

Household food waste collections guide



[This guide](#) provides local authorities with information on the collection of household food waste as a means of diverting material from landfill or other residual waste treatment. It updates the 2009 guidance and pulls together the findings from more recent studies and pilots conducted by WRAP and others.

Summary of key points:

- Food waste typically makes up about a third of the residual waste stream. [Understanding householders' perception of food waste recycling](#) will make it easier for you to design a service that addresses their needs.
- Providing householders with a combination of well-designed [internal and external containers plus a supply of caddy liners](#) supported by [quality communication materials](#) can help ensure good engagement and good participation and capture rates.
- Though we leave it for local authorities to determine their collection systems, [evidence shows](#) that the most successful household food waste collections are those where food waste is collected separately and weekly and the collection of residual waste is restricted.
- Don't just think of your food waste service operating in isolation. [The correct choice of vehicle](#) for a food waste collection service delivered as part of an integrated household waste and recycling collection service can help ensure costs are kept to a minimum.
- Both food waste collectors and food waste treatment plant operators benefit if more food waste is collected for recycling. [Working closely with your food waste treatment contractor](#) to promote food waste recycling is beneficial to both parties.
- Understanding the full impact that household food waste recycling can have on [the cost of residual waste disposal](#) can help make the case for introducing a new food waste collection service.
- [Increasing the amount of food waste collected](#) for recycling will make a food waste collection service more efficient.
- 'Getting it right first time' - successfully [communicating](#) and [implementing](#) a new food waste recycling service will play a big part in determining how successful it will be in the long run.
- Recent WRAP research has shown that the [performance of existing food waste recycling services](#) can be boosted by a package of low cost measures.
- Understanding the [requirements of the Animal By-Products Regulations](#) can help ensure you meet the requirements of the Regulator.

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