

# Why recycle your food waste?



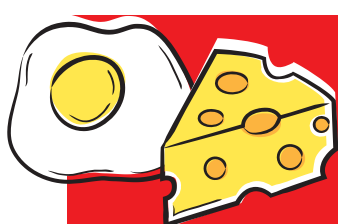
www.rbwm.gov.uk



**Food waste produces methane** – a harmful greenhouse gas 25 times stronger than carbon dioxide – which is contributing to climate change.

Recycled food waste gets turned into renewable electricity to power local homes and businesses, and into fertiliser to spread on local farmland.

Royal Borough residents collected 2,635 tonnes of food waste in 2020, which helped to generate enough energy to power 291 houses for a year, and enough nutrient rich digestate fertiliser to spread on 2,500 acres of local farmland.



**Recycling food waste saves money.** If you recycle your food waste rather than put it in your black rubbish bin, it is significantly cheaper for us to deal with. Savings made by recycling food waste could be used on services, such as adult social care.

## Your food isn't rubbish!

Most of us will always have some food waste – egg shells, tea bags, meat bones, peelings, but at times we cook or prepare too much food or we don't use it in time.

Your food does its job best when it's on a plate ready to be enjoyed. Saving food saves money and helps to slow down climate change and deforestation. If we all make a few small changes and start using up the food we buy, together we can make a big difference.

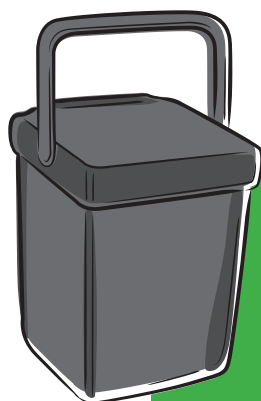
If you are a family of four, you could be **saving as much as £60 each month**. So do your bit for the environment and your purse by reducing the amount of food that ends up in the bin.



The Love Food Hate Waste campaign offers tips and ideas on how we can save money and reduce food waste.

For further information, visit [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

## What do you need to start recycling food waste?



If you haven't got one already, a free outdoor food waste bin can be ordered online at:

<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/environment-and-waste/recycling-and-rubbish/order-new-bin>



You can also line your bin with **newspaper** or **kitchen roll** to avoid using plastic.

### Plastic bags

**Using plastic bags helps to stop smells and keeps your food bin clean.**

**You can use any plastic bag** (they no longer need to be compostable), you don't have to use specialist food waste liners. All the bags are pulled out of the system during the processing of your food waste and turned into electricity.



### Remember



Empty your kitchen food bin into your outdoor food waste bin every 2-3 days.



You can recycle ALL your food waste

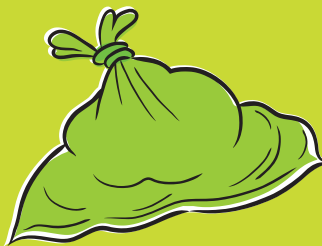
# Recycling food waste is easy

**1** You can use an indoor food bin to keep your food waste in your kitchen until it's full. Empty ice cream tubs make good indoor food bins.

**2** Line your indoor food bin with newspaper, kitchen roll or any plastic bag.



**3** When it's time to empty your indoor food bin, either tie the top of the bag or wrap the food in the newspaper/kitchen roll, and put it in your outdoor food bin.



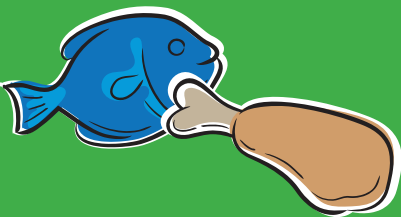
**4** Please put your food recycling bin out for collection by 7am every week on your normal waste collection day.

## What food **can** I recycle in my food waste bin?

You can recycle all types of food waste...

### Yes Please ✓

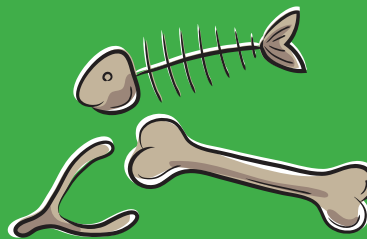
All uneaten food & plate scrapings, and all leftover, stale or out of date food.



Meat & fish  
– raw and cooked



Egg shells



Bones



Vegetable  
peelings



All dairy products

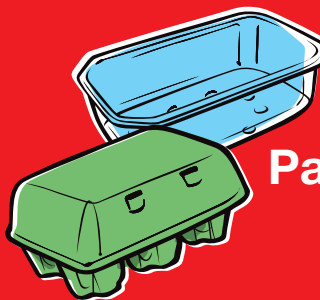


Shellfish



Tea bags &  
coffee grounds

### No Thanks ✗



Packaging of  
any kind



Liquids  
such as  
milk or oil

You can recycle your mouldy and out of date food, including ready meals removed from the packaging.

#### Remember



Your outdoor food bin can be locked to stop pests getting access



The outdoor food bins are emptied EVERY week