

EASIER CHEAPER CLEANER

**You can now use
plastic liners or bags
in your food
waste caddy**

Great news about recycling your food waste

You can now use plastic liners or bags in your food waste caddy, thanks to new technology at the anaerobic digestion plants where Surrey's food waste is turned into energy and fertiliser.



What can I use?

To line your caddy, you could buy plastic bags on a roll such as pedal bin liners or reuse plastic bags you already have, like shopping bags that are coming to the end of their life.

Food bags, such as bread, salad or cereal bags can also be used. They are perfect for lining your kitchen caddy and getting smelly food into your outside food waste bin straight away. All you need to do is tie them up and drop them straight in.

Whatever bag you use, remember to check for holes first. You can also still use newspaper or leftover compostable liners in your caddy.

What's the benefit?

Residents have told us that compostable liners are expensive and can tear or leak, meaning recycling your food waste can sometimes be a bit smelly or messy. Plastic bags are cheaper and stronger than compostable liners.

Are there any exceptions?

We can only take plastic bags – no other packaging can be accepted. Also black bin liners can't be used in case the collection crew think it's rubbish.

Can I still put plastic bags in my recycling bin?

Any empty plastic bags (except black sacks) you do not use in your food caddy can still be put in your recycling bin.

What happens to the food waste?

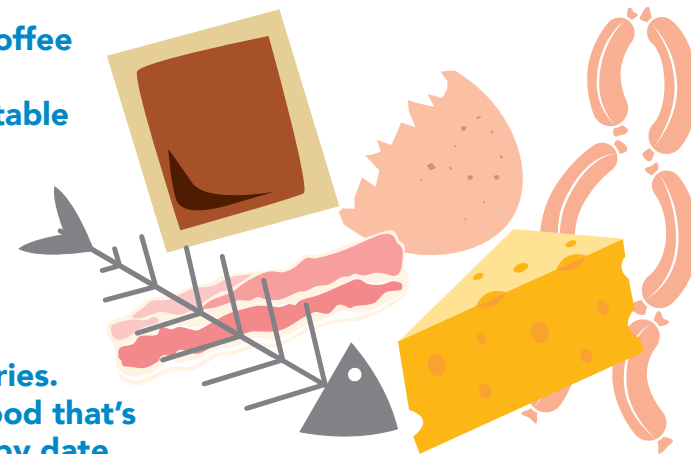
Food waste is taken to an anaerobic digestion plant, where new machinery splits and removes the bags or liners. The food waste is then ground up and pasteurised before being passed through heated tanks.

Energy from the tanks is used to generate electricity, which is fed into the national grid to power homes. Liquid left at the end of the process is used as fertiliser for farms.

What food can go in my caddy?

All cooked and uncooked food waste can go in your caddy. That includes:

- Tea bags and coffee grounds
- Fruit and vegetable peelings
- Egg shells
- Meat
- Fish bones and skin
- Mouldy bread, cakes and pastries.
- Any uneaten food that's passed its use by date



Please remove your food from any packaging, as it's only plastic bags and liners that can be removed at the anaerobic digestion plant. But if the packaging can be recycled, please rinse and put it in your main recycling bin.

What can't go in my caddy?

Please don't put in any food packaging or liquids - such as milk or oil.

What happens to the plastic bags?

After being extracted from the food waste the bags or liners are taken to an energy from waste plant to be turned into electricity.

When is food waste collected?

It's collected from your outside food waste bin each week from most homes in Surrey – on the same day as your rubbish or recycling.

Why recycle food waste?

It's great for the environment and saves money. If all food waste in Surrey was recycled it would save taxpayers more than £3 million a year. More food waste was collected from Surrey residents in caddies in 2015 compared to the year before, but it would be great to make 2016 a record year.

Any questions?

If you have any questions, would like to find out more about your food waste collection or need to replace a lost or broken caddy, visit tandridge.gov.uk/recyclingandwaste, email customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk or call 01883 722000.

For help reducing the amount of food you throw away visit recycleforsurrey.org.uk where there are hints and recipes to help you waste less food and save money. By throwing away less food, the average family could save up to £60 a month.



recycleforsurrey.org.uk

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