

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Recycle First News

Printed on recycled paper - **read me, recycle me**

Winter 2016



No. 1 low carbon collection service

Christmas
collection
details inside

We are delighted to be confirmed as the best in the whole of the UK for reducing carbon emissions by recycling.

This is the third year in a row that residents in Cheshire West and Chester have been recognised for their efforts. Recycling energy-intensive materials like food waste, plastics and aluminium helps cut carbon footprints by an impressive 109kg per person.

This works out at over 40,000 tonnes of CO₂ across the borough.
So thank you and keep recycling – it really does make a difference.

Awarded
three years
running



working in partnership



Countdown to Christmas

It's not long now until Christmas so to help residents reduce, reuse and recycle over the festive period. Here's some handy hints.

- 1. Check your collection calendar** – or visit: cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk to check when your recycling is collected over Christmas.
- 2. Make sure you recycle your Christmas wrapping paper.** We can accept most types. Check if paper is recyclable by carrying out a 'tear test' – if you cannot tear it is probably laminated/plasticised and cannot be recycled.
- 3. Save money by wasting less food this Christmas** – visit: lovefoodhatewaste.com for ideas on how to avoid food waste and save yourself some money on your Christmas shopping bill.
- 4. Recycle your Christmas cards** – Residents of Cheshire West and Chester will receive around 10 million greetings cards this Christmas. Remember you can recycle any cards which can't be reused with your paper recycling collection service.
- 5. Get real and recycle your Christmas tree** – After Christmas you can put real trees out for collection in your garden waste collection bin.
- 6. Add a battery charger to your Christmas stocking** – you can recycle batteries in your green recycling box, however, it's better to avoid this in the first place.
- 7. Have your fairy lights lost their sparkle?** Well don't bin them, recycle them. We collect small electrical items – the size of a toaster or smaller - in your green box.
- 8. Turkey carcasses can be recycled** – all meat and bones can be placed in your brown food bin for the weekly food waste recycling service.
- 9. Cardboard collections** – with all those extra presents we know you will have lots of extra cardboard to recycle at this time of year. We will accept extra cardboard flat packed next to your recycling box. Remember to remove the polystyrene first.
- 10. Make a New Year's resolution you can really stick to this year** – recycle more and waste less.



Important reminder - Christmas bank holiday collection changes

During the Christmas period the day of the week on which your waste and recycling is collected can change. This year we are not working on the Bank Holiday Monday, 26 December (Boxing Day). This means that all of these Monday collections will instead be brought forward to **Saturday, 24 December (Christmas Eve)** instead. Remember to double check your collection calendar or visit: cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk to see your collection calendar online.



Christmas 2016 collection dates

Normal collection date	Revised collection date
Monday, 26 December 2016	Saturday, 24 December 2016
Tuesday, 27 December 2016	No change
Wednesday, 28 December 2016	No change
Thursday, 29 December 2016	No change
Friday, 30 December 2016	No change
Monday, 2 January 2017	No change



Garden Waste -Garden waste will be suspended for four weeks commencing **Monday, 19 December 2016, resuming on Monday, 16 January 2017.**



Boxing Day soup

It's easy to make too much food at Christmas. You can recycle food in your brown food bin but it's better not to waste food in the first place. Why not try this healthy warming soup as a way to use up your leftovers from Christmas dinner.

Ingredients

- 1 onion
- Leftover roast potatoes
- Leftover cooked sprouts, carrots, swede and mashed potatoes (any vegetables will do)
- Leftover turkey or beef
- 1 x stock cube
- Salt and pepper

Method

1. Fry the onion and the vegetables until golden.
2. Sprinkle in the stock cube and then add 500ml of hot water. Simmer for 15-20 minutes until the potatoes are tender.
3. Pour the soup into a food processor or blitz with a hand blender.
4. Remember you can freeze any extra for another day.

A Christmas Festive Feast

Portion sizes for a family of 4 (2 adults and 2 children)



320g of carrots =

(approximately 12 tablespoons of sliced carrots)

Cranberry sauce =

half cup per person (homemade cranberry sauce can be frozen in small amounts)

320g of broccoli =

(approximately 8 broccoli florets)

Roast Potatoes =

16 small potatoes

480g of turkey =

(approximately 10 slices)

320g of sprouts =

(approximately 32 sprouts)

Chipolata sausage =

6 (2 per adult, 1 per child)

Your food waste recycling service

Yes please

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

- ✓ Plastic bags can be used to line your container



Food waste collection - Frequently Asked Questions

What's the point if I don't produce much food waste?

Remember there is no amount too small. We all produce some food waste like banana skins and tea bags which cannot be eaten and these can all be recycled. When everybody puts out a little each week it adds up to thousands of tonnes every year.

I don't have space for the caddy, what should I do?

A lot of people find that keeping it under the sink, next to the kitchen bin or on the work top is really practical. Remember you can use your own container if you prefer something more stylish or it fits better in your kitchen.

Won't it smell?

Not if you empty your food caddy regularly into the outside brown food recycling bin and use any plastic bags / liners. Your outdoor food bin has a sealable and lockable lid which will stop smells and vermin getting in. The brown food waste bin is collected every week.



Recycle First Blacon

The Recycle First team have recently been working with social landlords Sanctuary Housing to encourage residents in Blacon, Chester to recycle more of their waste.

The team encouraged the residents to recycle more and waste less at a dedicated roadshow on the Blacon parade. Extensive door stepping was also carried out to ensure that householders knew how to use their recycling service and had access to the correct containers.



Keep a lid on it



To help us reduce litter please **make sure your boxes have lids on for collection.** This is particularly important on windy days; we don't want to lose all that carefully separated recycling.

If your lids are lost or broken or you need more boxes, don't worry, we will deliver them to your door free of charge.

You can order lids and boxes online by visiting: cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



Garden waste crew to the rescue

We had a fantastic complimentary letter recently from a grandmother in Northwich.

She had somehow broken a door handle locking her and her young grandson in the bathroom.

After several minutes of shouting for help the passing garden waste collection crew were able to force the door open and rescue them both. It just goes to show what a great community service we provide.

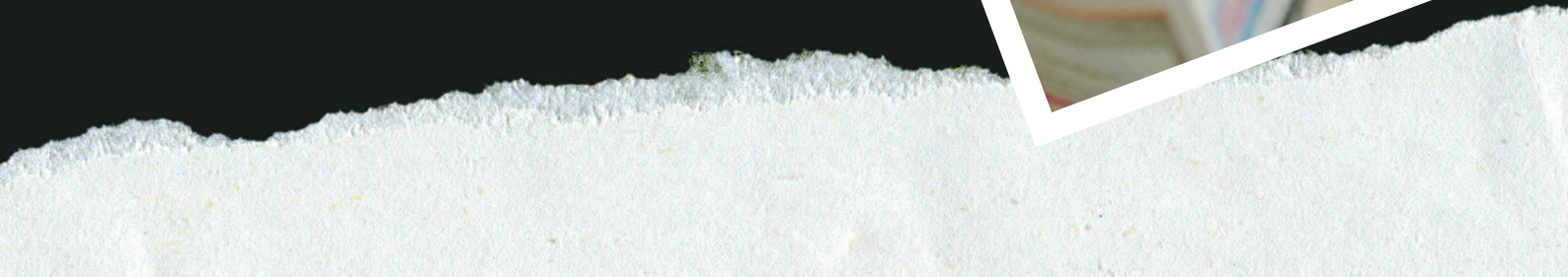
What happens to the paper we recycle?

Ever wondered what happens to all the paper that we collect from your homes? We send all your paper just a few miles down the road to Shotton paper mill to make newspapers. **The mill uses 100% recycled paper and also makes its own green biomass energy and sends zero waste to landfill.**

Before Councils started paper recycling collections, the mill used 'virgin' timber and required loads of energy to cut and chip logs. Converting the mill to waste paper recycling trimmed millions off their energy bill, cut their carbon footprint and improved their business competitiveness as well as helping with the regions recycling strategy.

Today the mill recycles 640,000 tonnes of waste paper each year and supplies many of the UK's bestselling tabloids and broadsheets. The efficiency is such that if you put your old newspapers and magazines out for recycling today, within around seven days it will back on the shelf as a newspaper.

So next time you read a newspaper, think about where it's come from, and make sure you 'complete the loop' and put it out for recycling again in your green recycling box. In this way you can do your bit for the environment.



Focus on Food waste recycling



How do we recycle food waste?

Our state of the art £7m Waen anaerobic digestion (AD) plant near Mold is run by Biogen – the UK's leading AD company and is jointly owned by Kier.

Just half an hour down the road in neighbouring North Wales the plant recycles 22,500 tonnes of food waste collected by local Councils every year. They rot the food waste down in big tanks to recycle it. They turn this into a compost-like output and a gas which is used to generate enough renewable electricity to power around 2,000 homes.

This 'green' electricity reduces the need for power stations to burn polluting coal and gas and the valuable fertiliser is used by local farmers in place of (fossil fuel derived) fertilisers.

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Focus on food waste

We throw away over
20,000 tonnes
of food per year in
Cheshire West
and Chester.

For more information please visit:
cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/recyclefirst
email: enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



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