



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Bedford Borough **Waste and Recycling Guide**

Bedford Borough Council's Waste and Recycling Scheme

The Council provides each property with a recycling bin, a garden waste bin and a rubbish bin.

- All bins are emptied on an alternate weekly basis
- One week your black bin will be emptied
- The following week your orange lidded recycling and green lidded garden waste will be collected.

To find out your collection day and download a calendar go to www.bedford.gov.uk/bins

If your property does not have space for bins, alternative waste containers can be provided on request.*



Recycling Bin/Recycling Sacks

Recycling is only collected in an orange lidded bin or Council issued orange sacks (for households unable to utilise wheeled bins*).



Garden Waste Bin

Garden waste is only collected in a green lidded bin.



Rubbish Bin

Rubbish is only collected in a black/grey lidded bin or Council issued black sacks (for households unable to utilise wheeled bins*).



* See the Council's Waste & Recycling Operational Policies document for further information at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling

General Rubbish

Collected in the black bin or black sacks only.



Yes please

Please put all general rubbish in the black bin such as:

- Food Waste
- Nappies and sanitary waste
- Used tissues
- Pet Waste including cat litter, dog waste



No thanks

Please do not put the following items in the rubbish bin or sacks*:

- DIY Waste including rubble and wood
- Garden waste including soil, grass cuttings and prunings
- Recyclables including paper, household plastics, tins, cans etc.
- Bulky Waste including electrical items and furniture

DID YOU KNOW... ABOUT BATTERIES?

Household sized batteries can be placed in a clear sandwich sized plastic bag (no bigger than a supermarket sized carrier bag) on top of your black bin on collection day for recycling.



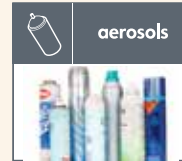
* See the Council's Waste & Recycling Operational Policies document for further information at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling

Mixed Recycling

Collected in the orange lidded bin or orange sacks only.



Yes please



Plastic includes: bottles, tubs, trays, pots, lids and plastic bags...



RECYCLING ADVICE:

- Wash and squash big items to keep your recyclables clean and maximise the space available in your orange bin/bags.
- Place all recyclable items into the orange lidded bin loose - not in bags.

Mixed Recycling

Do not put the below items in the orange lidded bin or orange sacks*:



No thanks



Food



Black sacks



Glass



Nappies



Electrical items



DIY waste



Garden waste



Wood



Textiles, shoes and bedding

Take clothes and shoes to a charity shop or local mini recycling site

IF IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!

- Do not put non-recyclable items in the orange lidded bin/sacks.
- Any item that does not appear on the list on the previous page should not go in the recycling bin.
- The list of recyclable items can change, keep up to date by visiting: www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling
- Putting the wrong items in your bin can cause a whole load to be rejected by the reprocessor spoiling the recycling efforts of others.

* See the Council's Waste & Recycling Operational Policies document for further information at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling

Garden Waste

Collected in the green lidded bin between March and December only.



Yes please



The following items are accepted in the green lidded bin:

- Grass cuttings, plants and weeds, flowers, prunings, hedge clippings, leaves and bark, cut flowers, pond plants



No thanks

Please do not put the following in the green lidded bin:

- DIY waste e.g. Soil, rubble, wood
- Kitchen Waste e.g. vegetable peelings, leftover food
- Pet Waste including used animal bedding
- Persistent or invasive weeds/plants (e.g. Japanese Knotweed)
- General household waste e.g. plastic bags, black sacks, plant pots, polystyrene trays, plastic plants
- Garden Furniture

GARDEN WASTE ADVICE:

- Place all garden waste loose into the bin.
- **Do not use plastic or black bags!**
- Please take larger items, such as tree branches, to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane.

* See the Council's Waste & Recycling Operational Policies document for further information at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling

Textiles and Shoes

The best option for good quality clothes, textiles and shoes is to donate them to a charity shop. This can be done by putting them into a textiles bank e.g. at a supermarket (list of sites can be found at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling) or taking them direct to a charity shop.

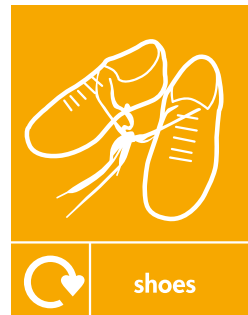
Pillows and duvets will not be accepted and can be disposed of along with household waste at the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane (see map on the back of this guide).

Pass it on:
Give your unwanted items a new home



Donate your clothes and textiles for re-use – there is someone out there who needs them.

[Find out more](#)

Reduce and Reuse

Reduce your waste by:

- Buying items with less packaging, buying refillable or rechargeable items (such as batteries and ink cartridges) and reusing carrier bags!
- Reduce junk mail by visiting www.mpsonline.org.uk.
- Only buy what you need; avoid buy-1-get-1-free offers on perishable goods.
- Start home composting! Offers on compost bins are available through www.getcomposting.com.
- Use washable nappies and save money! A cash back scheme is available on purchases through www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling.

Statistics show the average UK household throws away the equivalent of six meals every week!

This is bad for the environment and your pocket! Love Food Hate Waste has plenty of tips to help you reduce the amount of food you waste. They even have a handy app! www.lovefoodhatewaste.com



Make a list!



Use your freezer!



Know your date labels!



Portion control!

Donate unwanted furniture and (working) electrical items to charity! Charities such as The British Heart Foundation and Emmaus will often pick up items from your home.

- www.bhf.org.uk
- www.emmausvillagecarlton.org.uk



Other household waste and what to do with it...



Glass:

Take to your local glass recycling site, available at many local supermarkets or check your nearest site online at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling.

RECYCLED



Small Electrical Appliances:

Take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane

REUSE / RECYCLE



Large Electrical Appliances:

Take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane or arrange a bulky waste collection with the Council.

RECYCLED



Fridges and Freezers:

Take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane or arrange a bulky waste collection with the Council.

RECYCLED



Low energy light bulbs:

Take back to a retailer recycling point (e.g. Sainsbury's) or to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane. Standard light bulbs can also go to Barkers Lane.

RECYCLED

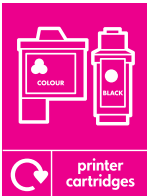
Other household waste and what to do with it...



Mobile Phones:

Can be sold to mobile phone recycling companies - use an online search engine to find one or donate to a charity.

REUSE/RECYCLE



Printer Cartridges:

Check if they can be refilled. If not, charities such as The British Red Cross operate a free-post return scheme.

RECYCLED



Furniture:

Donate to a local charity, take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane or arrange a bulky waste collection with the Council.

REUSE/RECYCLE



Large Cardboard:

Break up large pieces and put in the orange bin or take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane.

RECYCLED



Spectacles:

Can be reused through Vision Aid Overseas - check with your local optician for details.

REUSE

Other common household waste and what to do with it...



CDs, Cassette and Video Tapes:

Take them to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane or check if a local charity will accept them. *Cardboard and plastic cases can be recycled.

REUSE/RECYCLE



DIY Waste:

Take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane.

Note: restrictions apply and a free permit may be required and please check our waste acceptance policy at www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling

REUSE/RECYCLE RECOVERY



Paint:

Donate to a paint reuse scheme or take to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane.

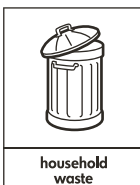
REUSE/RECYCLE RECOVERY



Used Cooking Oil:

Take it to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane in a secure plastic bottle. Do not put used cooking oil down the drain.

RECYCLED



Polystyrene:

This is not recyclable so place it in your general rubbish bin.

DISPOSAL

Finding out more



www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling



environment.helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk



01234 718060



Waste Services Team

Borough Hall

Cauldwell Street

Bedford, MK42 9AP

Household Waste Recycling Centre

Barkers Lane, Bedford MK41 9SB

Opening Hours

- Daily: 9am – 5pm

- Late night opening: **Saturday only**

between 1st April and 30th September 9am – 7pm

Please note Last entrance is 10 minutes before closing time published above.

Many types of waste are accepted free of charge. A free permit may be required, visit www.bedford.gov.uk/hwrc for more information.

