



Coming soon...

New recycling scheme for Wealden villages and rural areas

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What does the new recycling scheme involve?



You keep your existing grey wheelie bin and continue to use this for your landfill waste. We will also provide you with the following:

- An additional grey wheelie bin called the 'bin for green waste' for green garden waste and cardboard which is composted locally.
- A 'red-handled caddy' for plastic bottles, food and drinks cans, beverage cartons, aerosols and foil.
- A 'blue-handled caddy' for newspaper, magazines, phonebooks and junk mail.

On your normal collection day one week we will be emptying your bin for landfill waste and red-handled caddy, and the same day the following week we will empty your bin for green waste and blue-handled caddy. Each caddy fits on the rim inside the wheelie bin to be emptied that week. Smaller wheelie bins and caddies are available on request. Larger shared recycling containers will be provided for communal properties.

If you think you will have difficulties lifting or moving the containers please get in touch. To order the smaller containers please let us know by **Friday 2nd July**.

Waste Management

Email: recycling@wealden.gov.uk

Website: www.wealden.gov.uk and follow the link for recycling

Telephone: **01892 602626**



What happens next?

Find out more about the new scheme by coming along to one of our public meetings (listed below). You can talk to staff about the scheme, see what the new containers look like, hear about how it's all recycled and get some useful tips on home composting.

By 12th July 2010 – A recycling calendar will be sent to you. This includes full details of what goes into the new containers and your collection pattern.

By 23rd July 2010 – A wheelie bin and two recycling caddies will be delivered to your property.

Weeks commencing 2nd August 2010 – collections start. Your first collection will be for the bin for green waste and blue-handled caddy as advised in your recycling calendar.

Dates of public events

Saturday 19th June	10am	Maresfield Village Hall
Monday 21st June	7pm	East Hoathly Village Hall
Tuesday 22nd June	7pm	Framfield Village Hall
Wednesday 23rd June	7pm	Isfield Village Hall
Thursday 24th June	7pm	Nutley War Memorial Hall
Saturday 26th June	10am	The Reading Rooms, Church Road, Buxted
Tuesday 29th June	7pm	St Marks Primary School, Hadlow Down
Wednesday 30th June	7pm	Cross in Hand Village Hall
Thursday 1st July	7pm	Fletching Village Hall

Benefits of the scheme

- Increased recycling rates, and thus less to landfill
- Easier for you to recycle
- Fewer car journeys to central recycling points
- Not too many bins, smaller ones available on request
- Clean, high-quality, dry, recyclable materials

So how can we better manage waste?

We believe that this recycling scheme will encourage people to put less waste into their landfill bin, and recycle and reuse more. As you can see from the chart below, the recycling scheme will help to divert on average 39% of materials away from landfill/incineration. Other materials such as glass and textiles can be taken to neighbourhood recycling points. Please see our website for details of current locations. We may be able to increase the number of these sites, so if you have any ideas for further locations we would like to hear from you. Additionally, see overleaf for more tips on how to deal with other potentially significant portions of the average bin.

What the average Wealden household produces . . .



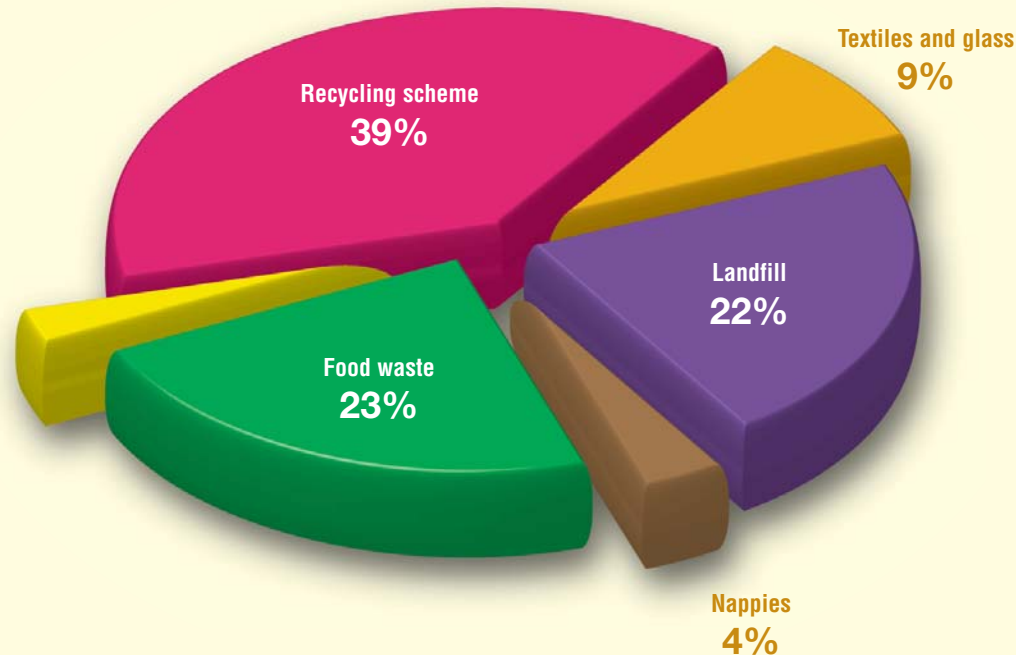
Recycling scheme 39%

We will collect from you: plastic bottles, paper, cardboard, beverage cartons, cans, foil, aerosols and green waste.

Other recyclables and electrical goods 3%

Electrical goods should not be placed into your bin anymore, so if they are not working please take them to your local household waste recycling site, check our website for locations. If they still work safely, please try and pass them to a good cause! Other recyclables could include books, DVDs, CDs, etc, these again can be passed onto a good cause if they are still in good condition. Why not check our website for more ways to reuse items?

Other
recyclables and
electrical goods
3%



Food waste 23% See overleaf for further details on cutting food waste.

Nappies 4% For households with a child in nappies disposables can take up a large amount of space in their landfill bin, and these nappies take hundreds of years to rot down. Wealden offers washable nappy 'trial kits' to encourage parents to try an alternative to disposable nappies, whilst saving money as well. They are free and available from the Waste Management Team. Please contact us.



Textiles and glass 9%

These can be taken to your local neighbourhood recycling point. For more about our glass recycling arrangements see overleaf.

Landfill 22% With the aid of this scheme, and by diverting other materials listed on this page, the amount of waste that needs to be landfilled can be reduced to 22% of the overall waste produced. Given that Wealden households generate over 60,000 tonnes of waste each year, this reduction has a significant environmental benefit.

These statistics have been derived from waste analysis, carried out in April 2007, shortly before the pilot recycling scheme commenced. Waste from a sample of households in the Forest Row/Danehill area was used for this study.

Further research carried out several months after the scheme started demonstrated a significant decrease in recyclable materials going to landfill and less landfill material overall.

Reducing waste in your landfill bin

As well as maximising recycling, this scheme is designed to reduce the amount of waste that is sent to landfill, and we need your help to deal with the remaining useful material that we do not collect. Here is some advice on what else you can do:

Glass bottles and jars – why don't we collect them at kerbside?



When collected in separate colours they can be recycled an infinite number of times, saving energy and raw materials. However, mixed glass is extremely difficult (and expensive) to separate so is generally used as aggregate in road construction, or as cavity wall insulation, and is therefore lost as a recyclable material.

This is why in Wealden we collect glass in separate colours from our recycling points located at many sites around the District. This glass then goes for recycling at OI Glass in Essex. For us to continue to collect glass separately and offer a kerbside collection for this material we would need bespoke vehicles with three compartments for glass alone, which would entail an additional fleet of vehicles just for glass collection. The adverse economic and environmental impacts of introducing this sort of service in Wealden, one of the largest districts in the country, would be unacceptably high.

The average UK family uses 331 glass bottles and jars each year, so please continue to take your glass bottles and jars to your local recycling point, perhaps when you go shopping so that you don't need to make an additional journey.



Food waste

Food waste can comprise nearly a quarter of the average bin and aside from this amount of waste being sent to landfill and its environmental impact, it's a waste of money. On average every family with children in the UK throws away around £680 worth of food every year.

Of course you can home compost all of your food waste in a food waste digester, but there are other ways of reducing your food waste, where you may be able to 'reclaim' some of that money.

Food waste can be broadly categorised into three types:

- 1. Inedible food waste** – e.g. vegetable peelings, eggshells, coffee grounds and meat bones.
- 2. Leftovers** – waste from cooking or preparing too much.
- 3. Unused food** – e.g. where you bought too much (such as buy one get one free), food goes off before it gets eaten, or being thrown away as it is past its 'use by date'.

Inedible food waste – this is unavoidable and it is best to compost this type of food waste. Food waste digesters are available at reduced rates, please check our website and search for food waste digesters or give us a call for more details.

Leftovers – handy hints to try:

- Cook the right amount by measuring out food like pasta, rice and potatoes. A mug of uncooked rice is a good amount to feed four adults.
- Turn your leftover food into other dishes, such as soups, pies, stir fries, etc.



Try using the www.supercook.com or www.lovefoodhatewaste.com websites for ideas to use up random leftovers.

- Freeze food you're not planning to eat straight away, for instance make a large shepherd's pie and freeze it in portions to consume later.

Unused food – handy hints:

- Check the use-by dates – ensure that food will safely last until you need it.
- Don't buy one get one free, unless you are sure you will use whatever is on offer.
- Plan a week's meals in advance, and then shop accordingly.
- Ensure that your fridge is set at the correct temperature, between 1°C and 5°C, to keep food fresh for as long as possible.

Know your food dates

‘Use by’ – Never eat products after this date, and follow the storage instructions.

‘Best before’ – These dates refer to quality rather than food safety. Foods with a ‘best before’ date should be safe to eat after the ‘best before’ date, but they may no longer be at their best. This does not apply to eggs – never eat eggs after their ‘best before’ date.

Date marks such as **‘display until’** or **‘sell by’** often appear near or next to the ‘best before’ or ‘use by’ date. They are used by some shops to help with stock control and are instructions for shop staff, not shoppers.

Other plastic food packaging – why don’t we collect it yet?

At present we are only able to collect plastic bottles for recycling as, unlike many other plastics, they are able to be easily and economically recycled in the UK. Our reprocessors use infrared technology to sort each bottle by colour and polymer type and they reject any non-bottle plastic item as a contaminant. Once there are suitable UK reprocessors for other types of plastic food packaging we hope to collect it for recycling.



Tips to reduce plastic packaging

- i) exercise ‘consumer power’, buy products with the least plastic packaging where possible,
- ii) buy produce loose, e.g. vegetables and fruit, and reuse your own bags,
- iii) buy ‘super concentrated’ or refills where appropriate, as they use less packaging,

Ensure that any plastic packaging left over is thoroughly squashed to conserve space in your bin for landfill waste.

If you, or somebody you know, would like the information contained in this document in large print, Braille, tape/CD or in another language please contact Wealden District Council on 01323 443322 or info@wealden.gov.uk quoting code number D&P 133141/5.10

