



BEDFORD  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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# Bedford Borough **Waste & Recycling Guide**

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# 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](http://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](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling)

## General Rubbish

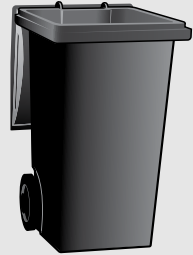
### Collected in the black bin or black sacks only.



**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 or orange bin on collection day for recycling.



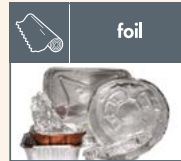
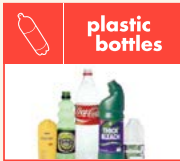
\* See the Council's Waste & Recycling Operational Policies document for further information at [www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling)

## Mixed Recycling

Collected in the orange lidded bin or orange sacks only.



**Yes please**



**Plastic includes:** bottles, tubs, trays, pots and lids...



### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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. You could also put them into a textiles bank e.g. at a supermarket (list of sites can be found at [www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling)).

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.

**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](http://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](http://www.getcomposting.com).
- Use washable nappies and save money! A cash back scheme is available on purchases through [www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling).

**Did you know 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](http://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](http://www.bhf.org.uk)
- [www.emmausvillagecarlton.org.uk](http://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](http://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. supermarket) or to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane. Standard light bulbs can also go to the Household Waste Recycling Centre.

RECYCLED

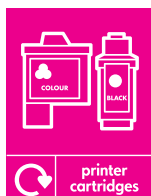
## Other household waste and what to do with it...



### Mobile Phones:

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

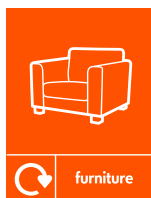
REUSE/RECYCLE



### 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.

\*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/hwrc](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/hwrc)

REUSE/RECYCLE  
RECOVERY



### Paint:

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

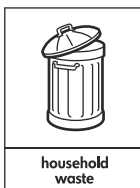
REUSE/RECYCLE  
RECOVERY



### 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](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/recycling)



[environment.helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:environment.helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk)

## Household Waste Recycling Centre

Barkers Lane, Bedford MK41 9SB

### Opening Hours

- Daily: 9am – 5pm
- Late night opening: **Saturday only**  
between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> September 9am – 7pm

**Please note** Last entrance is 10 minutes before closing time published above. A free permit may be required, visit [www.bedford.gov.uk/hwrc](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/hwrc) for more information.

