

Recycling is Easy!

Guide to Recycling in Camden



Here you'll find step-by-step advice on how to recycle easily and efficiently, who to contact and what you can do with your unwanted resources which helps the environment and saves you money.

- 🔗 [What can I recycle?](#)
- 🔗 [How can I recycling my house hold waste?](#)
- 🔗 [What happens with my recycling?](#)
- 🔗 [How can I recycle my food waste, if I live on Estate or Kerbside?](#)
- 🔗 [FAQs about food waste recycling](#)
- 🔗 [How can I recycling my garden waste?](#)
- 🔗 [Where can I recycle my electrical waste?](#)
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Simply, click through the available topics on the left and find the information you need.

Our target is to recycle at least **40%** of waste by 2020.

Camden currently recycles **26%** of its waste, using recycling boxes, bags or wheelie bins.



Find your collection days
Report a missed collection
Order a new recycling bin, box or bag

FIND, REPORT, ORDER



What can I recycle?

Recycling Options WRAP Guidelines



Recycle around your home is available on YouTube at : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLktjtXCNo>

[Find out more about what you can recycle from home and where your nearest recycling drop off point is.](#)

How can I recycle my house hold waste?

You can recycle:

- ✓ Paper, card, cardboard
- ✓ Glass bottles & jars
- ✓ Food tins, aerosols, cans and foil
- ✓ Food & drinks cartons
- ✓ Plastic food trays, tubs, bags and bottles.

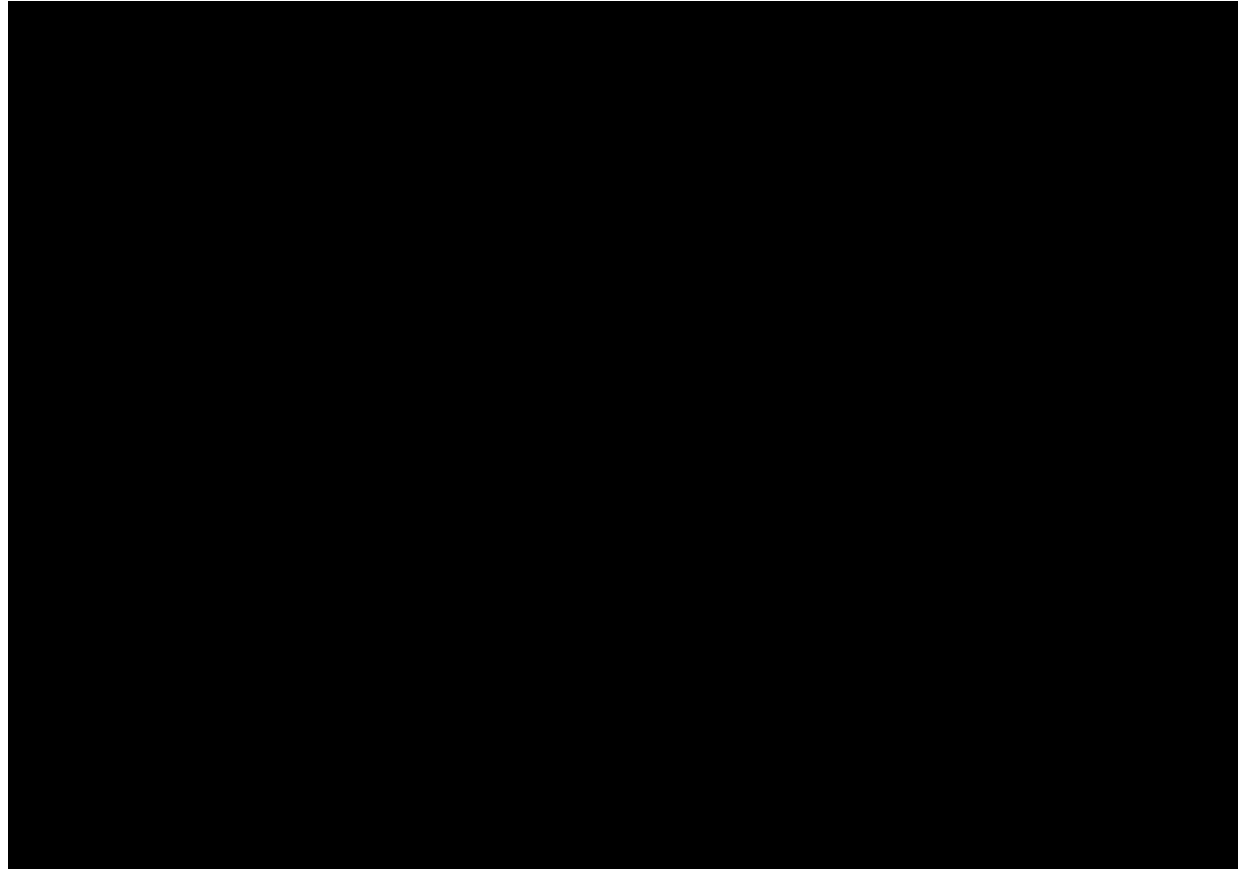
Please don't put in black sacks, bubble wrap, polystyrene, and other types of mixed metal or glass (coat hangers, light bulbs etc).



Do I have to rinse everything out?

We do ask that you don't put half empty etc. containers into the recycling. It's also more likely to keep your recycling bags/boxes cleaner (and smell free) for longer as well if you do rinse them out.

What happens to my dry recycling?



Bywaters Material Recovery Facility (MRF)
– Bromley-by-Bow

This video is available on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL3ODu9tBxc>



How can I recycle my food waste?

Kerbside food recycling

Line your green kitchen caddy with a compostable caddy liner or use it on its own.



No Plastic Bags



Please place your bag of food into your outdoor food waste caddy.



No Plastic Bags



Please DO NOT put the following items in your caddy or outside food bin:



Plastic/
carrier bags

Food containers/
Packaging

Cooking
oil/liquids

Animal
waste

Nappies

You can fill your caddy with the following food items

						
bread & pastries	dairy	fish	food waste	fruit & vegetables	meat & bones	tea & coffee grounds

Estates food recycling

Line your green kitchen caddy with a compostable caddy liner which you can get from your caretaker.



No Plastic Bags



Please place your bag of food into a communal outside food waste bin



No Plastic Bags



Food waste recycling FAQs

Estates and Kerbsides:

What do I do if I have leftovers in food containers/takeaway containers

Please empty the food into your caddy and recycle the plastic packaging .
Polystyrene food containers should not be put in the recycling bins.

How do I keep my kitchen caddy clean?

Rinse it out or wash up your caddy regularly.



Will having food waste in my kitchen attract flies, maggots & mice?

No. Please keep your caddy lid closed when not in use and store out of direct sunlight or away from heat source.

My caddy is broken/there was no kitchen caddy when I moved in.

You can order a new kitchen caddy online at:
<https://contact.camden.gov.uk/environmentservices/>.

How is food recycled?

The food is taken to the [London waste EcoPark](#) where it is turned into compost so that it can be used in parks and farms.



Estates only:

If I run out of caddy liners, can I use carrier plastic bags?

No. Please do not use plastic carrier bags or any other alternative plastic bags. Please use compostable liners. You can order free liners at <http://www.camden.gov.uk/recycling> or via **020 7974 4444**.

What do I do if the outside bins are full?

If the outside bin is full, please put the bag in the nearest refuse/rubbish bin. Please report the full bin to your caretaker or call Camden on **020 7974 4444**.

Kerbsides only:

My food waste bin has not been emptied in weeks, what should I do?

As soon as you notice a missed collection, please report it. You can call or report a missed collection online at: <https://contact.camden.gov.uk/environmentservices/>.

How can I recycle my garden waste?

What can I put in my garden waste bag?



Grass and leaves



Small branches



Garden prunings



Weeds and flowers



Plastic bags



Soil and ash



Stumps



Rubbish

Where is my garden and food waste recycled?

- At the London Waste EcoPark Compost Centre.
- Find out more about the process of composting [here](#).



How is it used?

- Compost can be applied in a range of end uses, within full-scale agriculture, landscaping, gardens and brownfield sites.
- It can be used as a soil improver, mulch, topsoil constituent, turf dressing, and growing medium constituent.

Where can I buy a compost bin?

- You can purchase discounted and subsidised composters and wormeries at www.camden.getcomposting.com or call **0844 571 4444**.
- If home composting isn't for you, you can still do your bit and reduce the amount sent to landfill by recycling your kitchen waste using your kitchen caddy.



If you don't have a reusable garden waste bag, you can order it for free [online](#).

Contamination

When recycling is contaminated with general waste, none of the contents of that bin can be recycled and it must be either incinerated or sent to landfill. Recycling is much better for the environment and for every tonne that we recycle taxpayers save money.

These are a few of the most common things that **should not** be put in our recycling bins:

- **Food waste recycling**



- **Dry waste recycling**



You can find out more information in the video by the [NLWA Contamination Animation - Wise up to Waste](#)

Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

Can it be reused?

If the item is still in good working order, pass it on to someone else who could use it or give it away through the [Camden's reuse service](#).

If not, how do I recycle it?

It's easy to check if an electrical item, toy or game is recyclable. Simply ask the following questions:

- ☞ Does it have a plug?
- ☞ Does it use batteries?
- ☞ Does it need charging?
- ☞ Does it have a picture of a crossed out wheelie bin on it?



WEEE wheelie bin logo



If you answer **yes** to any of these, **it can be recycled** in one of the following ways:

- ☞ Book a free collection at home at: www.123recycleforfree.com, Tel: 020 3457 5681.
- ☞ Drop off at [Regis Road Recycling and Reuse Centre](#) - Free to Camden residents.
- ☞ If not, take them to your local [on street small WEEE recycling banks](#).

Often shops will collect your unwanted electricals when they deliver your new one - especially larger items like TV's, fridges and freezers.

Recycling symbols – what do they mean?

recyclenow.com



Widely recycled

75% or more of councils provide household recycling collection facilities for that packaging type in their area.

recyclenow.com



Check local recycling

Used when 20% - 75% of councils have household recycling collection facilities for that packaging type in their area.



Not currently recycled

Used when less than 20% of councils have household recycling collection facilities for that packaging type in their area.



WIDELY
RECYCLED AT
RECYCLING
POINTS

Widely recycled at recycling points: check locally for kerbside

Recycling provision exists in over 75% of councils (including both household recycling collections and at recycling centres). A household recycling collection exists in less than 75% of councils.

CHECK LOCALLY
FOR KERBSIDE



Plastic films

Some plastic films can also now be recycled at supermarket's carrier bag collection points. Look out for the 'Recycle with carrier bags at large stores - not at kerbside' message on your bread bag, breakfast cereal, toilet and kitchen roll wraps, grocery produce, multipack shrink wrap and newspaper and magazine wraps. [What to do with plastic films.](#)



WIDELY
RECYCLED
AT LOCAL
COUNCIL
RECYCLING
CENTRES

Metal paint cans

Empty metal paint cans are accepted for recycling at most local authority recycling centres. Check your council's website for more information. [What to do with paint cans.](#)

EMPTY METAL
PAINT CAN

Remember: not all packaging will have a recycling label but this doesn't mean you can't recycle it. If you're not sure what you can recycle in your area, check the [recycling locator](#).

Recycling symbols – what do they mean?



Mobius Loop

Indicates that an object is capable of being recycled - not that the object has been recycled or will be accepted in all recycling collection systems. Sometimes this symbol is used with a percentage figure in the middle to explain that the packaging contains x% of recycled material.



Tidyman

Dispose of this carefully and thoughtfully. Do not litter. This doesn't relate to recycling, but is a reminder to be a good citizen, disposing of the item in the most appropriate manner.

[Keep Britain Tidy](#)



The Green Dot

The Green Dot **does not necessarily mean that the packaging is recyclable**, will be recycled, or has been recycled. It is a symbol used on packaging in many European countries and signifies that the producer has made a financial contribution towards the recovery and recycling of packaging..



Plastics

Identifies the type of plastic resin used to make the item by providing a 'Resin Identification Code'. It is represented with a 'chasing arrows' symbol surrounding a number between 1 and 7 that defines the resin used.

[What to do with plastic](#)



Glass

Please dispose of glass bottles and jars in a bottle bank (but remember to separate colours) or use your glass household recycling collection if you have one.

[What to do with glass](#)



Recyclable aluminium

The item is made of recyclable aluminium.

[What to do with aluminium](#)



Recyclable steel

The product is made of recyclable steel.

[What to do with steel](#)



Waste electricals

Waste electrical items - from household appliances to mobile phones to IT equipment - can be recycled if you see this symbol. [What to do with electricals](#)



Compostable

The 'seedling' is the registered trademark of European Bioplastics. Products certified to be industrially compostable according to the European standard EN 13432/14955 may bear the 'seedling' logo.



Wood

The [Forest Stewardship Council](#) (FSC) logo identifies products which contain wood from well managed forests independently certified in accordance with the rules of the FSC.



Paper

To be given the [National Association of Paper Merchants](#) mark, paper or board must be made from a minimum of 50%, 75% or 100% genuine waste paper and/or board fibre, no part of which should contain mill produced waste fibre

Common myths and problems

It all goes to landfill.

- It wouldn't make sense for us to set up this system if that was the case. Once we have collected and sorted the materials they become a valuable and sellable resource.

I don't believe in it./Don't have the time for it.

- It costs the council to send your waste to land fill. You don't have to recycle everything in the one go. Recycling in Camden is really easy, with recycling bins on the street and collections from your home or estate.

It doesn't matter where I put it or what I put in, as they sort it all out at the other end anyway.

- We only sort out the recycling; your black sack rubbish goes to landfill or incineration.
- The recycling in the green bag/boxes goes to a facility (MRF) which sorts and separates out the cans & bottles etc.
- The recycling is inspected before it is processed, so it may be rejected if they see too many of the wrong items. You should avoid putting in black sacks, bubble wrap, polystyrene, and other types of metal or glass (coat hangers, light bulbs etc. – they can be done at Regis road recycling & reuse centre).

I can't carry all the recycling in one go.

- Some residents find it easier to do it a bit at a time as they leave the house - just making it part of the day's routine. However, we do also offer an assisted collection service. For more information, please call 0207 974 4444.

Food waste recycling smells or attracts rodents.

- Studies show no increase in rodents; separating out your food waste into lockable containers should actually reduce the chances of vermin and smells compared to a black sack. It also helps if you store the caddies out of heat/direct sunlight. Rinsing out the caddy can help as well as well. Some residents find liners help.

MYTH
OR
FACT



Common myths and problems continue...

I don't recycle food waste because of flies/maggots.

- Good housekeeping is the best approach to reducing problems with flies and maggots (a problem mainly during the warmer summer months.)
- try to avoid leaving food uncovered in the kitchen
- deal with smelly food such as leftover fish and meat waste quickly
- if possible keep your caddies out of direct sunlight and away from open doors
- keep the caddy lids shut at all times when they are not in use
- regularly clean (strong fragrance deters flies) your kitchen and outdoor caddy, removing any residual food
- try not to have too much left over food, this will reduce the amount you throw away and save you money
- if you are still having problems, try using compostable caddy liners.

I don't have space to recycle food as well.

- Some residents prefer to use smaller things like ice cream tubs, the bigger style yogurt pots or just liners on their own. Your food waste can then be emptied straight into a caddy or brown food waste bin. We provide a free green caddy for you to use; you can still recycle food without it.

The liners break.

- Some residents find liners help; you can use the caddy on its own but please don't use any shopping plastic carriage bags.
- We recommend you let food cool down and drain of any excess liquid before putting it in your caddy. Emptying your caddy regularly also helps.

I use a waste disposal for my food waste.

- Well that is better than nothing! The main difference is that our food waste recycling scheme reduces the stress on our Victorian sewers, uses less of your electricity and water, and the resulting product can be used again as a soil improver.

MYTH
OR
FACT



Community Reuse & Repair

What do you want to do?

- ☞ [Share and swap clothes in your community](#)
- ☞ [Become a Streetbank champion to inspire your neighbours to start sharing](#)
- ☞ [Attend a Give and Take event](#)
- ☞ [Hold a Give and Take event](#)
- ☞ [Attend a Restart Party to get help with the repairing of your electronics and electricals](#)

Simply, click through the available topics above and find the information you need.



How to reuse unwanted items?

Streetbank is a site for lending or giving away items and sharing skills with people in your neighbourhood.

To join, all you need to do is offer one item or skill to share with anyone who lives within a mile of your home - www.streetbank.co.uk



streetbank

Share things with your neighbours



small box christmas tree decorations



Upright armchair



Glass Jars



IKEA glass cabinet



Filing cabinet



FREE Rib Tour Of London Voucher



small bag of festive fabric scraps



2x wireless routers



If you have any questions or would like to order more recycling bags, another food waste caddy or roll of compostable caddy liners (if you live on an estate) , please

- ☞ call 0207 974 4444
- ☞ visit <http://www.camden.gov.uk/recycling>
- ☞ Or residents on estates can speak to their caretakers



Community reuse & repair

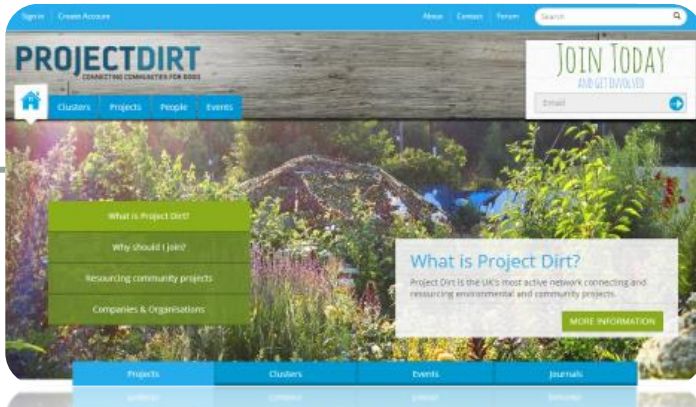
- ☞ Host a swishing party! Click [here](#) for a "Swishing Party Pack" by the North London Waste Authority
- ☞ *If you decide to hold one, don't forget to promote it via the Camden Network on Project Dirt! www.projectdirt.com/camden/events*



Click "[Here](#)" for more ideas on reuse and repair.



Community reuse & repair



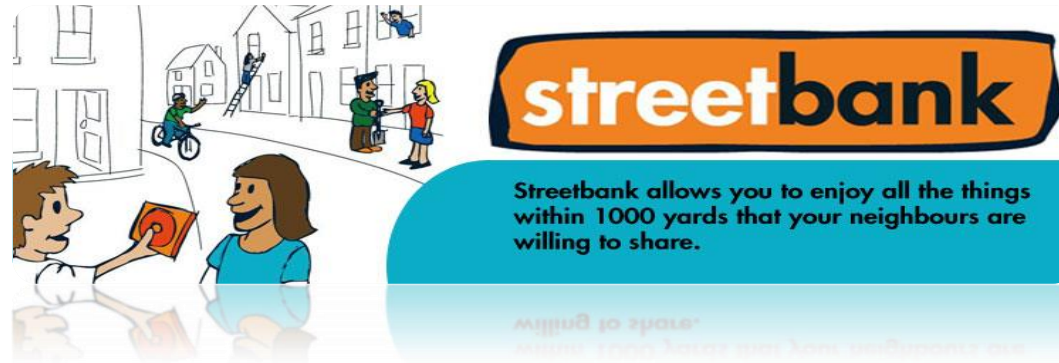
Check the Camden Network events' section on Project Dirt for any upcoming Give and Take Days: www.projectdirt.com/camdenevents

None coming up? Why not organise your own! Download the Give and Take Day toolkit from the [Camden Council website](#).

Click "[Here](#)" for more ideas on reuse and repair.



Community reuse & repair



Email Sam from [Streetbank](https://www.streetbank.com) at sam@streetbank.com for a Streetbank Champions Pack that will help you spread the word in your neighbourhood.

Kate can also help you organise a local [meet-up](#).

Click "[Here](#)" for more ideas on reuse and repair.

streetbank



Community reuse & repair

Download the Give and Take day toolkit from the [Camden Council website](#).

Don't forget to promote your event on the Camden Network on Project Dirt!
www.projectdirt.com/camden/events



Click "[Here](#)" for more ideas on reuse and repair.



Community reuse & repair



Check the Restart Project's events section on Project Dirt:
www.projectdirt.com/restartproject

If there is no event coming up and you've got a free available space, drop them a message on their project page to see if they can come to you! Don't forget to publicise it on the Camden Network: www.projectdirt.com/camden

Click "[Here](#)" for more ideas on reuse and repair.

