

4

Frequently asked questions

What happens to your food waste once collected?

When recycled, food waste can be turned into something useful. It is taken to an anaerobic digestion facility, Biogen, where it is used to generate natural forms of energy, such as biogas, an excellent alternative to fossil fuels and a fertiliser/soil conditioner which is used on fields locally.

What if I don't produce any food waste?

Remember there is no amount too small. The best thing we can do with our food is enjoy it, but some waste like banana skins, tea bags and plate scrapings are inevitable and can all be recycled.

I don't have time to do this – why should I?

It's easy, all you need to do is follow the instructions in this leaflet. It's important to reduce the amount of food waste going to landfill or other disposal sites. It frees up space in your purple-lidded bin and means you get food waste removed weekly.

Will the food in my bin smell?

Not if you empty your kitchen caddy regularly into the kerbside caddy and tie up the compostable liners. Your kerbside caddy has a sealable and lockable lid which will stop smells and vermin getting in. It is much less likely to smell than if it sits in your purple-lidded bin for up to 3 weeks, so be sure to recycle all of your food waste each week.

For further information visit www.eastherts.gov.uk/foodwaste



East & North Herts
Shared Waste Service

Weekly Food Waste Recycling

How to use
your new service
from the week
commencing
4 August 2025

1

Why are we making changes?

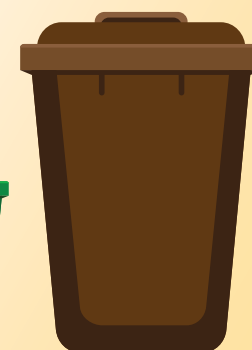
Recycling your food waste weekly will cut down the amount of waste that ends up in your non-recycling bin (new purple-lidded bin) and means it can be used to generate electricity and provide fertiliser for crops. Food waste that is sent to landfill doesn't harmlessly breakdown. It has a big impact on the environment as it rots and releases methane – a harmful greenhouse gas that is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

The new service will also help ensure compliance with the Government's 'Simpler Recycling' requirements which calls for the separate collection of food waste.

You should have received the following:



Kitchen caddy



Kerbside caddy



Funded by
UK Government



2 What can I put in my caddy?

You can recycle all your food waste, including:



Food waste
Uneaten and
plate scrapings



Meat
Raw, cooked
and bones



Fish
Raw, cooked
and bones



Dairy
Cheese, eggs
and shells



Tea and coffee
Bags, leaves and
grounds



**Grains and
pulses**
Rice, pasta
and beans



Baked goods
Bread, cakes,
pastries and
pies



**Fruit and
vegetables**
Raw, cooked,
peelings, pips
and stones

Please do not put any of these materials in your caddy

- ✗ Packaging of any kind
- ✗ Liquids such as milk
- ✗ Oil or liquid fat
- ✗ Any material that is not food waste



3 Recycling your food waste has never been easier

We will provide a convenient weekly food waste recycling service.

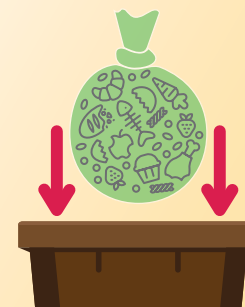
1. Most people line their kitchen caddy with a compostable liner then put their food waste in it.



Top tip

If you would rather use your own indoor container that's fine.

2. When you need to empty your kitchen caddy, remove the compostable liner, tie the top and put it in your kerbside caddy.



Top tip

Do not let your kitchen caddy get too full before emptying it.

3. Remember your kerbside caddy comes with a lockable handle.

Please put your food waste caddy out by **6am every week** on your collection day.



The new service commences on 4 August. You can buy more compostable liners at most supermarkets.