GREATER CAMBRIDGE
SHARED WASTE

Your Guide to Recycling and Waste Services

AT FLATS



www.greatercambridgewaste.org

The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service is a strategic partnership between Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council

Recycling and rubbish bins

Recycling bins will either be in your bin store with your rubbish bins, or in a separate recycling bin area.

Please do not leave items on the floor, as this means we cannot gain access to empty the bins, and other residents cannot use them.

Flatten large cardboard boxes and squash plastic bottles, and put recycling in the bins loose - not inside bags or black bin bags.

Bin collections

Recycling bins are emptied fortnightly, usually on the alternate week to your rubbish bin collections. Food waste bins are emptied weekly.

Bins can only be emptied if crews can access them, the lids are closed and they are not overloaded. Crews will not move items left on the ground or on lids blocking access to the bins.

The council's Waste service is responsible for emptying the bins and can also be contacted about broken bins, exchanging bins and recycling education. Your managing agent is responsible for providing the correct waste facilities, cleaning the bins and bin store and removing fly-tipping.

Any problems with the bin store should be reported to your managing agent as soon as possible so they can be resolved.

Furniture and large items

These items MUST NOT be left in the bin store or around the bins. This is fly-tipping.

They can be taken to Recycling Centres (Milton or Thriplow) free of charge, or collected by the council; please contact us to find out more. There is more information on our website.



Before you recycle...



Reduce
We throw away the equivalent of 8 meals every week! Get help to save money and food from **www.lovefoodhatewaste.com**

Re-use
More and more people are choosing reusable nappies, wipes and period products. You can get a discount on these through our scheme – check our website for details. Take a reusable bottle or cup and shopping bag with you when you go out.

Repair
Find local Repair Cafés where you can take household items and clothing at **www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/repair-cafes**. Get help with fixing tech yourself at **www.ifixit.com**.

Re-home
Re-home unwanted items through charities like Cambridge Re-Use, British Heart Foundation or Emmaus; websites like Freegle, Gumtree, Facebook marketplace; or apps like Olio or Vinted. Book a free collection for items like kitchenware, small appliances, clothes and books from Anglo Doorstep Collections.

Refill
Choose loose fruit and veg and bars of soap, or refill containers with cleaning products or dry foods at local Refill Shops - find a list of local ones on our website.

Rot
If you have a garden, home composting is a great way to turn food and garden waste into compost for your plants at home. Buy bargain compost bins at **www.getcomposting.com**

Repeat!
Find out even more ways to reduce your waste before you recycle on our website, including ideas for community groups.



Food waste bins

Empty your food waste from your kitchen caddy into the shared silver food waste bin

YES PLEASE



Food waste

All food waste including cooked, uncooked, dairy, meat, fish and bones. Food waste can be bagged in paper, see-through plastic or compostable plastic bags.

NO THANKS

- ✗ **No** packaging (except caddy liners)
- ✗ **No** liquids e.g. oils, milk
- ✗ **No** other items that are not food



Green garden waste bins

You should only have garden waste bins if you have a garden or communal garden.

Yes



Garden waste



Untreated wood and sawdust



Cut flowers

No

- ✗ Plastic including compostable plastics
- ✗ Loose ash
- ✗ Soil or stones
- ✗ Painted or treated wood
- ✗ Cat or dog waste

Not sure if it can go in the recycling or food waste?

If in doubt, leave it out! If you have an item which is not listed under the 'Yes' sections, you can check our website directory to see where it should go, or just put it in the rubbish bins.



Recycling bins

✓Clean ✓Empty ✓Don't bag it

YES PLEASE



Cardboard (flattened)



Paper & magazines



Tins, cans & foil



Glass bottles & jars



Cartons



Plastic packaging: pots, tubs and trays



Aerosol cans



Plastic bottles



Plastic bags, film & wrappers

NO THANKS

- ✗ **No** rubbish or black bags
- ✗ **No** polystyrene
- ✗ **No** other plastics such as toys, mops, bowls or coat-hangers
- ✗ **No** pet food pouches or crisp packets
- ✗ **No** nappies, wipes or tissues
- ✗ **No** food or garden waste
- ✗ **No** clothes, duvets, pillows or carpet
- ✗ **No** batteries, light bulbs, vapes or electrical items
- ✗ **No** furniture, wood, window glass, mirrors or china



Black rubbish bins

YES PLEASE



Black bags



Polystyrene



Nappies & wet wipes

- ✔ ALL rubbish (black bags)
- ✔ Nappies or pet waste
- ✔ Polystyrene
- ✔ Scrap metals (saucepans etc.)
- ✔ Other plastics (such as toys, mops and washing-up-bowls)
- ✔ Items that can't be recycled in the blue bins

NO THANKS

- ✗ **No** light bulbs, batteries, vapes or electricals
- ✗ **No** DIY waste, rubble or stones
- ✗ **No** furniture or large heavy items

For more details on what can go in the bins, arranging a bulky waste collection or where to find recycling points, see our website.

PLEASE DO NOT

- ✗ Please do not put the wrong items in the bins.
- ✗ Please do not overload the bins, lids should close.
- ✗ Please do not put any items on the floor

Leaving items on the floor is fly-tipping and you could be fined.

Places to recycle more

Recycling Points
There are recycling banks around the Greater Cambridge area for shoes, clothing and textiles (clean and dry, but can be worn out) and some other items.

See our websites or **www.recyclenow.com** for details and locations.

Household Recycling Centres
The large Recycling Centres near Milton and Thriplow are managed by Cambridgeshire County Council.

You can recycle a range of items including cardboard, large appliances, wood, scrap metal and car batteries, as well as dispose of bulky items.

For more information and opening times visit **www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

Shops
You'll usually find collection points for batteries and vapes at supermarkets. You can also take old small electrical items back to shops for recycling when you buy a new one. Some shops like Curry's and B&Q accept small electricals without purchase.

Find places to recycle electricals at **www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk**
Having a large item delivered? The retailer may provide a service to remove your old one, or the packaging they deliver it in.

Our Recycling Directory on the 'What goes in your bins?' page of our website links to more information.





Never bin batteries

Loose batteries and batteries hidden in electrical items like vapes, phones and even toothbrushes are causing fires in bin lorries and recycling centres.

How exactly do these fires start?

1. If binned, the battery or electrical is emptied into the bin lorry with your household rubbish or recycling
2. The lorry's powerful 'compacting blade' compresses the rubbish together in the back of the vehicle so that it can fit more in
3. If the battery gets crushed or damaged in this process, air and water can react together with the chemicals and batteries begin to spark which can start a fire!

Battery fires are particularly dangerous as the lithium in them releases its own oxygen. This intensifies the fire and makes it more difficult to put out.





So remember, never bin batteries or electrical items. Always recycle batteries separately from your household waste and recycling; most shops which sell batteries or vapes have a collection bin for them.

Use the locator at

www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk

to find your nearest recycling point for batteries or small electrical items