



Changes to local household recycling centres

WHAT ARE THE CHANGES

All sites will introduce charges for non-household waste

By law, Buckinghamshire County Council must accept day-to-day household waste free of charge, for example garden waste, electricals, and paper. These types of waste make up around 75% of waste brought to household recycling centres and will remain free of charge.

Other waste, such as landscaping, construction, or demolition waste is classed as 'non-household waste' and is expensive to dispose of. The Council is allowed by law to charge for these items to offset the cost of disposal. We recognise that many householders carry out small projects from time to time. By applying a small charge this allows us to continue accepting these types of non-household waste.

Traders and businesses should still use the existing commercial waste service.

A full price list is available on site and online, however the table below shows the categories of waste that can be charged for.

Household waste <i>No charge</i>				Non-household waste <i>Charges apply</i>					
	household waste		furniture		large appliances		building materials		hardcore & rubble
	mixed paper & card		carpet		small appliances		plasterboard		soil
	cardboard		mattresses		electrical		wood & timber		upvc frames
	mixed glass bottles & jars		mixed textiles & clothes		gas bottles		tyres		
	household plastic packaging		cooking oil		household & garden chemicals				
	hard plastics		garden waste		scrap metal				

This guide shows general categories of waste, but to find out whether a specific item is chargeable, please refer to the full price list.

View the full price list of chargeable items at www.buckscc.gov.uk/HRC

Site staff are currently being trained to deal with the charges in readiness for the 1 April. They use a handheld device to calculate payment using the full price list. Following the 1 April payments will be accepted via credit, debit, or pre-paid payment card only.

Aylesbury (Rabans lane), Burnham and Chesham household recycling centres will close 2 days a week on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The other six sites remain open seven days a week, and opening times will be unaffected. Residents are encouraged to visit on other days, or use a nearby alternative. The three sites affected are all relatively close to other sites. The nearest alternative sites are also better equipped to deal with extra visitors on those weekdays.



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Bledlow household recycling centre will permanently close

Bledlow Household Recycling centre will permanently close at 4pm on Sunday 31 March 2019. Unfortunately, the required cost savings cannot be made without at least one site closure. Our analysis of the whole network shows that closure of Bledlow HRC will cause the least disruption for residents of the county taken as a whole.

WILL THESE CHANGES INCREASE FLY TIPPING?

Buckinghamshire County Council is not the first Council to introduce charges for non-household waste. Other local authorities who have introduced similar changes have not seen an increase in fly tipping. Most people act responsibly when disposing of their waste, and the County Council expect this to continue.

Despite this, the Council understands residents' concerns and will be actively monitoring the levels of fly tipping. The County Council has also given additional resources to the enforcement team to help prosecute those who fly tip and for the successful SCRAP Fly tipping campaign which helps residents ensure their waste is disposed of responsibly. See the link at the end of the document for more information.

WILL THERE BE MORE QUEUES AT OTHER SITES?

No. Many visitors will come back at a different time and these visits, spread across the week, should not cause queues. A number of residents will use other sites as well, such as people in Aylesbury using Aston Clinton, this will also help to avoid queues.

WHAT IS THE COUNCIL DOING TO TELL PEOPLE ABOUT THE CHANGES?

The Council is working hard to ensure as many people as possible know about the changes. All sites have new signage and site staff are handing out cards to all visitors. The Council is also advertising changes in local magazines and newspapers, on social media, on local radio stations, on the County's website and many other places. It is important as many people know about the changes, so the Council would ask that organisations and residents spread the word wherever possible.

WHAT ELSE CAN RESIDENTS DO WITH THEIR WASTE?

Despite the changes, residents can still bring the same types of waste to a recycling centre as they could before, but some waste will now incur a charge. Many people only bring materials that do not have charges, so they should be able to use the sites unaffected.

Alternatives to visiting a Household Recycling Centre could include selling or donating your items for free. They could be sold via online sites like Ebay, Facebook Marketplace or Freecycle where the items can be posted for free.

If residents have small amounts of non-household waste, the local household recycling centre will likely be the best option. Lots of non-household waste is often created when carrying out home improvement projects, so residents may wish to look into alternatives. Residents can hire a skip, or ask the contractor working on their home to take away the waste with them. This may incur a charge, but may be less expensive than visiting the Household Recycling Centre.

Residents should always use the [SCRAP code](#) to make sure waste is dealt with properly.



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WHAT HAS NOT CHANGED?

Opening hours are unaffected – 9am-6pm Summer (Apr - Sep) & 9am-4pm Winter (Oct - Mar)

The majority of the waste brought to site will stay free of charge to dispose of, so many residents will not need to pay any charges.

E-Permits will still need to be used for those bringing waste in commercial vehicles and this process will be simplified. You will still need a permit if you are using a commercial vehicle, using any vehicle with a trailer larger than 1.2m x 0.9m, disposing of asbestos or arriving on foot

Viewing site webcams will still be available to allow residents to visit at quieter times – [Find your nearest site](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Less than 2% of waste brought to Buckinghamshire's household recycling centres is sent to landfill. The rest is recycled, composted, or used for landscaping. Despite this, the costs of managing the sites and waste are increasing.

Around $\frac{3}{4}$ of the waste brought by visitors to site will remain free of charge. Waste like compostable garden waste, electricals, general household waste, furniture, paper is still free to dispose of.

IMPORTANT LINKS:

BCC waste webpages – www.buckscc.gov.uk/HRC

SCRAP Fly tipping, advice on disposing of waste responsibly - www.buckscc.gov.uk/fly-tipping

Fix my street, reporting fly tipping - www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk

Apply for a waste permit – www.buckscc.gov.uk/wastepermit