

Recycling and waste services



- Recycling and refuse collections
- Assisted and clinical waste collections
- Bulky and garden waste collections
- Recycling centres and other collection points

save money • waste less • recycle more

Somerset Waste Partnership is the local authority team managing recycling and waste services for Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council. We are accountable to Somerset Waste Board, which consists of two councillors nominated 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: 0845 408 2543

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: 0845 3459188

E: somersetdirect@somerset.gov.uk



More information and online ordering at:

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk



Collections

We provide a set of collection services, called Sort It Plus, to most households throughout all Somerset districts. This comprises weekly food waste and recycling collections, fortnightly refuse collections and, for a fee, an optional fortnightly garden waste service.

Containers for all services need to be put out by **7am** on collection days at the front edge of your property where they can be easily seen. Please take care not to obstruct pavements or roads, put out no earlier than the night before and take containers back in as soon as possible after collections. Leave containers behind if you move.

See our website or contact your district council to check collection days, bank holiday changes or to request optional services.

Assisted collections - This free service is for people who have mobility difficulties or an impairment so that they cannot carry or move their recycling or refuse containers to the kerbside and there is no-one in the household who can assist. Containers will be collected from an agreed external point on the property.

Bulky waste collections - For a fee to cover costs, we offer a service to 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 collections - We offer a free service for households who need clinical materials like dressings and syringes to be collected either on a one-off or a regular basis.

Blocks of flats - These normally have large shared bins provided for recycling and refuse. In some cases, recycling boxes and food bins can be provided for individual use if there is an accessible and easily seen collection point, so please contact us to ask.

Food waste collections

A small external bin and a kitchen caddy are provided for weekly food waste collections. A second bin can be supplied if needed.

We recommend newspaper is used to either wrap your food waste or to line your caddy or that special compostable liners are used. Liners can be purchased in many local shops and supermarkets. They must be certified with the 'looped seedling' logo to show they are compostable. Do not use plastic bags, even biodegradable ones, as they will not break down and affect the recycling process.

All types of food waste are collected, including:

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

Wash hands and surfaces after handling food waste and store away from heat and direct sun.

Please do not include any plastic, garden waste or any other type of household waste.

Caddies can be cleaned by wiping with kitchen towel or rinsed with washing-up liquid.

Lining a caddy with newspaper

A good method is to 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 external bin.



Recycling collections

Two recycling boxes are provided for weekly collections. Please separate materials between boxes as below, but you can use one box if that's all you need. It helps collectors to keep materials separate in boxes, apart from cans and plastic bottles which can be put out mixed.



Box 1 (normally green)

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

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

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



Box 2 (normally black)

Food and drinks cans - rinsed and squashed 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; please flatten; small bits of card can be put in larger boxes; take large quantities of card to recycling sites.



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.

Car batteries - one per collection.

Garden waste collections

There is a fee to cover costs for optional fortnightly garden waste collections. A wheeled bin can be provided for use throughout the year or compostable sacks can be purchased. To order, please see our website or contact your district council.

Garden waste will only be collected if contained inside the pre-paid wheeled bins or compostable sacks supplied. Wheeled bin lids should be closed.

Most types of garden waste can be accepted, including:

- Flowers, plants, grass & weeds;
- Hedge prunings (not more than 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).

Please do not include: plastic, cat litter, dog poo or any other type of non-garden waste. Also exclude Japanese Knotweed or Common Ragwort and check advice for Chalara dieback of ash trees - for guidance see our website or contact Somerset County Council.



Home composting



Home composting is the best option for most garden and some food wastes. It saves money and has most environmental benefits. Somerset Waste Partnership promotes home composting through special offers on compost bins and accessories.

For details and to order see our website or contact your local council for a leaflet.

Refuse collections



Domestic refuse is collected fortnightly.

A wheeled bin is provided to those in homes with space for their storage.

The lid should be closed and only refuse inside the bin will be collected. Additional refuse alongside or on top of your bin will not be taken.



If your property is unsuitable for a wheeled bin, up to 4 sacks of refuse will be accepted on each collection.

 Accepted on refuse collection	 No thanks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household waste which is not collected for recycling or composting, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic pots, tubs, trays and film; • Vacuum cleaner contents. • Cat, dog or other pet litter. • Disposable nappies (save waste and money by using cloth nappies - see our website). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food waste and recyclable materials accepted by other collection services; • Garden waste*; • Hot ash (leave to cool); • Rubble, earth and stones*; • Hypodermics (see clinical); • Bulky household items*; • Engine oil, paint or other chemicals*; • Business or commercial waste (see more info). <p>* See recycling sites</p>

Recycling at shops

Producers and retailers have a legal responsibility to recycle certain items. In some cases, such as for electrical appliances and packaging, they do so partly by working with local authorities. In some cases, they also offer in-store collections or a recycling service for old appliances when delivering new. The following are items with collection points in local shops.

Batteries: most retailers selling batteries now have collection points.

Carrier bags and plastic film: carrier bags are collected at most large supermarkets; 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.

Furniture reuse groups

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

Twice as Nice: Shepton Mallet - 01749 347115

Reuse at recycling centres

There are arrangements with merchants to reuse selected items at most recycling centres and Somerset Waste Partnership has been undertaking trials to allow more to be reused, including by setting up a Reuse Shop at Taunton Recycling Centre.

Recycling centres

There are sixteen recycling centres in Somerset. Fourteen are Recycling Centres (RC), which are free to enter, and two are Community Recycling Sites (CRS) with an entry fee of £2. All accept a wide range of household items for recycling or disposal, including bulky and hazardous waste.



QueueCams are provided at the Bridgwater, Taunton and Yeovil sites, which can be viewed online from www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Important guidance for site users

Material charges apply to hardcore, soil, gas bottles and tyres, which are not classed as household waste - see table overleaf for details. There are no charges to deposit household waste.

Please sort your waste into different materials for recycling and deposit in correct containers - see table for list of items recycled.

Asbestos (keep whole, wear gloves and mask, it must be double wrapped and sealed in heavy duty plastic, also call to check space) only accepted at: Bridgwater (01278 444877), Frome (01373 453622), Highbridge (01278 784419), Minehead (01643 707894), Street (01458 840076), Taunton (01823 338615), Yeovil (01935 411151).

Plasterboard is accepted at all sites except NOT at: Castle Cary, Cheddar, Minehead, Somerton.

Key to opening hours

Hours	Mon	Tue-Wed	Thu-Fri	Sat	Sun
7 days	8 - 4pm	8 - 4pm	8 - 4pm	8 - 4pm	8 - 4pm
5 A	8 - 7pm	8 - 4pm	Closed	8 - 4pm	8 - 1pm
5 B	8 - 7pm	Closed	8 - 4pm	8 - 4pm	8 - 1pm

Closed: Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Mendip		Closed	Hours
<i>Dulcote RC</i>	<i>Dulcote Hill BA5 3PZ</i>	<i>Tu-W</i>	<i>5 B</i>
<i>Frome RC</i>	<i>Manor Road BA11 4RN</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7 days</i>
<i>Street RC</i>	<i>Farm Lane (A39) BA16 9PB</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>
Sedgemoor		Closed	Hours
<i>Bridgwater RC</i>	<i>Saltlands Avenue TA6 3JG</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7 days</i>
<i>Cheddar RC</i>	<i>Wedmore Road BS27 3EB</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>
<i>Highbridge RC</i>	<i>Isleport Business Pk TA9 4PW</i>	<i>Tu-W</i>	<i>5 B</i>
South Somerset		Closed	Hours
<i>Castle Cary RC</i>	<i>Dimmer Lane BA7 7NR</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>
<i>Chard RC</i>	<i>Beeching Close TA20 1BB</i>	<i>Tu-W</i>	<i>5 B</i>
<i>Crewkerne CRS*</i>	<i>Blacknell Ln Ind Est TA18 7HE</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>
<i>Somerton RC</i>	<i>Bancombe Rd Est TA11 6SB</i>	<i>Tu-W</i>	<i>5 B</i>
<i>Yeovil RC</i>	<i>Artillery Road, BA22 8RP</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7 days</i>
Taunton Deane		Closed	Hours
<i>Taunton RC</i>	<i>Crown Industrial Est. TA2 8QY</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7 days</i>
<i>Wellington RC</i>	<i>Poole Brickworks TA21 9HW</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>
West Somerset		Closed	Hours
<i>Dulverton CRS*</i>	<i>Brushford Road TA22 9AA</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>
<i>Minehead RC</i>	<i>Mart Rd Ind. Estate TA24 5BJ</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7 days</i>
<i>Williton RC</i>	<i>Roughmoor Ind. Est TA4 4RA</i>	<i>Th-Fr</i>	<i>5 A</i>

* **CRS:** Community Recycling Site (these have a £2 entry fee)

Recycling centres - materials recycled

Batteries (car & household)	Fridges & freezers	Oil - engine oil
Books *	Garden waste	Paper
Cans (drink & food)	Glass bottles & jars	Plastic bottles ***
Cardboard	Low-energy light bulbs	Scrap metal
Drink cartons (Tetra Pak) **	Mobile phones	Shoes (tied in pairs)
Electrical appliances	Music & movies (reusable CDs, DVDs, videos) *	Textiles (clothes etc - not stuffed items)
Fluorescent tubes	Oil - cooking oil	Toner cartridges
		Window glass ****
		Wood

* Book & music banks for BHF at: Dulcote, Street & Somerton.

** Cartons (Tetra Pak) at: Bridgwater, Chard, Crewkerne, Dulcote, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton & Yeovil.

*** Plastic bottles at all sites except not at: Cheddar.

**** Window plate glass (ask site staff) only at: Bridgwater, Chard, Highbridge, Taunton, Wellington & Yeovil.

Material charges - Cash or cheque preferred. Cards accepted.

Gas Bottles	£6.00	per bottle (below 10kg)
	£12.00	per bottle (10 - 20kg)
	£35.00	per bottle (specialist cylinders)
Soil & Hardcore (also ceramics, porcelain and construction materials*)	free	single carrier bag or less
	£3.50	more than a single carrier bag
	£17.50	small van or trailer
	£35.00	medium van or trailer
	£70.00	large van or trailer
	£87.00	lorries or trailer
Car Tyres	£3.50	per un-rimmed tyre
	£4.50	per rimmed tyre
	£45.60	per large (e.g. lorry size) size

Full details at sites and on website.

* Includes stone, rubble, clay and ceramic or porcelain sinks, tiles and toilets, but no charge for crockery or clay flower pots.

Why recycle

There are large energy savings from using previously manufactured materials to make most new products. Recycling aluminium drinks cans back into new cans needs only 5% of the energy that would be used to manufacture them from bauxite ore. The energy used to collect and reprocess materials is nearly always a small fraction of the energy that is saved by recycling.

Recycling avoids the need to mine or grow materials again. It also avoids the need to send valuable materials to wasteful and costly landfill. This now costs Council Taxpayers over £100 per tonne and degradable materials in landfill breakdown to produce potent greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

More information

See our website for more information on our services and for:

- Advice on business waste collections and recycling
- Education and fun activities related to waste and recycling
- Fighting fly-tipping and how you can help to stop it
- How materials are recycled and our annual end-use register
- More you can do to reduce and reuse waste.

Contact Somerset Waste Partnership to request printed copies of:

- Business waste recycling directory
- Recycling end-use annual register
- Fight illegal waste dumping in Somerset leaflet
- Guide to more you can to reduce and reuse
- Washable nappies leaflet

Somerset Waste Partnership - www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

Tel: 01823 625700

Email: enquiries@somersetwaste.gov.uk

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



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