



Household Waste Management Guide



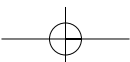
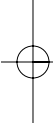
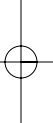


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Introduction

We all generate household waste as part of our daily lives. Therefore, we all have an obligation to manage it correctly to prevent it causing environmental pollution, nuisance and to protect public health.

People who do not properly manage their household waste e.g. by hoarding or burning it, not only cause environmental and health problems which can affect themselves, but can also affect their neighbours and surrounding environment.

In addition, there is a legal obligation to do the right thing with household waste, and if you do not then you could be subject to enforcement action including prosecution.

There's a growing awareness that we need to be kinder to the environment or we'll put our own survival at risk. A clear example of this is Climate Change. Poor or inappropriate waste management practices can also contribute to Climate Change e.g. burning of waste leads to the release of toxic dioxins.

Climate Change

Climate change and global warming are recognized as major challenges facing us at both National and International levels. Consequently more people are looking for ways by which to live a little greener.

At a local level, Cavan County Council has developed a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy which represents a proactive step by the Council to respond effectively to the threats posed by climate change.

Whilst Cavan County Council is continually working to mitigate against the causes of climate change by striving to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, this adaptation strategy is primarily concerned with increasing Cavan County Council's resilience in adapting to the impacts of climate change and associated extreme weather events.

The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy considers the impacts of recent severe weather events experienced in the County which we are likely to face in the future and proposes a range of actions to be delivered at County Level to allow the Council to adapt better to such events in the future. The strategy will further strengthen Cavan County Council's ability to be climate resilient in our day to day operations and in our dealings and interactions with all stakeholders.

Greener options to manage your Household Waste

Preventing Waste at Home

Ireland produced 2,763,166 tonnes of municipal waste in 2016, this is a 6% increase since 2014. This means that each person living in Ireland generated 580kg of municipal waste in 2016 (EPA Waste Data Release, 31 October 2018).

The good news is that overall recycling rates continue to rise and our dependence on landfill as a waste management route is decreasing. However, managing our waste has impacts on the environment, so preventing waste is to be preferred to any waste management option.

By not generating waste in the first instance, we can eliminate the need to handle, transport, treat and dispose of waste. We also then avoid having to pay for these services. To make a difference, we must make a conscious effort to do so.

What can you do?

While developing greener habits may require some commitment, small lifestyle changes e.g. better household waste management can and do have a big impact in reducing the amount of household waste we generate. The next section explores different Greener Steps to manage household waste.

Steps for better management of Household Waste

Step 1

Greener food

One area to look at is food waste. By consuming locally produced food, which is in season, you can cut down on your food's air miles and you also get the health benefits of eating fruit and veg at their peak.

As shop bought vegetables are most frequently thrown out, think about making a weekly shopping list for your groceries and stick to it, purchasing only what you need or try growing your own fruit and vegetables at home.

For anyone who would like to learn more about preventing food waste, the Stop Food Waste Programme (www.stopfoodwaste.ie) offers extensive advice on how Irish householders can make the most of their food with tips on planning, shopping and reuse.

Another simple change is to move to tap water instead of bottled. There is a huge environmental impact of transporting water in bottles around the world and around the country.

Avoid using single use disposable bottles and start filling reusable bottles with free tap water. Refill Ireland are creating a network of business locations to provide free drinking water refills in the County. For a list of locations check out Refill Ireland's website www.refill.ie.

Step 2 Greener Homes

As well as recycling there are other ways to be eco-conscious at home. Make a list of possible environmentally friendly changes you can make to your home to make it more energy efficient:

- Consider washing laundry at lower temperatures.
- Avoid using tumble dryer and dry clothes outside if the weather is favourable.
- Go paperless with your utility bills.
- Switch your current lightbulbs to compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs or LED lightbulbs, which are more energy efficient.
- Make or buy a home compost container.

For further information on how to make your home more energy efficient and for information on grants available to upgrade your home, please visit www.seai.ie.

Step 3 Greener Leisure

County Cavan is home to a large number of tourist attractions and leisure activities including scenic walking routes, lakes and rivers for fishing and swimming and areas of historical importance. Cavan County Council promotes responsible outdoor recreation, and asks anyone enjoying these amenities to be considerate of their surroundings and minimise damage caused to the environment by littering, illegal dumping, campfires, etc.

Greener leisure pursuits can not only be healthy for you but can also reduce your carbon footprint in the environment. For more information on things to do in Cavan, please visit www.thisiscavan.ie.

Step 4 Greener Consumption – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

In the past, global economies have been based on a continuous growth model that relied on a steady supply of inexpensive natural resources. This linear economy was built on the principles of ‘take, make and waste’ and is not sustainable.

Ireland is in the process of transitioning to a circular economy. Soon the value of products, materials and resources will be maintained in our economy for as long as possible, and waste minimised.

Can I reduce the amount of waste my household produces?

Firstly, why are you getting rid of an item? Is it broken? Can it be fixed or repurposed? Each October the Regional Waste Management Offices runs a Reuse Month campaign to show people how and what they can repurpose around their house and in the workplace, and to try and inspire them to do more. Suggestions include borrowing rarely used items, whether that's cookbooks or gardening implements from a neighbour; finding things for free on websites such as FreeTrade Ireland or www.adverts.ie and upcycling.

A new directory called **Repair My Stuff (www.repairmystuff.ie)** shows where people can get items fixed near them, from clothes to musical instruments, computers and large appliances.

Step 5

Use your local Civic Amenity Centres and Bring Centres for your household recycling. For a full list of locations please go to page 10.

Step 6

Household Waste Collection Service

If you cannot use your local Civic Amenity Sites or Bring Centres, you should use a household waste collection service from a permitted waste collection contractor.

A segregated waste collection is provided by regulated private waste collection contractors. This includes as a minimum a dry recyclable and general/residual waste collection service where waste is collected from your kerbside.

A three-bin waste collection service must be provided to householders in all areas with a population greater than 500 people:

1. Brown bin for organic waste
2. Dry recyclable bin
3. General/residual waste bin

Contact your waste collection contractor for information on services they offer and collection schedules.

Always use a waste collector that has an appropriate waste collection permit. Always keep a record of your waste collection service costs including receipts whether you use a Civic Amenity Site or permitted waste collection contractor. A full list of Waste Collection Contractors can be found on www.nwcpo.ie.

If you dump or burn household waste or give to an illegal waste collector you are breaking the law.

Poor household waste management practices like hoarding of household waste at your property can cause environmental and health problems and may result in you being subject to enforcement actions.

If you are convicted of a waste management offence a fine of up to €5,000 and/or 12 months in prison could be imposed and you could also face all legal costs and expenses resulting from this action.

New Waste Management Bye-Laws for County Cavan

Cavan County Council has made new Waste Management Bye-Laws entitled “County of Cavan (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws 2019.

These Bye-Laws came into effect on 13th December 2019 and are designed to ensure that both household and commercial waste generated in County Cavan is better managed or recycled and disposed of correctly.

All local authorities are adopting similar Bye-Laws ensuring a consistent approach to managing waste across Ireland. To comply with the new Bye-Laws, you will need to demonstrate that you are managing your waste in a responsible and legal manner. These Bye-Laws will apply to all households, apartments and commercial premises.

In order to manage your household waste correctly you need to be able to prove that:

- You have a contract in place with a permitted waste collection contractor (bin sharing is permitted for which proof of agreement is required);
- You can demonstrate regular use of an authorised waste facility.

Why do we need these Bye-Laws?

- To help you manage your waste in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- To ensure that your waste is only given to a permitted door-to door waste collector or brought to an authorised waste facility.
- To help ensure your waste is correctly segregated, and recycled;
- To reduce illegal dumping and backyard burning.

What happens if I don't comply?

If you fail to comply with any of the requirements of the Bye-Laws, it may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (Maximum €75) being issued by this Local Authority or a member of An Garda Síochána. It may also lead to a fine on conviction of up to €2,500.

Recycling

Bring Centres

Across the County, there are 30 Recycling Bring Centres which facilitate the recycling of plastic bottles, glass jars and bottles, aluminum cans and textiles.

Follow these dos and don'ts when using Bring Centres:

- Do always use the correct receptacle.
- Do not mix recyclables as this can lead to contamination and prevents the contents from being recycled.
- Do not place residual waste or litter beside or inside the recycling receptacle.

- Do take any boxes or bags home with you and never litter the site. On the spot fines of €150 may be incurred if you cause littering at Bring Centres.

If the receptacles are full, please use an alternative site or come back another day.

Civic Amenity Centres

Cavan Civic Amenity Centres are primarily for Cavan householders to recycle their waste. The centres accept a wide range of household waste which is suitable for recycling.

Corranure Recycling Centre

Tel: (049) 4378568

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday
8.00am – 4.30pm

Saturday 8.00am – 12.30pm

Site Closed: Bank Holidays

Ballyconnell Recycling Centre

Tel: (049) 9527593

Opening Hours: Tuesday & Friday
8.00am – 4.30pm

Saturday 8.00am – 12.30pm

Site Closed: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Bailieborough Recycling Centre

Tel: (042) 9666892

Opening Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8.00am – 4.30pm

Saturday 8.00am – 12.30pm

Site Closed: Monday & Wednesday

A list of accepted waste materials and related costs are available from www.mcelvaneywaste.com.

For further information on what to do with various types of household waste, visit www.mywaste.ie for an A to Z guide.



List of Bring Centre Locations:

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Blacklion | 10. Redhills | 19. Kilnaleck |
| 2. Dowra | 11. Ballyhaise | 20. Ballyjamesduff |
| 3. Glangevlin | 12. Cootehill | 21. New Inns |
| 4. Swanlinbar | 13. Arva | 22. Shercock |
| 5. Corlough | 14. Cornafean | 23. Bailieborough |
| 6. Bawnboy | 15. Crossdoney | 24. Kingscourt |
| 7. Ballyconnell | 16. Lavey | 25. Virginia |
| 8. Belturbet | 17. Ballinagh | 26. Munterconnaught |
| 9. Killeshandra | 18. Killydoon | 27. Mullagh |



Cavan Town

Main Street Carpark

Pullamore Near, Dublin Road,
Cavan (adjacent to Supervalu)

Tullacmongan Resource Centre

List of Civic Amenity Centres:

- A Ballyconnell
- B Corranure
- C Bailieborough

Food Waste

In Ireland over one million tonnes of food waste are disposed of each year. Around 1/3 of this comes from households. That's between €400 and €1,000 per household per year of food waste thrown into the bin.

Food waste sent to landfill does not harmlessly break down but instead releases methane, a greenhouse gas 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Where possible we should prevent food waste in the first instance. Top tips to prevent food waste include checking your cupboards before you shop, have a list, only buy what you need and don't be tempted by special offers on perishable foods.

Do you know that:

- **60% of food waste is avoidable:** e.g. plate scrapings and leftovers, fruit and vegetables past their best before date, etc. We can control this waste easily by planning our meals, serving smaller portion sizes and by shopping smarter.
- **20% of food waste is potentially avoidable:** e.g. bread crusts, vegetable peelings, etc. This waste could be used in another way; crusts could be made into breadcrumbs and then frozen until you need them.

- **20% of food waste is unavoidable:** e.g. orange/banana skins, etc.

For more information visit www.stopfoodwaste.ie.

The good news is food waste doesn't have to end up in landfill. It can be recycled by using your food waste recycling bin. All households living in a population agglomeration greater than 500 people are entitled to a Food Waste Recycling service from their permitted waste collection contractor.

Households with a kerbside collection for food waste can simply separate cooked and raw food and leave the bin out as part of your normal kerbside waste collection so it can be sent to a composting site or to an anaerobic digestion plant to make green energy.

For more information visit www.brownbin.ie.

Composting

Composting is the decomposition of organic material. Over one third of household waste is compostable. Composting reduces waste and returns nutrients to the soil.

Making compost requires the right mix of ingredients. Brown materials (carbon rich) are slow to rot but essential to the process. Green materials (full of nitrogen) are

compost activators and need to be balanced by a larger amount of brown material.

The length of time it takes to compost material varies depending on the mix of green and brown material, moisture and air content. It could be ready in 3-4 months but it can take up to a year or more to mature. When compost is ready for use there should be hardly any trace of the parent material except for eggshells and you should be able to crumble the product simply through your fingers.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is my compost slimy & smelly?

Too much nitrogen material such as grass. Add more brown ingredients.

Why is my compost taking ages to decompose?

Be patient - Turn the material regularly to speed up the process.

Why does my compost smell like rotten eggs?

Not enough air. Turn the contents every day for a week, then regularly for a month.

Why is my compost material damp and soggy?

The material added may be too wet or the composter is in too cool an area. Add a batch of materials such as weeds or hedge trimmings.

Why are there a lot of flies in the compost?

Put a layer of newspaper or grass cuttings at the top of the composter daily or leave the lid open during the day.

Will rodents be attracted to the composter?

Composting shouldn't attract rodents into your garden. Place the composter in an open area away from streams or other water sources. Plant lavender or rosemary close by as their scent deters rodents. If you are worried about attracting rodents, place the composter on a layer of chicken or birdcage wire & turn up the edges.

A full list of compostable materials is below:

Green materials:

Grass Clippings, old vegetables and vegetable peelings: e.g. carrot, onion, potato skins, old fruit and fruit peels e.g. apple cores, banana skins, manure - cow, sheep, horse, pig, rabbit, guinea pig, old bedding plants, green weeds, dead flowers, seaweed, tea leaves/teabags, plant shrub prunings and trimmings.

Brown materials:

Old straw or hay, bark or woodchips, autumn leaves, dry brown weeds, hair - human or pet, Hoover bag contents, coffee grounds/filters, paper/soft cardboard - shredded, corrugated cardboard - shredded, newspaper - shredded, eggshells - rinsed and crushed, ashes from a wood or peat fire.

Do not add:

Meat (raw or cooked), fish bones/scrap, grease, oil or fatty foods, dairy products, coal ashes/barbecue coals, brightly coloured card/paper with coloured inks, disposable nappies, cat, dog or human excrement, glass, plastics, metals, textiles, pernicious weeds e.g. couch grass, creeping buttercup.

The five essential conditions for successful composting are:



Green Waste

Dealing with Green Garden Waste

Green waste is organic waste sourced from the garden or from landscaping activities. It generally includes grass, hedge cuttings, bushes, tree toppings, prunings or other woody material. As landfill diversion targets are enforced, green waste is generally not accepted at landfill for disposal.

Green waste should be separated out from other waste and you should choose one or more of the following options to deal with it:

- Use a compost bin or compost heap and compost in your own garden.
- Cut your grass regularly. Where possible, invest in a mulching mower.
- Hire a shredder and shred hedge clipping and branches and make your own bark mulch.

- Bring your green waste to the closest Civic Amenity Centre.
- For large quantities of green waste, hire a skip from a permitted waste collection contractor. The permitted contractor will ensure the green waste is composted or recovered.

Uncontrolled Burning of Household Waste

Burning of household waste (and commercial waste) is illegal and is not only a nuisance to neighbours, it has a significant negative impact on the local environment by releasing harmful chemicals into the air and causing long term environmental pollution and health risks while also interfering with the lives of others.

What is Backyard Burning?

The term **Backyard Burning** is applied to the uncontrolled burning of waste. The term also refers to:

- Burning waste in a barrel or exposed heap (bonfire) in a yard or garden.
- Burning in a purchased ready-made "home incinerator".
- Burning commercial waste on a business premises or farmyard.
- Burning waste on a building site.

Did you know?

- It is illegal to burn household, garden or commercial waste either inside or outside any part of a house, garden or premises.*

- It is illegal to use waste burners or other devices for burning household, garden or commercial waste.*
- It is illegal to burn waste in stoves or any device attached to a chimney or flue.*

*(without a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency).

In September 2009, a law concerning waste disposal by burning came into force. **The Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009 (SI No. 286 of 2009)** make explicit the offence of disposal of waste by uncontrolled burning and prohibits such disposal within the curtilage of a dwelling.

Failure to comply with these regulations is an offence and fines of up to €5,000 may be imposed.

Reporting incidents of illegal burning

If your neighbour or someone else you see is illegally burning waste, then in the interest of your own health and the environment, please report the incident to the Waste Management Section, Cavan County Council. For contact details, please refer to page 18.

Agricultural Green Waste

There is an exemption to allow farmers to dispose of specific agricultural waste by burning e.g. tree/hedge trimmings, leaves, bushes or similar materials generated. This is subject to strict restrictions and this practice should only be applied as a **very last resort**.

This exemption only applies if the waste is generated by agricultural practices, so it would not apply to leaves/grass/bushes in a domestic garden for example.

This exemption only applies until the 31st December 2020, after which time all burning will be prohibited unless an application is made for a Certificate of Registration under the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007 as amended.

TO AVAIL OF AN EXEMPTION, FARMERS MUST ADHERE TO STRICT REQUIREMENTS WHICH INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Reduce the amount of waste arising in accordance with best agricultural practice.
- Reuse waste where practical.
- Recycle waste through shredding and use as compost or wood chippings.
- Salvage of waste as a fuel where practicable.
- Apply in writing to the local authority to burn 'green' agricultural waste by completing an "Intent to Burn" application.
- Take adequate measures to limit overall nuisance or possibilities of endangering human health or causing environmental pollution.
- Ensure that no accelerants will be used when undertaking the disposal activity.

At least 3 working days' notice must be given in advance and no burning is to take place without approval from the Waste Management Section.

"Intent to Burn" application forms are available on www.cavancoco.ie.

Bulky Waste

What is Bulky waste?

Bulky Waste is waste that cannot fit in a wheelie bin e.g. broken furniture, mattresses, carpets, toys etc.

How to dispose of bulky waste:

- Hire a skip from a permitted waste collection collector.
- Bring directly to any of the Council's Civic Amenity Centres.

When using permitted waste collection contractors:

- Ensure that the waste collector has a permit for the type of waste they are collecting. Visit the National Waste Collection Permit Office website www.nwcpo.ie for a full list of waste collection service providers and what they are permitted to collect.
- Ask to see your waste collectors waste collection permit.
- Note the time and date of the collection and the license number of the vehicle.
- Always get a receipt.

Please Note: It is an offence to hire an illegal (unpermitted) waste collection contractor or skip operator, and to do so could lead to prosecution, heavy fines and/or a prison sentence.

Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

WEEE is anything powered by a battery or a plug.

Do not put WEEE or used batteries in the general waste bin.

You can bring your old WEEE appliances to any of Cavan County Council's Civic Amenity Centres or your electrical retailer will take back old items on a one for one basis when you are buying something new. Disposal is free of charge.

The European Recycling Platform (ERP) also provides free collections in centralised locations throughout Cavan whereby the public can drop off items for recycling.

www.erp-recycling.org/ie

Waste household batteries can be brought to:

- Any electrical retailer selling equivalent batteries.
- Schools' who are participating in the European Recycling Platform school's battery recycling collection.

Hazardous Waste

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

In our daily lives we use products which contain hazardous components. Such products include

certain paints, cleaning agents, stains and varnishes, car batteries, motor oil, and pesticides. The leftover contents of such products are known as "household hazardous waste." Such items are labeled with symbols such as corrosive, hazardous or toxic. When improperly disposed of, household hazardous waste can create a potential risk to our health, safety and the environment.

Hazardous waste must go through specialized treatment prior to recycling/recovery or must be disposed of in specially designed hazardous waste landfills.

Items of household hazardous waste must not be placed with normal household refuse. Below is a list of the items that you should not place in your refuse bin for landfill.

- **Asbestos.**
- **Batteries.**
- **Paint/varnishes.**
- **Pesticides.**
- **Corrosives.**
- **Herbicides.**
- **Motor oils.**
- **Florescent tubes.**
- **Any hazardous cleaning agents such as bleach or white spirits.**
- **Medicines including veterinary medicines.**
- **Waste vegetable oils.**

Correct disposal of household hazardous waste

Cavan County Council accepts items of household hazardous waste at

Corranure Civic Amenity Centre. Please contact 049 4327658 for details of applicable charges. Cavan County Council also accepts items of household hazardous waste at specially organised "hazardous waste collection" days at various Civic Amenity Centres each year. Details of collection dates are advertised in local press.

For further information on household hazardous waste, please consult "A Householders' Guide to Hazardous Waste Prevention" available on www.epa.ie.

Abandoned Vehicles

It is an offence under Section 71 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended to abandon a vehicle on any land and both the person who placed the vehicle at the place where it was abandoned and the registered owner are liable to be prosecuted with fines of up to €5,000 and/or 12 months in prison.

The local authority may enter on any land upon which a vehicle has been abandoned and remove the said vehicle. Where a vehicle is removed from land by the local authority, the local authority will endeavor to contact the registered owner by way of written notice as soon as it is possible thereafter.

Abandoned vehicles may be claimed by the registered owner under certain

circumstances and conditions but shall be subject to payment of recovery and storage costs incurred by the local authority before the vehicle can be returned.

It is important to note that the local authority has powers to dispose of vehicles under certain circumstances without notification to the registered owner.

Unwanted Vehicles/Scrap Vehicles/End-of-Life Vehicles

Cavan County Council is aware of a number of bogus collectors who are offering to collect vehicles for disposal.

It is an offence under the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended and the European Union (End-of-Life Vehicles) Regulations 2014 as amended to give a vehicle you intend to scrap to an unauthorised vehicle collector i.e. collector with no valid Waste Collection Permit. **If you do, you may be liable to prosecution where fines of up to €5,000 and/or 12 months in prison could be imposed.**

You are required by law to ensure that your unwanted vehicle/scrap vehicle/end of life vehicle is disposed of at an Authorised Treatment Facility (car dismantler) where you should request a certificate of destruction.

If an unwanted vehicle/scrap vehicle/end of life vehicle is being collected from your home, please ensure that the company removing the vehicle has a valid Waste Collection Permit that allows them to collect these vehicles. If you suspect that they do not have a valid Waste Collection Permit, please contact the Waste Management Section, Cavan County Council.

For details of permitted waste collection contractors for end of life vehicles please visit www.nwcpo.ie.

For further information please contact:

**Waste Management Section
Cavan County Council**
Courthouse
Farnham Street,
Cavan
Tel. 049 4378300
Email: waste@cavancoco.ie
www.cavancoco.ie

Useful Websites:

www.thisiscavan.ie
www.mywaste.ie
www.mcelvaneywaste.com
www.nwcpo.ie
www.brownbin.ie
www.stopfoodwaste.ie
www.refill.ie
www.dccae.gov.ie
www.seai.ie
www.repairmystuff.ie
www.weeeireland.ie
www.epa.ie
www.tidytowns.ie
www.greenschoolsireland.org
www.cre.ie
www.erp-recycling.org/ie
www.curwmo.ie

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