

# Recycling and Refuse Collection Services

Below is some useful information to help keep you and the collection crews safe when dealing with your household waste:



## Hazardous waste

Please do not put hazardous waste, rubble, stone or soil, liquids including paint and oil, heavy metal items, tyres, gas canisters and DIY materials into the wheeled bins. The Council is unable to collect and dispose of these. Please contact Warwickshire County Council's Waste Management Department 01926 412593 or visit [www.warwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk) for more information on safe disposal.



## Sharp items

Please wrap or contain any sharp items before putting them in your grey bin or sack, e.g. wrap broken glass in newspaper, place needles in a sealed plastic bottle.



## Handling bins and boxes

Before moving your full wheeled bin, use your foot at the base of the bin to help tip it back towards you whilst firmly holding the handles, then wheel it carefully to your designated location.

Don't overfill your recycling containers as you may struggle to move them to the edge of your property. Here are some tips:

- Use the lid on your red box as this will help to prevent overfilling and protect the box contents from rainwater.
- Squashing cans and plastic bottles and collapsing any boxes such as cereal boxes will mean that less room is taken up inside your box/bag.
- Try placing your red box at the edge of your property and transferring recyclable material to it in smaller quantities.
- Extra recycling can always be put into tubs (no larger than the red box), cardboard boxes and /or plastic carrier bags (untied) next to your box.
- If you can't fit everything in your red box/bag, a second red box and/or bag can be provided. Contact the Sort It Team for further details.



## Location of bins and boxes for collection

Please ensure that when placing your containers at the edge of your property for collection they are placed in such a way as not to cause an obstruction to pedestrians or vehicles.

Please do not place on the pavement or grass verge.

Please ensure that your wheeled bins are placed on firm/level ground to minimise the risk of them falling over.



## Recycling bags

Some of the red recycling bags may have a strong smell created during the manufacturing process, this will fade over time. However we recommend that the bags are stored in a well ventilated area, preferably outside and avoiding direct sunlight. If you are unable to do this or would like to exchange your bag, please contact the Sort It Team who will be able to provide further advice. The recycling bags should not be used for any other purpose than waste recycling.



## Damaged containers

If any of your bins/boxes/bags become damaged, please report this to the Sort It Team who will arrange for them to be replaced.

# Top Tips to Keep Your Bins & Boxes Clean



## **Keep the bins out of the sun**

Try to keep your bins out of direct sunlight and away from open windows or doors. The sun will warm up the bins and increase the chance of smells so find a shady place to store them if possible.

## **Keep the lid down**

By doing this, flies will not be able to enter the bin and lay their eggs. If flies do get into your bin, once empty, clean and disinfect it well to kill any eggs.

## **Wash the inside of the bin**

Regularly clean out your wheeled bin to get rid of any residues. You can do this yourself – try putting the bin on its side and use a broom, mop or hose to give it a good clean. Use an antibacterial cleaner to kill off any germs. The smell of a cleaning product will also help to deter flies.

## **Double wrap waste**

In summer you can help prevent meat and fish waste from smelling by double wrapping it.

Make sure you double wrap animal excrement before putting it into your grey non-recyclable bin. If your house generates a lot of animal waste, you could take it to the Household Waste Recycling Centre for disposal.

## **Grey bin**

Bin liners or refuse sacks can be used to contain non-recyclable waste. Squeeze the air out of the bag before tying it. The lack of air slows down general decomposition and will therefore reduce smells.

## **Green bin**

Do not use plastic bags in your green bin – even if biodegradable, compostable or corn starch. These bags take too long to compost in the 'in-vessel composting process' used. Wrap food waste in paper to help absorb the moisture and keep the green bin clean.

## **Throw food scraps straight away**

Try not to leave leftover food, or uneaten cat or dog food, uncovered before you put it into the bin. If flies land on the food they may lay eggs and these will hatch into maggots. Do not worry if you find maggots, whilst unpleasant they are not a direct threat to health. Boiling water will kill maggots and fly eggs. For more information on maggots please visit our website or contact the Sort It Team.

## **Smelly bins**

Special air fresheners can be bought that fit to the inside lid of your bin and absorb smells.

## **Wash, squash and flatten recyclable materials**

Make sure all cans, foil, jars and bottles are clean and dry before putting them in your recycling box/bag. Put them in your dishwasher or use your dirty washing up water to give them a good clean.

**If you have any queries contact the Sort It Team**

**01926 456339**

**sort-it@warwickdc.gov.uk**

**www.warwickdc.gov.uk**



 **recycle for Warwick District**

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