

# YOUR NEW FOOD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

FROM 2 MARCH 2026

How to  
use your  
new  
service

Stevenage  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# WHY ARE WE MAKING CHANGES?

We are making changes to the way your food waste is collected so that we can all recycle better.

**From Monday 2 March**, we will be providing all residents with a separate weekly food waste collection service. Brown bin collections will continue to be collected fortnightly for garden waste only.

Recycling your food waste separately and weekly will help reduce the amount of waste that ends up in your refuse bin. It can also be used to generate electricity and provide fertiliser for crops.

The new service will also help ensure compliance with the Government's *Simpler Recycling* legislation which requires the weekly collection of food waste.

**You should have received the following:**



Kitchen caddy



Caddy liners



Outside caddy

You have received a one off initial supply of caddy liners. When these run out, you can purchase more caddy liners online or at most major supermarkets.

## REDUCING YOUR FOOD WASTE

Your new food waste collection service will make recycling food waste even easier.

However, reducing your food waste in the first place is even better than recycling it, will save you money and help the environment too.

Visit [www.wasteaware.org/worthsaving](http://www.wasteaware.org/worthsaving) for tips on how to reduce your food waste.

Please don't  
present your food  
waste recycling bin  
for collection until  
week commencing  
2 March.

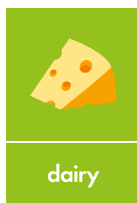


# WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY CADDY?

You can recycle all your food waste in your caddy, including:



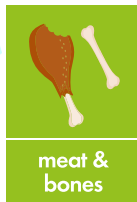
- ✓ All uneaten food and plate scrapings



- ✓ Dairy products
- ✓ Cheese
- ✓ Eggs



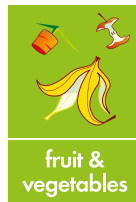
- ✓ Bread
- ✓ Cakes
- ✓ Pastries



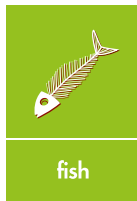
- ✓ Raw meat
- ✓ Cooked meat
- ✓ Bones



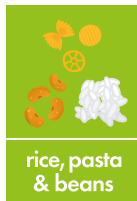
- ✓ Tea bags
- ✓ Coffee grounds



- ✓ Raw vegetables
- ✓ Cooked vegetables
- ✓ Whole fruit
- ✓ Peelings



- ✓ Raw fish
- ✓ Cooked fish
- ✓ Bones



- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Beans

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

## Please do not put any of these materials in your caddy

- ✗ Packaging of any kind
- ✗ Liquids such as milk
- ✗ Oil or liquid fat
- ✗ Any material that is not food waste



# RECYCLING YOUR FOOD WASTE HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

We will provide a weekly food waste recycling service.

- 1 Most people line their kitchen caddy with a compostable liner, then put their food waste in it.



Use caddy liners with the seedling logo



- 2 When you need to empty your kitchen caddy, remove the liner, tie the top and put it in your outdoor recycling caddy.



## Top tip

Remember to not let your caddy get too full before emptying it.



- 3 Remember your outdoor recycling caddy comes with a lockable handle.



Please put your food waste bin out for collection by 7:00am every week on your normal collection day.



The new service commences on **2 March**. You can purchase more compostable food waste liners at most supermarkets or online.

# COLLECTIONS

We will collect your food waste every week on the same day as your normal waste and recycling collections.

**You can no longer put food waste in your garden waste (brown) bin.**

Please put your outside food waste recycling caddy with the handle in the locked position at the edge of your property with your other waste or recycling containers on your collection day.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What if I don't produce any food waste?

Remember there is no amount too small. The best thing we can do with our food is enjoy it but some waste like banana skins, tea bags and plate scrapings are inevitable and these can all be recycled.



### I don't have time to do this – why should I?

It's easy, all you need to do is follow the instructions in this leaflet. It's important to reduce the amount of food waste we throw away. The weekly collection service also means that 'smelly' food waste is collected more frequently.

### Can I still recycle my garden waste?

Yes, you can continue to use your brown bin to recycle your garden waste, including the following items: grass cuttings, hedge and shrub clippings, leaves, twigs and bark, plants, flowers and weeds, windfall fruit and small branches. This will be collected fortnightly.

### Will the food in my bin smell?

Not if you empty your kitchen caddy regularly into the outside food waste recycling bin and tie up the liners. Your outdoor caddy has a sealable and lockable lid which will stop smells and pests getting in.



**Visit our website for a full list of FAQs and any queries you have about the new collection service**

# YOUR WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE FROM 2 MARCH 2026



**Green caddy:** Food waste  
Collected weekly



**Brown bin:** Garden waste only  
Collected fortnightly



**Red caddy:** Glass bottles and jars  
Collected fortnightly



**Black container:** Plastics, cans and cartons  
Collected fortnightly



**Blue container:** Paper and card  
Collected fortnightly



**Black refuse bin:** Non-recyclable household waste  
Collected fortnightly



**NEW!**  
From March,  
recycle your  
food waste  
separately and  
weekly



**NEW!**  
From March,  
recycle your  
cartons with  
your plastics  
and cans



**REMINDER!**  
Never put batteries  
or electricals in your  
waste or recycling  
containers. They can  
cause fires and put  
lives in danger.

[stevenage.gov.uk](http://stevenage.gov.uk)

[stevenageboroughcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/stevenageboroughcouncil)

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**recycle**  
for Stevenage

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BOROUGH COUNCIL