

 recycle for Aberdeenshire

# Your recycling service

All you  
need to  
know



You can help maintain local services by  
recycling from all around your home -  
a winning combination

[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste)

Aberdeenshire  
COUNCIL 

# Your recycling and waste services

Your household is provided with the following bins for recycling and waste.



## Blue Lid Bin

Paper, card, & cardboard only.

Collected every three weeks.



## Orange Lid Bin

Plastic bottles, pots, tubs, & trays, tins, cans, foil, aerosols, food & drinks cartons.

Collected every three weeks.



## Black Lid Bin

Non-recyclable waste.

Collected every three weeks.

## Food Waste Caddies

Cooked & uncooked food waste  
Collected every week

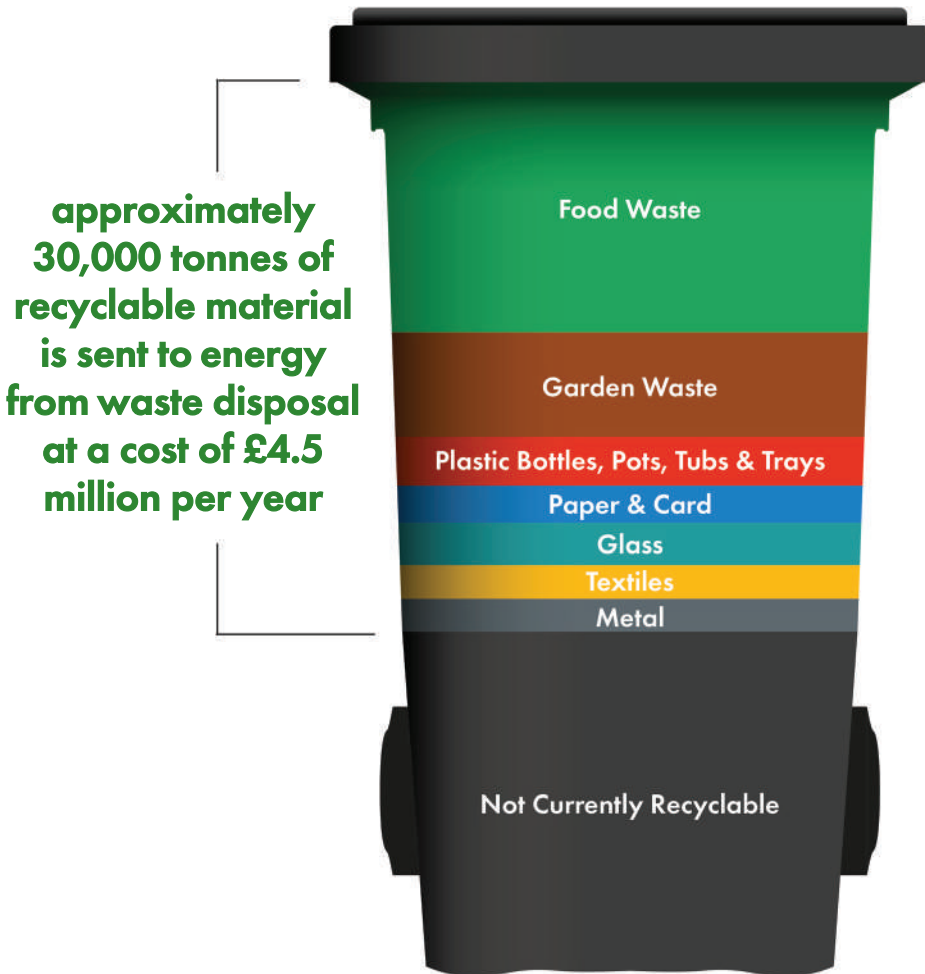


# Could you recycle more?

Around 70% of the waste we produce in Aberdeenshire is recyclable using our existing recycling services, however in 2024 we only managed to recycle 44.7%.

We are still putting too much recycling waste into our non-recyclable waste bins.

Here's what goes into a typical non-recyclable waste bin in Aberdeenshire at the moment - **over half could be recycled if sorted correctly:**



Collected every 3 weeks

# Paper, Card and Cardboard

(Blue lidded bin)



## Yes

### Paper

#### Clean and dry

- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ Magazines, catalogues and directories
- ✓ Junk mail
- ✓ Letters and envelopes (including windows)
- ✓ Office and shredded paper
- ✓ Paperback books - or take them to a charity shop
- ✓ Glitter free wrapping paper

### Cardboard

#### Flattened

- ✓ Large and small cardboard boxes - For example cereal, detergent boxes and packaging
- ✓ Brown corrugated packaging
- ✓ Toilet and kitchen roll tubes
- ✓ Glitter free greetings cards

## No

- ✗ Tissues and napkins
- ✗ Padded envelopes
- ✗ Kitchen towels
- ✗ Cardboard contaminated with food
- ✗ Wallpaper
- ✗ Nappies
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Plastics, metals & cartons (Please use your Orange Lidded Bin for these)



### Top Tips!

Remove all plastic inserts and polystyrene.



1 Collect your paper, card & cardboard (flatten your cardboard).



2 Place your paper, card & cardboard into your blue lidded bin.



3 Place your blue lidded bin at the kerbside on your collection day and we will collect it every three weeks.



4 Paper and card can be recycled into new newspapers and packaging.

Collected every 3 weeks

# Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays, tins, cans, foil, aerosols, food and drinks cartons

(Orange lidded bin)

Only certain plastics and metals are accepted, please check the list below for details



## Yes

### Metals

#### Empty and rinsed

- ✓ Tins
- ✓ Drinks cans
- ✓ Empty aerosols
- ✓ Foil trays (clean)
- ✓ Aluminium foil (clean)
- ✓ Chocolate and biscuit tins
- ✓ Metal lids

### Plastics

#### Rinsed and squashed

- ✓ Plastic food and drink bottles
- ✓ Plastic toiletry & cleaning bottles
- ✓ Plastic tablet and medicine bottles
- ✓ Pots, tubs and trays
- ✓ Lids and tops
- ✓ Yoghurt pots

### Cartons

#### Rinsed and squashed

- ✓ Fruit juice, milk, soup and sauce cartons

## No

- ✗ Plastic bags, liners and cling-film
- ✗ Bubble wrap
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Plastic wrappers
- ✗ Crisp bags & biscuit wrappers
- ✗ Plastic netting
- ✗ Nappies
- ✗ Items contaminated with food
- ✗ Oil & paint tins
- ✗ Glass
- ✗ Glittery or metallic wrapping paper



### Did you know...?

Plastic film and crisp packets can be recycled at most supermarkets.



1 Rinse your metals, and rinse and squash your plastics and cartons.



2 Place your plastics, metals & cartons into your orange lidded bin.



3 Place your orange lidded bin at the kerbside on your collection day and we will collect it every three weeks.



Metals, plastics and cartons can be recycled into new aerosols, plastic bottles, tins and cans.

Collected every week

# Food caddies

All types of food waste  
- cooked and uncooked.



## Yes

- ✓ ALL cooked and uncooked food waste
- ✓ Leftovers and plate scrapings
- ✓ Peelings
- ✓ Out of date food (unpacked)
- ✓ Pasta, bread, cereal and pastries
- ✓ Meat, fish, bones, eggs and shells
- ✓ Tea bags and coffee grounds
- ✓ Pet food

## No

- ✗ Liquids or oils
- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Food packaging

## Need more liners?

**Simply tie an unused liner to your outdoor caddy handle and we will leave a new supply on your next collection day.**





- 1 Put any cooked or uncooked, unavoidable food waste into your indoor caddy.



- 2 When the liner is almost full, tie and remove it. Replace with a new liner.



- 3 Place the full liner into your outdoor caddy.



- 4 Place your outdoor caddy at the kerbside on your collection day and we will empty it every week.



- 5 Your food waste is taken to a local composting plant.



- 6 Before being processed into compost.

Collected every 3 weeks

# Black Bin

## All non-recyclable waste

All non-recyclable general waste is sent to the Ness energy from waste facility in Altens, Aberdeen where it is processed, producing electricity for the national grid and heat for a local district heating network.

**Do not place food waste and recyclables in your black bin - please use the recycling services provided.**

### Yes

- ✓ Items that cannot be recycled
- ✓ Polystyrene packaging
- ✓ Plastic film
- ✓ Nappies

### No

- ✗ Any item that can be recycled - this should be recycled either through the kerbside recycling collections or via recycling points and centres.
- ✗ Food waste - this should be recycled through the weekly food waste collection service.
- ✗ Batteries - these should be recycled through the kerbside recycling collection or via recycling centres.

### Are you recycling correctly?

The waste in your black bin is sent to Ness energy from waste facility for disposal. We have discovered that for the average household, 62% of this waste could have been recycled but was disposed of through energy from waste at a significantly higher cost to Aberdeenshire Council when compared to the cost for recycling.

Never put batteries in your waste bin, always remember to remove them from toys, etc. and recycle them separately from your household rubbish to prevent them from being crushed and causing a fire



# Glass and textiles



You can recycle all colours of glass and textiles at your local recycling point - find out where your nearest one is by visiting [Glass and textiles recycling points - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

Lids and tops can be put back on - there is no need to remove labels.



**1** Rinse your glass jars to remove any food residue.

**2** Recycle glass bottles and jars at your local recycling point or centre.



**1** Tie shoes in pairs and place items in a plastic bag.



**2** Recycle clothes, shoes, bags, belts, towels and bed linen at your local recycling point. Other types of textiles can be taken to charity shops.

# Household batteries



If you need more battery bags, attach an empty battery bag to any bin and we will leave you a new supply. Please **do not** leave out loose batteries - always use a bag.



- 1** Place your household batteries, including mobile phone and laptop batteries, in the battery recycling bag.



- 2** Leave the bag on top of either your non-recyclable waste or blue or orange lidded recycling bin on your collection day.

## Home composting of garden waste

Composting your organic waste is a cheap, natural process. It allows you to recycle your kitchen and garden waste into valuable food for your garden.

More information can be found here:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/homecomposter>

# Recycling centres and seasonal garden waste collection points

**Recycling centres** are located across Aberdeenshire - for address details, opening hours and materials that can be recycled please visit [aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste](http://aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste)

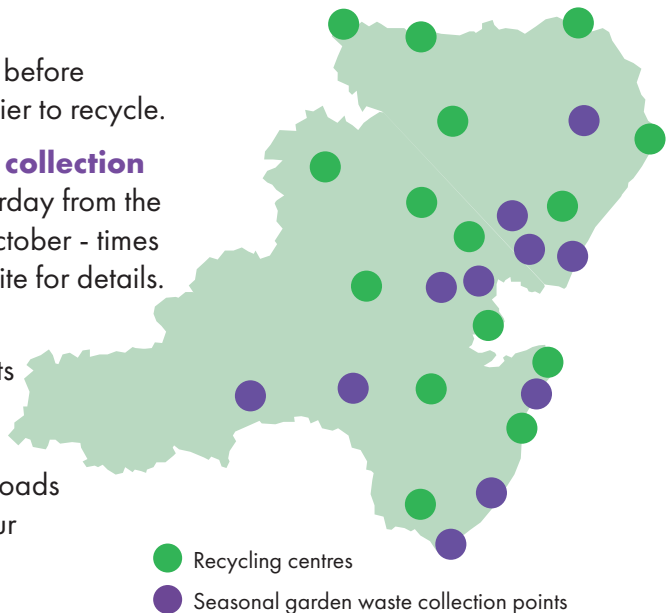
**You can take the following materials to recycling centres - materials vary by centre so please check the website before making the journey:**

- ✓ Batteries (household)
- ✓ Batteries (car)
- ✓ Blue bin recycling
- ✓ Cooking oil
- ✓ Electrical appliances
- ✓ Engine oil
- ✓ Fluorescent tubes (including energy saving bulbs)
- ✓ Garden waste
- ✓ Gas cylinders
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars
- ✓ Orange bin recycling
- ✓ Plasterboard
- ✓ Rubble and ceramics
- ✓ Scrap metal
- ✓ Soil and turf
- ✓ Textiles (clothes and shoes, bags, belts, towels and bed linen)
- ✓ Wood (including treated)
- ✓ Re-use (furniture, mattresses and household goods)
- ✓ Non-recyclable waste

Always separate your waste before visiting the site to make it easier to recycle.

**Seasonal garden waste collection points** are open every Saturday from the start of April to the end of October - times vary, please check our website for details.

For operational reasons the seasonal garden waste points are for small quantities of garden waste only. Please take larger items and trailer loads of loose garden waste to your local recycling centre.



**Every year in Scotland many potentially re-useable items are sent for disposal.**

There are great re-use organisations in the region that offer alternative ways to dispose of your unwanted items whilst helping your local community and reducing the volume and cost of waste sent for disposal.

If you have large items at home that you no longer need and are still in good condition, please visit the Zero Waste Scotland Reuse tool to find your local reuse organisation. They may be able to collect your unwanted items from your home or you can take them along to your nearest shop.

<https://reusetool.zerowastescotland.org.uk/>

Schemes currently running in Aberdeenshire:**Re-use schemes - Aberdeenshire Council**



**Why re-use?**

- You'll be benefiting your local community and charitable organisations by supporting employment and volunteering opportunities.
- You'll be helping to reduce the amount of items being sent for disposal, reducing the environmental impact of waste.
- You'll be saving your Local Authority in disposal costs; money which can be better spent in your community.
- Please check website for local re-use opportunities.



Furniture is a great example of what can be re-used.

# Frequently asked questions...

**Can I recycle electrical items?**

**There are a number of ways in which electrical goods can be recycled.**

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive sets targets for increasing the recycling rate for electrical goods.



**Remove any batteries before taking to the recycling centre and recycle separately**

**Why don't you accept plastic bags for recycling?**

**Plastic bags are made of a range of lower-value plastics which are difficult to sort and re-process, they can contaminate other materials and become entangled in the sorting machinery. Re-use your carrier bags or take them to a supermarket that has a recycling collection for bags.**



**Nappies can only go in the black bin!**

Many companies that sell electrical goods will now also take away your old appliances when they deliver the new one.

**Some charity shops will also accept electrical goods.**



# Need anything else?

## Additional non-recyclable waste bin

Any household can request an extra bin. An assessment is required to check that you are using the recycling services (including food waste) and meet the criteria for additional non-recyclable waste bins. You will also need to pay a delivery charge.

## Additional blue-lidded and orange-lidded recycling bins

Additional recycling bins are available free of charge.

## Additional food waste caddy

You can collect food waste caddies and food liners free of charge from a recycling centre.

## Assisted collections

If there is nobody at your house who is able to put your bin out for collection, we can provide an assisted collection service.

## Bulky uplift

We provide a collection service for items which, due to their sheer size, do not fit into wheeled bins. This is a chargeable service and cannot be used for bags of waste or recycling. If you have large items that are still in good condition, and suitable for reuse, please visit the [Zero Waste Scotland Reuse tool](#) to find your local reuse organisation. They may be able to collect your unwanted items from your home or you can take them along to your nearest shop.

## Battery Bags and Food Waste Bags

Are available from your collection crew.

Download the myAberdeenshire app at

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/my/mobile-app> to get notifications about changes to your collections and bin day reminders.

For more information and to request additional bins please visit: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/household-rubbish/>

**Contact us** [waste@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:waste@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) • **03456 081207**

