Your guide to recycling and waste services in Cambridge

www.cambridge.gov.uk
@GtrCamRecycles
Greater Cambridge Recycles
01223 458282
Your recycling and waste collections

We collect recycling one week... ...and we collect rubbish bins the other week

A **blue bin** or box for all your recycling

A **green bin** or brown paper sacks for your food and garden waste

A **black bin** or white sacks for your non-recyclable rubbish

Use a kitchen caddy to collect food waste, then empty it into your green bin. Collect one free from the Customer Service Centre, 4 Regent Street, CB2 1BY or City Homes, 171 Arbury Road, CB4 2YG. Paper caddy liners are also sold at these locations in packs of 50.

Please do:

✓ Place your containers at the kerbside by 6am on your collection day (or after 6pm the day before), and completely close all bin lids

✓ Take your containers back in from the street as soon as possible after collection, so they do not block the pavement

Bins too big or damaged?
You can switch any of your standard size bins for a smaller bin or have damaged bins replaced. Visit [www.cambridge.gov.uk/bins](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/bins)

Please do not:

✗ Overload bins – very heavy bins will not be emptied

✗ Put non-recyclable items in your blue or green bins

✗ Use bio-plastic bags in your green bin

Assisted collections
If you are unable to move your bins to the kerbside for collection and there is no-one who can do this for you, please ask us about assisted collections.

Not sure if it can be recycled?
Check our Recycling A to Z at [www.cambridge.gov.uk/what-goes-in-which-bin](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/what-goes-in-which-bin)
Too much recycling to fit?

NEW From 1 October 2018

From 1 October if your blue bin is already full up, we will collect occasional extra recycling left next to your blue bin. If you always have more than you can fit in your bin, please order an extra blue bin free of charge.

How to leave out extra recycling:

- Break down cardboard to a size which would fit in the bin (with the lid closed) if there was space. We will collect one bundle left next to the bin. Don’t leave cardboard out in the rain. Soggy cardboard gets stuck to other materials making it hard to recycle.

- Place other extra recycling (except glass) in one transparent sack. Black sacks and more than one sack will not be collected. Transparent sacks are available online and in supermarkets.

- Put any glass inside your bin, not the sack, for safety reasons.

We will empty your bin first, then put the extra recycling (one sack of recycling and/or one bundle of cardboard) in the bin and empty it again.

Please note that we may be unable to collect extra recycling if collections have been delayed by roadworks, vehicle breakdowns or extreme weather.

Are you recycling right?

Make sure your recycling is:

- Empty
- Clean
- Not in bags

Not sure if you can recycle it? Check our Recycling A to Z at www.cambridge.gov.uk/what-goes-in-which-bin
What goes in your blue bins?

Yes

Recycle

- Clean
- Empty
- Don’t bag it

Batteries -
Attach them to your blue bin
All you need to do is put them in any plastic bag, and tie the bag to the handle of your blue bin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cartons</td>
<td>Food, liquid and garden waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty aerosols</td>
<td>Nappies/sanitary waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large tins</td>
<td>Envelopes containing bubble-wrap (for example Jiffy Bags)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic bottles, tubs, pots and trays</td>
<td>Wood, plasterboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper, magazines and envelopes</td>
<td>Pyrex, plate glass, glass dishes or light bulbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic bags, film and wrapping</td>
<td>Saucepans/other metal items not listed on the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greetings cards</td>
<td>Foil-lined plastic pouches (for example from pet food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>Crisp packets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foil and foil trays</td>
<td>Polystyrene or Styrofoam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cans, tins and metal jar lids</td>
<td>Plates/crockery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shredded Paper (put in old envelope or clear sack)</td>
<td>Clothing and textiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass bottles and jars</td>
<td>Video and cassette tapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electrical items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What goes in your green bin?

**Yes**
- Compost
  - Cooked/uncooked food waste (including meat, fish and dairy)
  - Untreated wood and sawdust
  - Garden waste

**No**
- Plastic & plastic bags (including biodegradable/corn starch)
- Non-compostable items
- Nappies
- Soil or stones
- Painted or treated wood
- Cat or dog waste
- Plant pots and seedling trays

What goes in your black bin?

**Yes**
- Reduce
  - Please try to reduce other rubbish that can not be recycled or composted
  - General rubbish including: nappies, polystyrene, crisp packets, pet food pouches / drinks pouches

**No**
- Rubble
- Bricks
- Soil
- Very heavy items
- Electrical items

Take to tips near Thriplow or Milton.
What else can I recycle?

If your items are in good condition, the best way to recycle them is by re-homing them. You can pass on items for free through websites like Freegle or give them to charities like British Heart Foundation, Cambridge Re-Use or Emmaus who may be able to collect them from you.

At Recycling Points you can recycle:

Clothes and textiles in any condition (must be clean and dry) – good quality clothing is re-sold or sent to those in need whilst damaged clothes are sold and shredded and the fibres made into things like industrial blankets, speakers and furniture stuffing.

Books, tapes and discs – good quality items are re-sold. Books that cannot be re-sold are sent for pulping and plastic from CDs and DVDs is recycled.

See www.cambridge.gov.uk for recycling point locations and what you can recycle at each.

At the Recycling Centres near Milton and Thriplow you can recycle a variety of items, including:

- garden waste
- appliances such as fridges and washing machines
- timber
- scrap metal
- some hard plastics such as garden furniture
- paint and paint tins
- fluorescent tubes
- car batteries

You can also dispose of extra rubbish, carpet, furniture and household chemicals. Please make sure you sort before you come, ask if you need help and follow site rules.

For more information and opening hours, please visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/recycling_centres

Collection of bulky items

We can collect many bulky items for a charge. Contact us or visit the website for more information.
Please check your bin day and download a collection calendar from [www.cambridge.gov.uk/binday](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/binday). If you are unable to do this and need a printed calendar, please email [waste@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:waste@cambridge.gov.uk) or call **01223 458282**.

**Please note the following changes to your normal collection day:**

### Christmas 2018/New Year 2019 collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usual day</th>
<th>Revised day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 24 Dec</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 25 Dec</td>
<td><strong>Sat 22 Dec</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26 Dec</td>
<td>Thur 27 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 27 Dec</td>
<td>Fri 28 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Dec</td>
<td><strong>Sat 29 Dec</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 31 Dec</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 01 Jan</td>
<td>Wed 02 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 02 Jan</td>
<td>Thu 03 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 03 Jan</td>
<td>Fri 04 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 04 Jan</td>
<td><strong>Sat 05 Jan</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Easter 2019 collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usual day</th>
<th>Revised day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td><strong>Tue 23 April</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Apr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
<td><strong>Wed 24 April</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Apr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 23 April</td>
<td><strong>Thu 25 April</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 24 April</td>
<td>Fri 26 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 25 April</td>
<td><strong>Sat 27 April</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 26 April</td>
<td>Mon 29 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29 April</td>
<td><strong>Tue 30 April</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 30 April</td>
<td>Wed 1 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1 May</td>
<td>Thu 2 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 2 May</td>
<td>Fri 3 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 3 May</td>
<td><strong>Sat 4 May</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bank holiday collections

Collections following bank holiday Mondays (6 May, 27 May, 26 August) will take place one day later than normal, with Friday’s collections taking place on Saturdays.
Cambridge recycles plastic!

Most people in Cambridge recycle plastic packaging, but there's sometimes confusion about which plastic can go in your blue bin, and how they should be recycled. Here's a handy guide.

Recycle the following items in your blue bin:

**Bottles (kitchen, bathroom and cleaning products):** Empty, rinse and squash, put trigger spray or lid back on but remove hand soap pumps (put them in your black bin).

**Margarine tubs and yoghurt pots:** Wash, put lids back on.

**Meat trays and fruit punnets:** Take out the absorbent layer (put that in your black bin) and rinse. The flimsy film top can also go in your blue bin.

**Bread / fruit / veg packaging:** Empty bags, putting any food waste in your green bin to be turned into compost.

**Carrier bags and bubble wrap** (re-use when possible) and outer packaging from multipacks.

If you squash containers, you can get more in your bin. It also helps us use the space in our recycling trucks more efficiently and reduce the number of times we need to empty them. Squashing also stops pressurised bottles from exploding when they are crushed into bales after sorting.

It’s important to rinse and empty recyclables as any food or liquid residue makes it more difficult and expensive to recycle. It can also spoil other materials you put in your blue bin.

Put items you are recycling in your blue bin loose, not in bags.