

Your guide

to the new recycling and waste service



- What's new
- What's changing
- What you need to do
- What you can recycle

Your improved recycling and waste service

We're making it easier for you to recycle more from your home.



Aerosols



Textiles

What's changing?

- The materials you put in your bins and boxes will change.
- Your green wheelie bin and blue box will be used for collecting recycling.
- Because you will now have more room for recycling, you will receive a new smaller grey landfill bin for any waste that can't be recycled.
- Your collection calendar.
- You will no longer need to use your red recycling box.



Food waste



Paper and cardboard

Your new collection calendar is included in the information pack.

You will be able to recycle more and send less to landfill

- ✓ More types of plastics including bottles, pots, tubs and trays.
- ✓ Glass bottles, jars, small electrical items and batteries.
- ✓ Paper, envelopes and cardboard.
- ✓ Tins and cans.
- ✓ Food waste.
- ✓ Garden waste.
- ✓ Textiles.



Batteries



Small electricals



Plastic pots, tubs and trays



Foil



Envelopes

More than 70% of our household waste can be recycled.

The way you use your bins and boxes is changing

Your new collection calendar tells you when the new service starts and when to put your bins and box out for collection.

Bins and boxes will be collected between 6am and 10pm. Please put them on the kerb by 6am on your collection day.



Your **green wheelie bin** will become your recycling bin. It must be used for recycling paper, plastics, cans and cardboard. Page 7 lists the items that can be recycled in your green recycling bin.

Your green recycling bin will be collected every 2 weeks.

Changing



Your **blue recycling box and textiles bag** will be used for glass bottles and jars, small electrical items and batteries. Textiles can be put in a carrier bag or your textile bag (no black bags) and placed beside your blue box. Page 8 lists the items that can be recycled in your blue box and textile bag.

Your blue recycling box will be collected every 2 weeks.

Changing



Your **food caddy** will continue to be used for your food waste. Page 9 lists the materials that can be recycled in your food caddy.

Your food caddy will continue to be collected every week.

No change



Your **brown bin** will continue to be used for garden waste. Page 10 lists the items that can be recycled in your brown bin.

Your brown bin will be collected every 2 weeks, except in the winter (Nov-Feb) when it will be collected monthly.

No change



Your **new grey landfill bin** should be used for any waste that can't be recycled. Your new landfill bin is smaller because you have a large recycling bin and will be able to recycle more.

You will receive your new bin before the new service starts. If you haven't received it by your start date please call us as soon as possible on – 0131 529 3030.

Your grey landfill bin will be collected every 2 weeks.

New



Your **red recycling box** will no longer be collected. You can keep it if you want or we will collect it and recycle it. Please leave it empty on the kerbside beside your green recycling bin and blue box on the first recycling collection of your new service. You can also take it to a community recycling centre.

Stopping

What you need to do...

1



Check the enclosed calendar for the start date of your new collection service.

on your start date

2



On your start date put your green wheelie bin and grey food caddy out for collection by 6am, even if they are not full.

3



We will empty these before 10pm.

4



Once emptied we will place a sticker on the lid of your green wheelie bin. Your green wheelie bin is now your **recycling bin**.

5



Tip your cans, plastics, paper and cardboard from your blue and red recycling boxes into your green recycling bin.

6



Place your glass, batteries, and small electricals into your blue recycling box and your textiles in a separate bag.

7



Your new grey landfill bin can now be used for waste that can't be recycled.

8



Use your new collection calendar to find out when to put your bins and box out.

Remember

You don't need to do anything differently until you receive a sticker on the lid of your green wheelie bin.

What goes in each bin?

Green recycling bin



Paper, plastics, cans and cardboard

YES PLEASE

- ✓ All CLEAN plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays
- ✓ All paper, including envelopes
- ✓ All cardboard, including juice cartons (large empty cardboard boxes which don't fit in your green bin can be folded and placed beside it)
- ✓ CLEAN cans, tins and foil
- ✓ EMPTY aerosols

NO THANKS

- ✗ Glass
- ✗ Plastic bags, wrappers, crisp bags
- ✗ Photographs



We'll put a sticker on your green bin when it's time for you to start using it for your recycling.

Blue recycling box and textile bag



Glass, small electrical items, batteries and textiles

YES PLEASE

- ✓ Glass bottles
- ✓ Glass jars
- ✓ Small electrical items (eg hairdryers, toasters and kettles)
- ✓ Household batteries (place in a clear bag and put into your box)
- ✓ Clothing, towels, clean sheets, shoes (in pairs). Please put textiles in your textile bag or a plastic carrier bag and place it **beside** your blue box (no black bags)

NO THANKS

- ✗ Light bulbs
- ✗ Glass dishes, broken glass, ceramics and pyrex
- ✗ Window panes
- ✗ Car batteries
- ✗ Large electrical items (eg microwaves and larger appliances)
- ✗ Duvets and pillows



Top Tip
Rinse glass bottles and jars before putting them in the box.

Grey food waste caddy

All types of food, including uncooked and cooked



YES PLEASE

- ✓ Beans, pasta, rice and bread
- ✓ Cakes and other bakery items
- ✓ Dairy items (such as cheese)
- ✓ Eggs and egg shells
- ✓ Fruit and vegetables (including peelings)
- ✓ Meat and fish (including bones)
- ✓ Tea bags and coffee grounds
- ✓ Fast food (eg chips, burgers and pizzas)

NO THANKS

- ✗ Liquids (including milk and cooking oil)
- ✗ Food packaging
- ✗ Garden waste
- ✗ Animal waste or bedding



Top Tip

Bag your waste in compostable bags, old plastic bags or wrap it in newspaper.

Brown garden bin

Garden waste



YES PLEASE

- ✓ Flowers, plants and garden weeds
- ✓ Grass cuttings
- ✓ Hedge clippings, twigs and small branches
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Christmas trees (please cut in half and place beside your brown garden bin)

NO THANKS

- ✗ Plastic bags or liners
- ✗ Kitchen or food waste
- ✗ Stones, bricks or rubble
- ✗ Animal waste or bedding
- ✗ Plant pots or polystyrene
- ✗ Litter
- ✗ Timber
- ✗ Soil and turf



Collected every 2 weeks, except in winter (Nov – Feb) when it will be collected monthly.



New grey landfill bin

Only put what you can't recycle in your grey bin. The contents of the bin will get sent to landfill. Help us to recycle more by making full use of your recycling bins and box.

Frequently asked questions

Why are we making changes?

The changes will make it easier for you to recycle more from home. The new service means you will have more space for recycling and send less to landfill. The Scottish Government has set a challenging target to recycle 70% of household waste by 2025.

We already recycle 40% of Edinburgh's waste, but we need to start recycling more.

What do I do if I don't have enough space to store my bins?

If you are concerned about storage space please contact us. We can arrange a home visit with one of our recycling advisors to discuss other options available and provide recycling advice.

What do I do if I think I need a bigger bin for my general waste?

If you are struggling with the size of your new bin please contact us. We can arrange a home visit with one of our recycling advisors to discuss other options available and provide recycling advice.

Some people may be eligible for a larger bin (eg large families or those with a medical condition). Contact us to discuss this further.

More FAQs are available on our website
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/recycle

What do I do if I have extra waste that won't fit in my bins?

If you have extra waste or recycling you can take it, free of charge, to one of Edinburgh's three community recycling centres at Sighthill, Seafield or Craigmillar. You can also recycle more types of materials at these centres such as large electrical items, metal, furniture and paint.

Do I need to clean my green bin before it is used as my recycling bin?

No. You do not have to clean it before you start using it for recycling, as the cleanliness of your bin doesn't impact on the materials being recycled. After a few uses you will also find that it is generally much cleaner as any loose dirt is tipped away.

Will the assisted collection service still be available?

If you currently use our assisted collection service you will continue to receive this when the new service starts. Please see your new collection calendar to find out if your collection day has changed.

I live in a flat and have a wheelie bin and/or recycling boxes. How am I affected?

If you live in a block of flats and use individual wheelie bins and/or kerbside recycling boxes we will review your property on a case by case basis. It may not be possible for each property to have a wheelie bin and we may look at options for sharing bins.

Those who use shared communal bins will not be affected by these changes.

What happens to our recycling and waste?

Recycling from your green bin and blue box

- Paper is sent to a paper mill where it is processed back in to newsprint
- Tins and cans are recycled back into new tins and cans
- Glass is reprocessed and made into new glass jars and bottles
- Cardboard is made into packaging
- Textiles are recycled and donated to various charities
- Household batteries are broken down and the parts are reused
- Plastics are turned into new plastic products
- Electrical appliances are stripped down and recycled into plastic and metal components.

Food waste

Your food waste is turned into liquid fertiliser and compost. It is also used to create bio-gas that is turned into energy.

Garden waste

Your garden waste is shredded and turned into compost in large piles called open windrows. The compost can be bought by members of the public.

Landfill waste

In Edinburgh around 60% of your household waste is taken to a landfill site in Dunbar. This creates harmful gas which damages our environment.



Community recycling centres

You can recycle and take other household rubbish to our community recycling centres.

- **Bankhead Avenue, Sighthill, EH11 4EA**
- **Fillyside Road, Seafield, EH7 6RD**
- **Old Dalkeith Road, Craigmillar, EH16 4TB**

Opening hours

8am - 7.30pm Monday to Friday
8am - 6pm Saturday and Sunday

Vehicle access

Cars or single axle trailers carrying household waste are allowed at all sites.

Vans and double axle trailers carrying household waste are only allowed at Sighthill and Seafield.

To find out more about what items you can take to our recycling centres visit our website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/communityrecyclingcentres or call us on 0131 529 3030.

Further information

We're here to help.

If you have any questions or would like more information on recycling please contact us:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/recycle

waste@edinburgh.gov.uk

0131 529 3030

You can report a missed bin online at
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/missedbin



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