

 recycle for Falkirk

Making the most of your kerbside collection service

All you need to know



FALKIRK COUNCIL


www.falkirk.gov.uk/recycling

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Your householder collection services – an overview

Thank you for recycling your household waste. Falkirk Council currently recycles over 50% of its household waste (2023), and with your help and actions we will continue to recycle more.

As a nation and within our Council area there's more we can and need to do to meet Scotland's ambitious targets of recycling. Additionally biodegradable materials such as food waste, paper and card cannot be sent to landfill from 2025.

This guide highlights how you should use all of the bins provided. Our service is in line with the Council's commitment to the Scottish Household Recycling Charter, which is designed to introduce a consistent approach to recycling across Scotland.

You are provided with a burgundy bin to collect paper and card, and a blue bin for plastics, cans and cartons. By providing these containers the quality of collected materials improves and the value increases which is a financial benefit to the Council and enabling easier recycling or reuse of materials.

Put simply, collecting materials together costs the Council money, whilst separating materials can provide the Council with an income. All of which means available Council funds will go further.

Collected every 4 weeks

Paper, Card and Cardboard



Yes

Paper

Clean and dry

- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ Magazines, catalogues and directories
- ✓ Junk mail and brochures
- ✓ Letters and envelopes (including windows)
- ✓ Office and shredded paper
- ✓ Wrapping paper
- ✓ Paperback books (can also be reused via charity shops or recycling centres).

Cardboard

Flattened

- ✓ Large and small cardboard boxes
- ✓ Brown corrugated packaging
- ✓ Toilet and kitchen roll tubes
- ✓ Greetings cards

All paper, card and cardboard must be loose, not bagged

No

- ✗ Plastic bags and liners *
- ✗ Tissues and napkins *
- ✗ Padded envelopes *
- ✗ Kitchen towels *
- ✗ Wallpaper *
- ✗ Nappies *
- ✗ Food waste * *

* these items can't be recycled and should be placed in your green non-recyclable waste bin

** these items can be recycled in the grey food waste caddy

Top Tip!

Remember that flattening, or tearing up boxes frees up more space in your bin.



Collected every 4 weeks

Plastics, Cans and Cartons

Top Tip!

Removing lids and squashing out air will give you lots more room in your bin.



Yes

Cans

Emptied and rinsed

- ✓ Food and drinks cans
- ✓ Empty aerosols
- ✓ Foil trays
- ✓ Aluminium foil
- ✓ Chocolate and biscuit tins
- ✓ Metal lids

Plastics

Rinsed and squashed

- ✓ Food and drink bottles
- ✓ Toiletry bottles
- ✓ Tablet and medicine bottles
- ✓ Cleaning products
- ✓ Pots, tubs and trays
- ✓ Lids and tops

Cartons

Rinsed and squashed

- ✓ Soup cartons
- ✓ Juice cartons
- ✓ Other cartons

All plastics, cans and cartons must be loose, not bagged

No

- ✗ Plastic bags and liners*
- ✗ Crisp bags*
- ✗ Biscuit wrappers*
- ✗ Sweet wrappers*
- ✗ Bubble wrap*
- ✗ Polystyrene*
- ✗ Plastic wrappers and netting*
- ✗ Plastic cups and straws*
- ✗ Pet food pouches*
- ✗ Empty oil and paint cans*
- ✗ Small and large electrical #
- ✗ Batteries#
- ✗ Wire#
- ✗ Cutlery#
- ✗ Gas bottles#
- ✗ Metal pots, pans and trays#
- ✗ Nappies*
- ✗ Food waste**

* these items can't be recycled and should be placed in your green non-recyclable waste bin

** these items can be recycled in the grey food waste caddy

these items can be recycled at recycling centres



Collected every week

Food Waste



Yes

- ✓ Cooked and uncooked
- ✓ Dairy and eggshells
- ✓ Fish, meat and bones
- ✓ Fruit and vegetables, peelings too
- ✓ Bread and cakes
- ✓ Rice, pasta and pizza
- ✓ Tea bags and coffee grounds
- ✓ Pet foods
- ✓ Out of date food – remove the packaging first

No

- ✗ Liquids
- ✗ Food packaging*
- ✗ Pet waste*
- ✗ Card sleeves*****
- ✗ Plastic wrappers and netting*
- ✗ Biscuit, sweet and crisp wrappers*
- ✗ Card sleeves*****
- ✗ Plastic wrappers and netting*
- ✗ Biscuit, sweet and crisp wrappers*

*****these items can be recycled in the burgundy bin



Collected every 2 weeks
present alongside your food caddy

Black Box



Yes

- ✓ Glass bottles
- ✓ Glass jars

* these items can't be recycled and should be placed in your general waste bin (non-recyclable)

** if in good condition consider donating to charities or taken to a Retailer Takeback Scheme. There are a growing number of takeback schemes for textiles such as e.g. Dunelm or Marks & Spencer.

***Recycle textiles at either local recycling points or at a Household Waste Recycling Centres or if in good condition, consider reuse or donation to charity.

****Small electrical items can be recycled via the national electrical take-back scheme (<https://www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk/how-to-recycle-electronics/retailer-take-back/>). Retailers now accept old electrical items for recycling when new ones are purchased, regardless of where the old item was bought. Small WEEE items can also be taken to a Household Waste Recycling Centre.

No

- ✗ Pyrex*
- ✗ Window/flat glass*
- ✗ Broken glass*
- ✗ Drinking glasses*
- ✗ Crockery*
- ✗ Duvets**
- ✗ Carpets**
- ✗ Textiles***
- ✗ Small electrical items****
- ✗ Household Batteries****

This is a chargeable service.

Visit www.falkirk.gov.uk/brownbins

Collected every 4 weeks April to November and by request, December to March.

A valid garden waste permit must be displayed on the brown bin to have it collected – One permit per brown bin.



Yes

- ✓ Grass cuttings
- ✓ Leaves and bark
- ✓ Flowers, including cut flowers
- ✓ Hedge trimmings and prunings
- ✓ Weeds
- ✓ Twigs and small branches
- ✓ Potted plants (minus pots)
- ✓ Windfall fruit*

* Leaves and twigs place in your brown bin.
Fruit, place in your food caddy

No

- ✗ Soil and turf*
- ✗ Stones, bricks, plant pots and timber*
- ✗ Food packaging **
- ✗ Plastic bags and packaging **
- ✗ Ash **
- ✗ Animal waste/bedding **
- ✗ Black bags **

* these can be recycled at the recycling centres
** place in your green non-recyclable waste bin



Top Tip!

Large garden? Require a second brown bin? Visit www.falkirk.gov.uk/brownbins

Collected every 4 weeks

General Waste Non-recyclable Waste

Green bins are for those everyday items which can't be recycled. If you use your collection services as they are meant to be used, we will avoid sending waste and valuable resources to energy recovery.



Yes

- ✓ Nappies and incontinence waste
- ✓ Plastic film, liners and bags
- ✓ Polystyrene
- ✓ Pet food pouches
- ✓ Pet waste/bedding
- ✓ Coal fire ash (cold)
- ✓ Sweet, crisp and biscuit wrappers
- ✓ Toothpaste tubes
- ✓ Vacuum cleaner dust

No

- ✗ Any item that can be recycled using your recycling bins

Top Tip!

The lid of your bin must be closed. Don't leave any bags either on top or beside your green bin as they won't be uplifted.

Top Tip!

To help we offer a fortnightly collection service for these absorbent hygiene products - contact us to discuss further www.falkirk.gov.uk/ahpcollection



Helping you to get it right

- Burgundy bin, blue bin and brown bin waste should be placed loose (not bagged) in the right bin.
- Take any additional or larger items of waste to the Council's recycling centre, free of charge. Every resident will need to book a time slot to take their vehicle to a recycling centre via www.falkirk.gov.uk/recyclingcentres. Alternatively arrange for a bulky uplift via: www.falkirk.gov.uk/bulkyuplift.
- If your recycling bins is tagged, visits www.falkirk.gov.uk/ contamination for guidance and advice.
- Check your bin collection dates via: www.falkirk.gov.uk/binday
- Reduce or reuse waste where possible.

Need more support?

Contact us 01324 506070 or email: wasteservices@falkirk.gov.uk

What happens to materials collected for recycling?

All of your collected burgundy bin and blue bin material will be taken to Roughmote, where it is separated and processed before being sent for reprocessing.

We process materials to ensure that the quality is as high as can be. The materials we collect are run through a picking line to remove any items that shouldn't be there.

The more separating you do at home, by using your bins correctly - as outlined in this guide, the more you can help us with this process.

www.falkirk.gov.uk/recycling

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PRIDE
IN FALKIRK**

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