

# WHAT CAN YOU RECYCLE?

Sue works at an organisation called WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme). WRAP work with local authorities, manufacturers/producers and retailers to reduce plastic, food and textile waste. For more information please visit: [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

I've recently joined the Boddington Sustainability Group and attended a meeting in November where discussed what the Group can do to make Boddington a more sustainable place to live. We had lots of ideas (more to follow on this in future issues of The Bugle). Some of the Group had questions about what our local council collect for recycling in the bin collections – so we thought it would be useful to share this information with you...

It is very important that people put the right things in the correct bin to make sure that waste and recycling is dealt with properly. See the handy guide

Boddington Sustainability Group are looking at the possibility of setting up collection point(s)/trials in the village for items which cannot be put in standard recycling, but can be recycled through specialist firms such as Terracycle. E.g. Writing instruments (pens); Oral care items (toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes etc); Medicine blister packs; Pringle type packaging. More information to follow on this...

If you have any ideas that you would like the Boddington Sustainability Group to look at or information that you would like us to cover in future Bugle articles, please let us know via: [clerk@boddington-pc.uk](mailto:clerk@boddington-pc.uk). We are planning to publish articles on local soft plastics recycling and also on textile recycling in future editions.

Sue Baughan

*Rubbish/recycling collections are carried out on a weekly basis as follows:*

- General waste week: General waste (black bin); food waste (grey caddy)
- Recycling week: Recycling (blue bin); garden waste (green bin) and food waste (grey caddy)

A calendar of 2022 bin collection dates is available at <https://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/info/315/bin-collection-search>

## How to recycle items that aren't currently collected by our local authority

*There are still quite a few items that can't be recycled by local authorities. However, please find below details of some useful websites that have A-Z recycling guides...*

South Northamptonshire Council waste A-Z: <https://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/directory/36/waste-a-z---what-goes-where>

### Recycle Now

To find out what you can recycle in your area visit <https://www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling>

The website is split into 3 different sections:

- Where to recycle a specific item (A-Z list)
- What to put in your recycling at home (postcode finder)
- Where to find the nearest recycling locations (postcode finder)

*Note: The items that can be recycled do change, so it is worth keeping an eye on the SNC website.*

# Recycling at home

## What to put in the blue recycling bin



- Items go in loose, give cans, plastics, cartons, glass bottles and jars a quick rinse before putting in the bin.
- You can leave lids and labels on and you don't need to remove the window from envelopes.
- the Council will take extra recycling left next to the bin in a box or bag (not black bags).
- You can recycle batteries by putting them in a small, clear bag on top of (not in) your blue bin.
- Small electrical or battery powered items like kettles, toasters and toys that can fit into a standard size carrier bag can also be placed on top of (not in) your blue bin for recycling.

**NO** Black bags, carrier bags, cling film, crisp packets, sweet wrappers, nappies, drinking glasses, Pyrex, cups, plates, textiles, bedding, pet food pouches, flower pots, polystyrene, toys, wood.

## What happens to your recycling?

Your recycling is taken to Casepak's state-of-the-art Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Leicester, where it is sorted/graded into different types/quality of material using various mechanical and hand sorting methods. Casepak sends SNC a monthly report of where the materials have been sent. Most goes to locations in the UK, some to Europe and other parts of the world. SNC work closely with Casepak to make sure that recyclable materials are dealt with safely and legally. Recyclable material is an extremely valuable resource. A competitive marketplace operates worldwide, with different sectors sourcing and purchasing material for a range of reprocessing options.

## What food to put in the silver food caddies



**NO** Packaging, plastic bags, liquids like milk or oil, glass.

## What happens to your food waste?

Food waste from your caddy is taken to an anaerobic digester in Oxfordshire. The anaerobic digester breaks down the food waste to produce a biogas which is used to generate electricity that is fed back into the national grid and a bio-fertiliser which can be used by local farmers.

## What to put in the green garden waste bin



**NO** Bricks, cardboard, cat or dog waste, fats and oils, flower pots, paper, plastic bags, soil, stones, textiles.

## What happens to your garden waste?

Your garden bin waste is taken to an open windrow composting site in Northamptonshire. The waste is shredded and mixed to help it break down and then it is put into piles called windrows. Over the next few months it breaks down into compost which is used by local farmers.

## What happens to your black bin waste?

Your black bin waste is taken to Milton Keynes Recovery Park which is a new facility that uses mechanical, biological and thermal treatment to recover as much value from your waste as possible.

The waste goes through separating machinery which picks out items of recycling that have been accidentally put in the wrong bin (like tin cans and plastic bottles). Any food or biodegradable waste is also removed.

The recovered recyclable items are then sent to be recycled and the food and biodegradable waste is put into an anaerobic digester. Everything else is treated using an advanced thermal technology; this produces syngas which is used to generate electricity, which is fed into the national grid.

**It is important to note that recyclable items that are accidentally put in the black bin often become contaminated. Therefore it is not always possible to recycle them. So please put things in the correct bin to make sure that waste and recycling is dealt with properly and resources aren't wasted.**