

Recycling -

Let's get it sorted this Christmas

During the festive season it is important to remember that Christmas is a time when waste in North Ayrshire is at its highest level.

More waste is produced over the festive period - such as wrapping paper, cardboard boxes, Christmas trees, old decorations, bottles and leftover food - and this often means that recycling is forgotten about and waste is simply bundled up into one bag and thrown away.

However, it is easier than ever to make sure that you keep up the good work which has enabled North Ayrshire residents to recycle 41 percent of our waste.

Did you know?

- Over 1 billion Christmas cards are sent each year.
- We use around 750 million bottles and glass containers and 500 million drinks cans over the festive period.
- Over 7.5 million real Christmas Trees are bought every year.

The frightening thing is that most of this could end up in our bins in the New Year.

This year we are asking you to think seriously about what you can do to reduce, reuse and recycle your waste not just over the festive period but to make this a choice for life.

- **Real Christmas Trees** - put out at the kerbside week commencing 10 January on your normal refuse collection day and our operatives will collect for recycling.
- **Use your blue bins** for recycling any paper, or cards that you dispose of over Christmas and the New Year (please do not include foil wrapping paper).
- **A lot more glass bottles and jars are used over the Christmas period**, why not use your black box to dispose of all these for recycling.
- **There are also many recycling centres and points located across North Ayrshire** for you to take glass, cans, paper, plastic bottles, textiles and shoes. Alternatively take your waste to one of the household waste recycling centres.

Christmas Uplift arrangements

This year there will be no changes to your bin collection days. Please put your bin out for collection on the usual day at your normal point of collection.

If there is adverse weather we will try and collect your bins where safe access to your street is possible. If we cannot gain access to your street we will uplift as soon as we can.

Special uplifts will be suspended from 24 December 2010 and will start again week beginning 10 January 2011.

Please put your real Christmas trees out for recycling alongside your bin week beginning 10 January 2011.

Our household waste recycling centres will be closed on 25 & 26 December 2010 and 1 & 2 January 2011, but will be open as normal every other day.

Councillor Tom Barr, Portfolio Holder for the Environment, said:

"Over the Christmas and New Year period recycling becomes even more important as we produce much more waste at this time of year."

"Thanks to everyone who plays a part in protecting our environment."



Reduce

- Say no to unwanted carrier bags when shopping - try to reuse your old ones;
- Avoid buying goods that have unnecessary packaging or try to buy food and drink packaged in materials that can be recycled;
- Buy drinks like lemonade in large containers, rather than lots of small ones; and
- Avoid using paper plates and cups if you are planning a party.

Reuse

- Why not make gift tags from your old greetings cards;
- Pass any unwanted gifts to your local charity shop rather than throwing them away; and
- Buy rechargeable batteries instead of disposable ones.

Recycle

Blue wheeled bins

A lot of the waste created during the festive period can be recycled. Wrapping paper (no foil), cardboard boxes, plastic bottles and steel and aluminium cans should be recycled using your blue bin.

Black Glass boxes

Glass bottles can be recycled using boxes provided by the Council, or you can use bottle banks - which can be found at a variety of recycling points across North Ayrshire such as supermarkets and community facilities. Don't have a black box? Phone 0845 603 0594 to request a free one.

Christmas Trees

You don't need to worry about transporting your real Christmas trees to recycling centres. Trees can be recycled by placing them at the kerbside beside your bin during the week beginning 10 January 2011. They will then be taken for composting.

Electrical goods

Many people will have small electrical items such as straighteners, hairdryers and white goods to replace during the festive period. All electrical items can be disposed of at North Ayrshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres along with cardboard, wood, green waste and rubble.

Batteries

Large quantities of batteries will be used over the Christmas period with new toys and games bought and these can now be recycled at all libraries and schools in North Ayrshire.

The following household batteries can be deposited in the battery box at these sites: 6V, D, C, AA, AAA, 9V. Household batteries can also be recycled at most supermarket chains - see instore for more details.

Food waste

Food is a huge part of the Christmas celebration. However, it is often the case that a lot of good food goes to waste. When you are preparing meals make sure that you aren't making lots more than you expect to serve - although there is always room for some second helpings.

Everyone has experience of turkey sandwiches for days after Christmas, but there are plenty of recipes which can utilise those leftovers in a far more creative way. Pick up some tips at www.lovefoodhatewaste.com.

Household Waste Recycling Centres

North Ayrshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres can be found at Bartonholm, Irvine, Station Road, Dreghorn, and Haylie Brae, Largs. The centre at Paddockholm Road, Kilbirnie is due to be opened for the festive period. The centres will be closed on Saturday, 25 December, Sunday, 26 December, Saturday, 1 January and Sunday, 2 January. They will continue to operate Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.45pm.

All of the centres have bays to allow you to separate your waste, allowing more effective recycling. It is very important that the correct materials are placed in each bay.



Recycling Centres

Site	Location	Fluorescent & Energy Saving Lighbulbs	Glass	Cans	Paper	Plastic Bottles	Cardboard	Textiles	Wood	Green Waste	Rubble	Electrical Appliances & TVs	White Goods	Metal	Household Batteries	Car Batteries
Brodick	Market Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dreghorn	Station Brae	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kilbirnie	Paddockholm Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Largs	Haylie Brae	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Irvine	Sandy Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

