

 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. We're delighted to let you know that Falkirk Council currently recycles 55.9%, and with your continued help we'll increase that figure.

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 70% waste by 2025. Additionally biodegradable materials such as food waste, paper and card cannot be sent to landfill from 2021.

This guide highlights how you should use all of the bins provided. Our new 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.

Why is your service changing?

Thanks to support by the Scottish Government, we are providing you with a burgundy bin which allows us to separately collect paper and card. Plastics, cans and cartons will continue to be collected in your blue bin. By making this change the quality of collected materials improves and the value increases - providing 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
- ✓ Greeting cards

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

No

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

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

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*

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

** these items can be recycled in your black box

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*

Top Tip!

Buy food loose where possible, as this cuts down on plastic film which can't be recycled.



Collected every 2 weeks
present alongside your food caddy

Black Box



Yes

- ✓ Glass bottles and jars (all colours)
- ✓ Small electrical items
- ✓ Textiles (in a recycling sack)
- ✓ Batteries



No

- ✗ Pyrex*
- ✗ Window/flat glass*
- ✗ Broken glass*
- ✗ Drinking glasses*
- ✗ Crockery*
- ✗ Duvets**
- ✗ Carpets**

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

** if in good condition consider donating to charities

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



Garden Waste

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

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 landfill waste bin
(non-recyclable)



Top Tip!

Large garden? We can provide
a second chargeable brown bin -
visit www.falkirk.gov.uk/brownbin
for more information

Collected every 4 weeks

Landfill 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 valuable resources to landfill.

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 centres, free of charge, or arrange for a chargeable bulky uplift via www.falkirk.gov.uk/bulkyuplift
- 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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