chard, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton and Yeovil.

Charges (Card payment preferred. Cash currently accepted).

- **Gas bottles** (per bottle): below 10kg £6.20; 10-20kg £12.40; specialist cylinders £36.40
- **Soil/Hardore***: single carrier bag or less free; more than single carrier bag £3.60; small van or trailer £18.20; medium van or trailer £36.40. For commercial prices see website.
- **Car Tyres**: unrimmed £3.60; rimmed £4.60; large tyre (e.g. lorry size) £47.30
- **Asbestos**, £12 per sheet. (**Payment in advance** - see website for full details).
- **Plasterboard**, £4.00 per sheet. (**Payment in advance** - see website for full details).

* Includes stone, rubble, clay, tiles, ceramic/porcelain sinks, baths, toilets, construction materials.

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

Vehicle parts: Residents can recycle or dispose of vehicle parts for a fee (service not available to traders) at Bridgwater, Chard, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton and Yeovil Recycling Centres. See website for details.

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 like 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 dressings, syringes or adult hygiene products to be 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 call us if you need this information in large print, Braille, audio or another language.



Managing recycling and waste services for Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council, **Somerset Waste Partnership** is accountable to the 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

