



**Somerset
Council**

Sorted!

Waste news



June 2025

Latest news

Please recycle your vapes responsibly



Did you know that improperly disposing of vapes can be dangerous?

We've updated the way we can accept vapes (reusable or single-use) for recycling at the kerbside.

Along with our collections contractor SUEZ recycling and recovery UK, we're reminding everyone about the importance of properly recycling vapes. We've noticed more vapes being thrown in bins or mixed with other recyclables, which can be hazardous to our crews.

- Separate your vapes: place used vapes in a small, clear, tied bag (like a sandwich bag). This way, our crews can easily spot them and make sure they're processed correctly.
- Keep them apart: do not mix vapes with other recyclables, batteries, or small electricals.
- Leave the bag on top of your recycling box for easy identification.
- Return to store: alternatively, you can return vapes to the shop where you bought them.

[Read more](#)

7 out of 10 households in Somerset recycle their food waste



Your food waste is recycled in Somerset and put to good use.

Are you adding every scrap, peeling or plate scraping into your food waste recycling? Most people in Somerset are recycling their food waste but we know there is always more that can be done.

Past its use-by date? Even mouldy cheese, dodgy looking meat and plate scrapings can be put in your food waste kitchen caddy to be recycled.

Remember to remove food from packaging first before recycling.

Need a new kitchen caddy or food waste bin? You can [order a new one](#) online.

Reuse

Where's Fixy this month?



The Fixy project promotes reuse, repair and recycling throughout Somerset. The Fixy team will be on the road in the next month. Join them to learn about, reuse and repair or to donate your pre-loved tech.

The Fixy team can accept donations of laptops, tablets, mobile phones, digital cameras and other smart devices (see [online](#) for a full list). Please make sure to sign out of iCloud (or similar), and leave the devices unlocked. Data will be securely wiped by Donate IT before items are passed back into the community.

Event	Location	Day / Date	Time
Combe St Nicholas Environmental Fair	Combe St Nicholas Village Hall, TA20 3LT	Saturday 7 June	11am to 2pm
Green Scythe Fair	Thorney Lakes, Muchelney, Somerset TA10 0DW	Sunday 8 June	From 11am

Green Fayre Picnic, Big Green Week	Goodland Gardens, The Bridge, Taunton TA1 1UQ	Saturday 14 June	10am to 3pm
Watchet Carnival Fayre	Memorial Ground, Govier's Lane, Watchet, TA23 0ER	Sunday 27 July	Midday to 5pm

Reducing Waste: Think, Act, Refill! World Refill Day - 16 June 2025



World Refill Day, taking place on Monday 16 June, is more than just raising awareness; it's a **Global Day of Action** dedicated to inspiring a reuse revolution across the world.

This day is about encouraging everyone to refill and reuse, reducing the reliance on single-use plastics and packaging.

In Somerset, we are proud to encourage refilling by providing free water bottle refill stations in five of the county's high-streets (Wellington, Taunton, Minehead, Yeovil and Bridgwater). This initiative, in partnership with Wessex Water, has already saved residents money and avoided thousands of single-use plastic bottles going to waste. Find locations of these and other refill points on the [Wessex Water website](#).

An estimated 7.7 billion plastic water bottles are used in the UK every year. However, Somerset's water refill stations have prevented the need for more than 70,000 single-use plastic bottles.

Did you know that [half of the plastic we create](#) (about 400million tonnes a year!) goes into packaging that's single-use?

Almost half of Brits have said they want to avoid using single-use plastics but find it difficult. So next time you head into town, don't forget to bring a bottle with you so you can refill on-the-go!

If you're not near one of our refill points, you can download the free ['Refill' app](#), where you'll be directed to participating shops and cafes who will refill your water bottle for free.

Great Big Green Week: embrace sustainability with swapping, swishing, and jumble sales



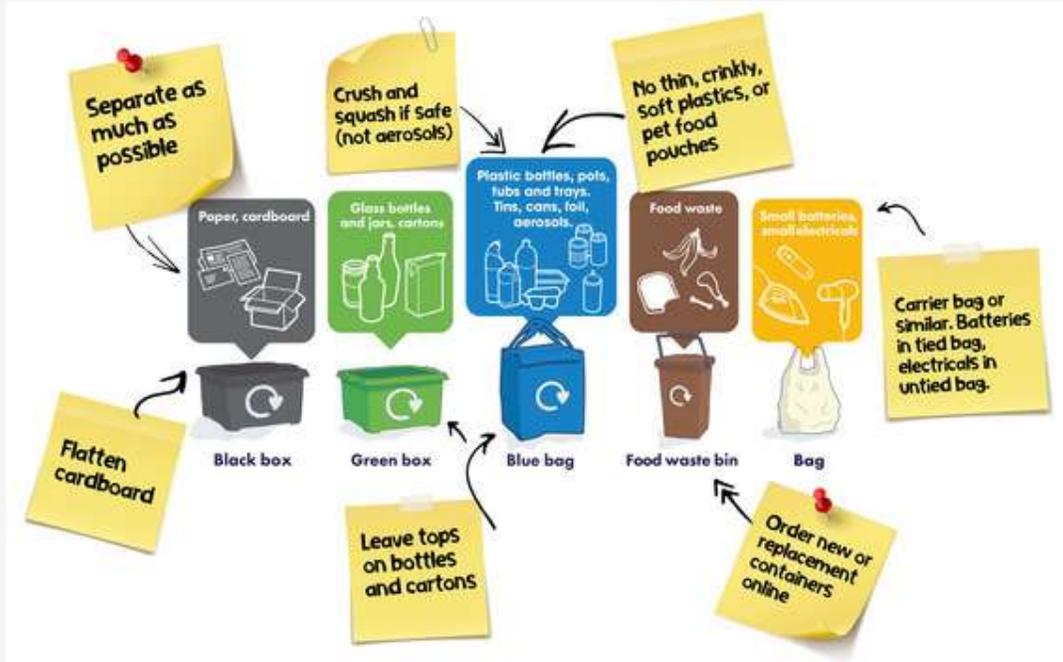
[Great Big Green Week](#) starts on 7 June and is a celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. One fantastic way to contribute is by organising an event that promotes sustainability, such as swap shops, swishing parties, and jumble sales. These activities not only help reduce waste but also foster community spirit and raise awareness about environmental issues.

Swapping and swishing events are innovative ways to refresh your wardrobe or household items without spending money. A swap shop, also known as a "bring and take" or "Freecycle day," allows participants to exchange items they no longer need for something new. These events can be organised as small gatherings or large community events, making them versatile and accessible.

[Read more](#)

Get it sorted!

What goes in each recycling container matters



In Somerset, we ask you to sort your recycling into different containers – this helps us to obtain quality recyclables that reprocessors want, so materials can be recycled closer to home. But there are some things we can't accept in your recycling collection, because they are either dangerous to our crews or tricky to get recycled.

There's also items we sometimes find in the wrong boxes, which can affect our processes. Our system has been designed to make it simple, quick and safe for crews to sort, and also recycle more.

[Read more](#)

Garden waste subscription renewals



Many subscribers to our garden waste collection service will soon receive their renewal notice. However, there's no need to wait for your notification before you renew.

The simplest way to renew your subscription is online, visit our [garden waste collection webpage](#).

You can also follow the link to check when your subscription is due, or sign up as a new subscriber.

If you provide an email address, we'll email you a renewal notice in the month before your subscription is due.

Due to the high costs of postage and administration, we no longer post renewal notification letters. We recommend making a note in your calendar or diary ahead of your garden waste subscription expiry date.

Gas canisters start fires!



Last year, gas canisters started six fires at our sorting facility – please help to stop this happening again.

Small gas canisters, like the ones used for camping stoves, cannot be recycled with your kerbside collection. This is because they pose a fire risk when going through the sorting process. All gas canisters should be taken to your local recycling site. Small canisters (camp stoves for example) can be disposed of free. Please speak to a member of staff on-site about where to put them.

Aerosols, such as deodorant or hair spray bottles can be recycled at the kerbside, just add to your blue bag (so long as they are empty). Full or part-used aerosols can be disposed of free at local recycling sites.

- Aerosols (deodorant, hairspray, etc.) contain a smaller amount of ignitable gas - and the bottles are under less pressure.
- Gas canisters are almost all gas - it's compressed at a high pressure, making it more likely to explode when crushed.

Save time, go online!

Whether you want a new or additional bin, box or bag, need to report a missed collection, start a garden waste subscription or check your collection day, the simplest way to let us know is via our online forms:

- [Check your collection day](#)
- [Order a replacement or extra bin, box or bag](#)
- [Let us know if you've had a missed collection](#)

- [Start or renew a garden waste subscription](#)
- [Book a bulky waste collection](#)
- [Book a clinical waste \(sharps\) collection](#)
- [Request an assisted waste collection](#)
- [Book to dispose of DIY waste](#)

Need a hand with using our forms?

Check our [YouTube playlist](#) for videos on how to log a missed collection, download your calendar and book DIY waste online.



A Greener, More Sustainable Somerset

Did you know we offer a growing range of e-newsletter topics?

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