

Food Waste Recycling

 recycle for Cambridge



Click: www.cambridge.gov.uk

Email: wasteandstreets@cambridge.gov.uk

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1

Save food and save money

Not all food can be eaten unfortunately: there will always be peelings, bones, egg shells etc. but what about the food that we could have eaten?

The best thing we can do is make the most of the food and drink we buy rather than throwing it away - it's best financially and environmentally. Just think about all the energy, water and packaging used in food production, transportation and storage. This all goes to waste when we throw away perfectly good food. The average family throws away £60 worth of food every month so it is well worth planning meals in advance and using up leftovers to save you money.

For practical advice on how to reduce food waste visit: lovefoodhatewaste.com

Recycle what you can't eat

You can recycle all your food waste, including cooked food, bones, meat, fish, dairy and egg shells as well as fruit and vegetable peelings.

Make recycling food waste easier with a **free kitchen caddy** available from all council receptions. Simply scrape peelings and leftovers into it, then empty it every couple of days into your green bin.

What happens to your food waste?

Your food and garden waste is taken to a special composting plant in Waterbeach, just north of Cambridge, to be made into soil conditioner which is used on local farms and allotments. You can also collect free soil conditioner from the site to use on your garden. Find out more at: www.ameycespa.com/east



2

How do I use my caddy?



1 Use brown paper liners to wrap your food waste in. You can buy these for £2.80 for 50 at all council receptions except the Guildhall. **Please do not use plastic or corn starch liners** as these will not compost properly in our fast composting process. Alternatively you can use newspaper to wrap your food waste.



2 When it is full fold over the top of the liner and put it in your green bin.

3 Wrapping your food waste will help keep your caddy and green bin clean. Keep your caddy lid shut to keep out flies.

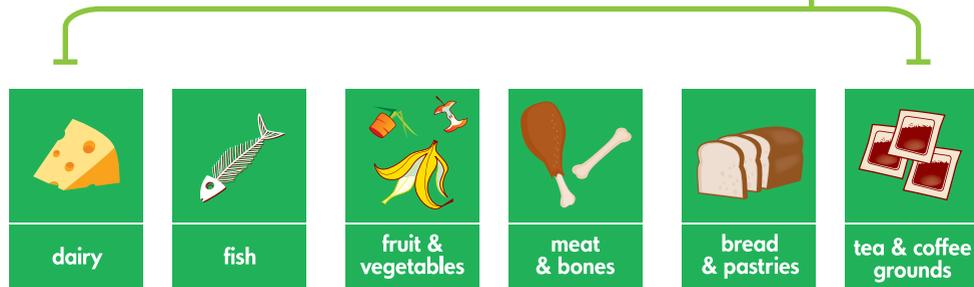


3

What can I put in my caddy?

You can put any raw or cooked food in your caddy.
You can even scrape uneaten food straight into your caddy.

- ✓ Meat and fish - raw and cooked including bones
- ✓ Fruit and vegetables - raw and cooked
- ✓ All dairy products such as eggs and cheese
- ✓ Bread, cakes, pastries and biscuits
- ✓ Rice, pasta and beans
- ✓ Uneaten food from your plates and dishes
- ✓ Tea bags and coffee grounds



No thanks
Please do not put any of these items in your caddy

- ✗ Packaging of any sort
- ✗ Plastic bags or corn starch liners

IF IN DOUBT PHONE AND FIND OUT

Please remember - if you already compost at home please keep composting your uncooked vegetable and fruit peelings in your compost bin or heap. For more information on how to start composting at home please see page 6.

4

What else goes in your green bin?

COMPOST

GREEN BIN OR BROWN SACKS

Please wrap food in newspaper or paper liners



RECYCLE BATTERIES:
pop them in a plastic bag and attach to the handle of the green bin



All food waste



Garden waste



Untreated wood and sawdust



Shredded paper

NO!

- ✗ Non-compostable items
- ✗ Plastic/plastic bags (including biodegradable/corn starch)
- ✗ Nappies
- ✗ Soil or stones
- ✗ Painted or treated wood
- ✗ Cat or dog waste
- ✗ Drink/soup cartons (e.g. Tetra Pak)
- ✗ Clothing and textiles

5

Frequently Asked Questions

Q Why are we doing this?

A Approximately 29% of the rubbish in an average household bin in Cambridge is food waste. It is better financially and environmentally to compost it and make a soil conditioner that will benefit local farmers, instead of it going to waste.

Q Will the food in my caddy smell?

A This can be prevented if you empty your food caddy regularly into the green bin. Fold over the paper liners securely or use newspaper to thoroughly wrap your food waste.

Q Will I get flies in my kitchen?

A Flies are attracted to any food. To prevent this keep your caddy lid shut and securely wrap food waste before placing in the green bin.

Q Can I use plastic bags or corn starch bags to line my caddy?

A No, the brown paper liners decompose easily and quickly. Plastic bags, compostable and biodegradable plastic bags and corn starch liners will not compost properly in our fast composting process.

6



Home Composting

Composting at home is an inexpensive, natural process that transforms your kitchen and garden waste into valuable and nutrient rich food for your garden. Everything from vegetable and fruit peelings to teabags, toilet roll tubes, cereal boxes and eggshells can be composted.

Take care not to compost cooked food, meat or fish though.

Buy a compost bin

You can either start your own compost heap or buy a bargain compost bin at: www.ccc.getcomposting.com or by calling: **0844 571 4444.**

For advice on composting at home visit: cambridge.gov.uk/home-composting or recyclenow.com/compost. Alternatively call: **0845 600 0323**



7

Tips for recycling food waste

Your
caddy is
FREE



Pick up a free kitchen caddy from any Council reception: Customer Service Centre, 4 Regent Street; Council Depot, Mill Road (by the bridge); City Homes, 89 Cherry Hinton Road; City Homes, 171 Arbury Road; The Guildhall, Market Square.



Use brown paper caddy liners to wrap your food waste before putting it in your green bin. You can buy these for £2.80 for 50 at all council receptions except the Guildhall. Other paper liners are available online – see www.cambridge.gov.uk/kitchen-caddy for details. Please do not use plastic or corn starch liners as these will not compost properly in our fast composting process. Alternatively you can use newspaper to wrap your food waste.



Empty your caddy into your green bin every couple of days, and give it a rinse. Keep the caddy lid and the green bin lid shut. This will help to stop smells and flies.



Remember that some things that you might not think of as food waste can go in your caddy – like tea bags and coffee grounds, banana skins, egg shells and even your pet's uneaten food!

LOVE
FOOD
hate waste

For practical advice on how to reduce food waste, and save up to £60 a month on your food bill, visit lovefoodhatewaste.com