



RECYCLING GUIDE



Collections in Hertsmere

We collect from your property on the same day every week and we encourage you to recycle as much of your waste as possible.

Every house should have:

- a brown bin for mixed recycling
- a black bin for non-recyclables
- a silver bin for food waste

If you subscribe to our garden waste collection service you will also have a green bin.

**On Week 1
we will collect
your black and
silver bins**



**On Week 2
we will collect
your brown,
silver and
green bins**



Please present your bin on the boundary of your property by 6am on collection day.

You can find out which collection week it is by downloading a collection calendar at www.hertsmere.gov.uk/BinCollections

Recycling in flats

Your collections may vary if you live in a property with communal bin stores.
For more information please visit www.hertsmere.gov.uk/RecyclinginFlats



Black bin

Use this bin for waste that cannot go in your recycling bins.

The black bin is for general waste but there are still some items that are not acceptable including: batteries, vapes/e-cigarettes and electrical items, paint/paint containers, soil, gas cylinders and DIY waste such as bricks, rubble, asbestos and plasterboard.

You can take most of these items to your local Recycling Centre located at Allum Lane in Elstree or Cranborne Road in Potters Bar.

Check opening times: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentres.

Asbestos and other hazardous items may need specialist removal.

IMPORTANT

Hot ash, batteries, vapes and gas cylinders in the back of our vehicles can lead to a fire. Please allow all fire/BBQ ash to cool completely before putting in your black bin. Batteries and vapes **MUST** be disposed of correctly with other electrical waste, check here: www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk





Mixed recycling bin (brown bin)

Use this bin to recycle glass, cartons, plastic, cans, cardboard and paper.

If recycling bins contain the wrong items they will not be emptied. Please only put acceptable items in and **'if in doubt, leave it out!'**

IMPORTANT

Items must be:

- **Loose, not bagged**

If you are using a bag to carry your recyclables to the bin please empty the items into the recycling bin first, then dispose of the bag in the general waste bin or reuse it.

- **Clean and empty**

Please rinse off any food residue. Dirty foil or other food containers with food stuck on them, including greasy pizza boxes, are not acceptable.

YES PLEASE

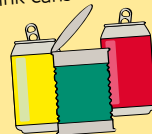
Glass bottles and jars



Plastic bottles, tubs, pots and trays



Food and drink cans



Cartons and Tetra paks



Small pieces of cardboard



Paper



NO THANKS

Nappies and clothing



Black sacks, plastic bags and polystyrene



Soft plastic including film lids, crisp packets, bread bags, clingfilm etc.



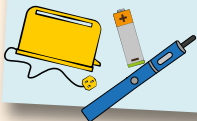
Paper towels, kitchen towels, serviettes, tissues and wet wipes



Disposable coffee cups



Electrical items, batteries and vapes



Dirty containers, greasy pizza boxes or food



Plastic toys or furniture



Padded envelopes, plastic pouches and bubble wrap



Please note that this is not an exhaustive list. We cannot include every item that is not permitted in your bin. If an item is not on the 'acceptable' list and you are unsure, it's best to follow the rule: 'If in doubt, leave it out'. You can also check the A to Z of recycling on our website.



Food waste recycling (silver bin)

Use this bin for your peelings, food prep and leftovers.

If recycling bins contain the wrong items they will not be emptied. Please only put acceptable items in and
'if in doubt, leave it out!'

YES PLEASE

All uneaten
food and plate
scrappings



Dairy products,
cheese and eggs



Bread, cakes
and pastries



Raw meat,
cooked meat
and bones



Tea bags
and coffee
grounds



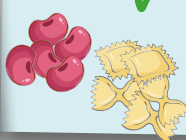
Raw vegetables
cooked vegetables,
whole fruit and
peelings



Fish, cooked fish
and bones



Rice, pasta
and beans



Remember to
recycle your mouldy
and out of date
food, including
ready meals
removed from their
packaging

NO THANKS

- Packaging of any kind – except plastic bags used as liners • Liquids such as milk • Oil or liquid fat •
- Black bags • Newspapers • Any material that is not food waste •

How to recycle your food waste

Many people use a kitchen caddy for their food waste. These are available, free of charge, from centres across the borough – find your nearest site: hertsmere.gov.uk/foodwaste



1 Use a liner or reuse a plastic bag to line your kitchen caddy – the only thing you can't use is a black bag.



2 Once full, empty the contents of the kitchen caddy directly into your silver food bin. Alternatively, tie the liner and place it in your silver bin.



Top tip

You can use your own container, like a biscuit tin or ice-cream tub – do whatever works for you.

Top tip

You can reuse a plastic bag, such as a bread bag, salad bag or cereal bag.

Please put your food recycling out for collection by 6am every week on your collection day.



Green recycling bin

If you have a subscription you can use your green bin for garden waste.
To sign up visit www.hertsmere.gov.uk/GardenWaste

If recycling bins contain the wrong items they will not be emptied. Please only put acceptable items in and
'if in doubt, leave it out!'

YES PLEASE

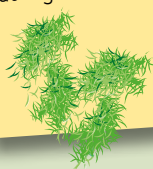
Plants and flowers
with excess soil
removed



Moss and weeds,
excluding Japanese
Knotweed



Grass/hedge
cuttings



Leaves, twigs
and other plant
material



NO THANKS

Plastic
packaging



Cardboard



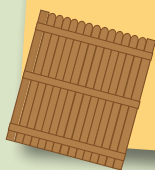
Food waste



Soil and
turf



Treated wood



Dog poo or
cat litter



IMPORTANT

Abuse to our crews

Whilst most people recycle well and are happy with the service we offer, there are some residents who abuse our crews when they are just doing their job. **We will not tolerate aggressive or abusive behaviour aimed at our employees and may report incidents to the police.**
All of our vehicles are fitted with CCTV.



020 8207 2277

www.hertsmere.gov.uk/recycling

@HertsmereBC

www.facebook.com/hertsmere

[hertsmerebc](https://www.instagram.com/hertsmerebc)

 **recycle**
for Hertsmere



September

2025