

## Weekly recycling

Please keep different materials separate in your boxes as this makes it much easier to sort. Please rinse food cans and jars, and it helps to squash plastic bottles. Most boxes have grooves so they can be cross-stacked on top of each other.

**Cardboard** - Flatten, fold and put out in Box 2. Small amounts of extra cardboard can be put out in flattened bundles alongside the box. Take large quantities to Household Waste Recycling Centres or order a bulky waste collection.

Extra amounts of other materials can be put out in carrier bags alongside the boxes.



### Box 2 - YES please:

- ✓ Food and drinks cans
- ✓ Plastic bottles only (no tops)
- ✓ Cardboard (flattened) – clean packaging card, corrugated card and greetings cards
- ✓ Brown envelopes

### NO thanks:

- ✗ Drink cartons or Tetra Pak
- ✗ Broken glass, Pyrex, window glass, tableware, light bulbs
- ✗ Plastic pots, tubs or film
- ✗ Plastic bottles used for engine oil and garden or DIY chemicals
- ✗ Household batteries
- ✗ Business waste for recycling



### Box 1 - YES please:

- ✓ Paper including: newspapers, magazines, leaflets, printed paper, white envelopes and telephone directories
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars
- ✓ Aluminium foil (clean, not paper or plastic backed)
- ✓ Clothes – bagged to keep dry
- ✓ Shoes – tied in pairs & bagged
- ✓ Car batteries

Please do not put clothes or shoes out on wet days.

## Help us to help you

**When:** Please ensure your refuse and recycling is ready for collection by **7am** on your collection day - collection times may vary. Please see separate notice for details of your collection days.

**Where:** Please place your bins and boxes at the edge of your property nearest the road where these can easily be seen. Please do not obstruct the pavement.

**Need help?** If you have difficulty in putting containers out for collection and there is nobody that can help you with this, please contact us to request assistance.

**Bank Holidays:** Following single bank holidays, collections will be one day late that week, with collections usually on Friday made on Saturday. Revised collection days over the Christmas period are advertised in the local press and posted on our website.

**Bad Weather:** Services can be disrupted by severe weather. If this happens please check [somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk) for information.

## Contact

Mendip District Council Customer Services

**01749 648999**

**e-mail: [customerservices@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@mendip.gov.uk)**



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**To request this document in an alternative format, please call (01823) 625700**

The Somerset Waste Partnership manages waste and recycling services on behalf of all local authorities in Somerset.

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# SORT IT PLUS

## Recycling, food waste, garden waste and refuse collections

How to use the improved collection services starting in your area soon. Please see separate notice for details of collection days.



## Weekly food waste

Food waste makes up over a quarter of the average household's bin waste by weight.

You have been given a food waste bin for weekly collections. The lockable lid can be opened by moving the handle backwards. Please lock the lid when putting out for collection. There is also a smaller kitchen caddy to store food waste in your home and transfer to the bin for collection.



Most food waste collected in Somerset is composted and used on local farms, helping the local economy.

Use newspaper to wrap food waste or line your caddy, or buy compostable liners (see calendar insert for local suppliers or visit [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk)). DO NOT use plastic bags as they will not compost (even ones marked "biodegradable"). Food waste in plastic bags will not be collected.



Wash hands and surfaces after handling food and store it away from heat with the lid closed.

### YES please:

All cooked and raw food, including:

- ✓ Fruit and vegetables
- ✓ Meat and fish
- ✓ Cheese and egg shells
- ✓ Bread, pasta, cereal
- ✓ Tea bags and coffee grounds

### NO thanks:

- ✗ Plastic (including plastic bags)
- ✗ Garden waste
- ✗ Any other household waste

## Too much food waste for your bin?

If required, a second food waste bin can be supplied. To request this, see contact details on the back page.

## Garden waste

There is a charge for fortnightly garden waste collections. For details or to place an order, please see contact details on the back page.

Garden waste will only be collected if contained inside the special brown wheeled bins or paper sacks that you have ordered. Wheeled bin lids must be closed.



### YES please:

- ✓ Flowers and plants
- ✓ Weeds
- ✓ Grass cuttings
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Bark
- ✓ Hedge prunings
- ✓ Branches (less than 10cm or 4 inches thick)
- ✓ Straw or sawdust (if bedding material, only from vegetarian animals)

### NO thanks:

- ✗ Plastic, metal and glass
- ✗ Food waste
- ✗ Soil, turf, stone or rubble
- ✗ Treated wood
- ✗ Branches (over 10cm or 4 inches thick)
- ✗ Plant pots
- ✗ Cat and dog litter
- ✗ Vacuum cleaner contents
- ✗ Any other household waste

## Home composting of food & garden waste is best

Home composting is the best option, with most environmental benefits, for dealing with your garden waste and some food waste. Somerset Waste Partnership offers cut-price home compost bins, which can be ordered for home delivery.

If you would like further details, please visit [www.somerset.getcomposting.com](http://www.somerset.getcomposting.com) or call 0844 571 4444.



## Fortnightly refuse

Your domestic refuse will be collected fortnightly. If you have a wheeled bin for refuse, please use this. The lid should be closed and only refuse contained in the bin will normally be collected. Extra refuse on top or alongside will not normally be taken.



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



### Accepted:

Household waste which cannot be collected for recycling or composting, such as:

- ✓ Plastic packaging and film
- ✓ Vacuum cleaner contents
- ✓ Cat, dog or other pet litter
- ✓ Nappies (please consider using reusable cloth nappies instead of disposables, which are also cheaper in the long run).

### NO thanks:

- ✗ Food waste and recyclable materials accepted by other collection services
- ✗ Garden waste
- ✗ Hot ash
- ✗ Rubble, earth and stones
- ✗ Hypodermics
- ✗ Bulky household items
- ✗ Engine oil, paint or other chemicals
- ✗ Business or commercial waste

## Extra Refuse

- If you occasionally have extra or bulky household waste for disposal, this can be taken to a Household Waste Recycling Centre.
- Contact Customer Services (see back page):
  - for advice or to request extra capacity if you regularly have too much refuse for your bin;
  - to order a chargeable special collection for bulky waste.
- For business and other non-household waste please look in your local directory under Waste Services for a supplier.