

# Let's talk less rubbish





## Why Reduce, Reuse and Recycle?

Every year, in North Yorkshire and York, 253,421 tonnes of rubbish is thrown away, enough to fill York Minster to the roof 1½ times.

Most of this rubbish is buried in landfill sites which are rapidly filling up as more and more rubbish is being thrown away.

By reducing, reusing and recycling our waste, we can divert waste from landfill and reduce the risk of climate change. Rotting rubbish produces methane which is a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change.

We can also preserve the world's natural resources by reducing, reusing and recycling items. For example, by recycling our plastic bottles, we can reduce the amount of oil we use which is a fossil fuel that is running out.



Reducing, reusing and recycling also saves energy. Less energy is required to manufacture an item from recycled products compared to producing items from new materials. If we recycle just one tin can we can save enough energy to power a television for 3 hours.



If we don't change the way we manage our waste and reduce the amount we send to landfill then our disposal costs will increase. The government has set us limits on the amount we can send to landfill, and if we exceed these we may have to pay huge fines which will impact on all of the services that each Council provides.






So doing nothing is not an option, we have to take steps to produce less waste and recycle more. This leaflet will tell you how.



The amount of rubbish you create depends on what you buy and use

## Love food hate waste




Would you like to save £420 a year? That's how much money the average household throws away in food it buys but doesn't eat! To save money and feed yourself, not the bin love food and hate waste by;

-  making a shopping list
-  checking your best before and sell by dates
-  checking your fridges, freezers and cupboards before shopping
-  weighing out the "perfect portion" size before cooking
-  freezing or using up leftovers in other dishes

For more hints and tips on reducing your food waste visit




[www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

## Shop Smart

-  Use reusable bags for shopping instead of plastic bags.
-  Buy concentrated products such as fabric conditioner and squash.
-  Refillable products and rechargeable items reduce waste and can save you money too.

For top tips visit [www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com)

## Use Real Washable Nappies

-  They can save you money – as much as £300 compared to buying disposables.
-  They are completely natural and contain none of the chemicals or gels that can be found in disposables.
-  You can reduce the amount of waste you produce – each baby goes through an estimated 4,500 nappies!

For information on real nappies visit

[www.realnappycampaign.com](http://www.realnappycampaign.com) or [www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com)

## Stop Junk Mail

Each year, the average British household receives 650 pieces of junk mail, more than 1 piece of junk mail per day.

To reduce unwanted addressed mail contact the Mailing Preference Service (MPS) on **0845 703 4599** or visit: [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk)

To reduce the amount of unaddressed mail delivered to your home, register with Your Choice on **020 7291 3300** or email [yourchoice@dma.org.uk](mailto:yourchoice@dma.org.uk); or Royal Mail door to door opt-out service by emailing [optout@royalmail.com](mailto:optout@royalmail.com)





Home composting using a traditional bin or heap is an easy way to reduce the amount of waste that you put into your rubbish bin by at least a third, and you can produce your own compost. The great thing about composting at home is that it's easy and requires relatively little effort.

You may also be surprised at how much of the content of your bin can be composted at home. It's important to get an equal mix of **greens** (nitrogen-rich materials such as uncooked fruit and vegetable peelings, and grass cuttings) and **browns** (carbon-rich items like straw, woody garden waste, paper) to produce a fantastic homemade compost. For more tips on producing good compost, visit [www.recyclenow.com/compost](http://www.recyclenow.com/compost)



If you want to do even more and reduce the amount of **cooked** food waste, you could use a Green Cone, Green Johanna, Wormery or Bokashi Bin. These require a little more effort and when used alongside a traditional compost bin could eliminate food waste from your bin altogether.



The York & North Yorkshire Waste Partnership may be able to offer subsidised products so that you can compost garden and food waste at home. To find out more, visit [www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com) or telephone **01609 533312**.



## Rotters

We can provide advice and assistance on composting garden and food waste through our fully trained volunteer network called the Rotters. You can contact the North Yorkshire Rotters on **01609 532045** or email [nyrotters@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:nyrotters@northyorks.gov.uk). If you live in York, contact the York Rotters on **01904 412861** or email [rotters@stnicksfields.org.uk](mailto:rotters@stnicksfields.org.uk)



Before you throw an item away, consider whether the item could be used again by you, your family, or by others in the local community.

**Charity Shops** accept a wide range of good quality items for reuse. They are also a great place to start looking for a bargain. Charity Shops sell good quality products that are a lot lower in price than high street stores. To find your nearest shop visit [www.charityshops.org.uk/findashop](http://www.charityshops.org.uk/findashop)

## Furniture Reuse Organisations

If you have good quality furniture that you no longer need, such as sofas, wardrobes, mattresses etc. you can donate them to a furniture reuse organisation. Some of these organisations also accept electrical appliances in good working order.

Alternatively, if you're looking for household furniture, your local furniture reuse organisation has a wide selection of good quality items for sale at low cost.

To find your nearest furniture reuse organisation, visit [www.frn.org.uk](http://www.frn.org.uk)

You can find out more about donating to, purchasing from or volunteering in local charity shops and furniture reuse organisations through our Choose2Reuse campaign.

For more information visit [www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com)

## Surf the Internet

Freecycle® is a membership based, not for profit organisation that allows you to donate and receive items from other users via the internet. Membership is free and there are no other charges.

To join your local group, visit [www.freecycle.org.uk](http://www.freecycle.org.uk) and follow the instructions.





When you have reduced and reused all you can...then recycle.

When we recycle, the materials go through a process that enables them to be made into other useful products.

Every glass bottle that's recycled in North Yorkshire and York saves 1.2 tonnes of raw materials, and the energy saved can power a TV for 20 minutes. With the average UK household using 331 glass bottles a year, that's enough energy saved to watch 2½ days of TV.

## Household Waste Recycling Centres

North Yorkshire County Council operates household waste recycling centres across the county, and the City of York Council provides sites within the York boundary. These sites are situated so that most people are within a 20 minute drive of their nearest household waste recycling centre.

A wide range of materials are accepted at the centres, with most sites accepting over 20 materials for reuse, recycling, composting or disposal. More than 60% of waste collected at the sites is reused, recycled or composted.

## Kerbside Recycling

Kerbside collections are carried out by your local council (i.e. the authority you pay your council tax to). A range of materials are usually collected. This normally involves collecting recyclable materials from your doorstep using a bag, box, wheeled bin or any combination of these.

Your local council also provides bring banks, often located at supermarkets or car parks. Bring sites are smaller sites that usually provide recycling facilities for between three and five materials.

To find your nearest household waste recycling centre, bring bank or for more information on your local kerbside collection, visit [www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com), [www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com) or contact your local council.



## Lets Recover Value from Rubbish

No matter how good we become at reducing, reusing and recycling, there will always be some household waste that has to be treated. At the moment, this residual waste – more than 250,000 tonnes of it every year – is sent to landfill sites.

And this cannot continue in the long term. Sending rubbish to landfill sites is not a sustainable environmental option and new government targets coupled with our own waste strategy – Let's Talk Less Rubbish – mean we have to find an alternative solution.

Over the 25 year period from 2011/12 the costs of continuing with landfill is around £1.7billion. This bill would have to be met by the residents of North Yorkshire and City of York – meaning an eventual increase in Council Tax of around 15%. By moving away from landfill and choosing more sustainable waste treatment technologies, we can make a huge saving of £307million.

Clearly doing nothing is not an option. So we are working on delivering a sustainable solution to the way we treat our residual household waste – and make it work for us by recovering value from it.



The York and North Yorkshire Waste Partnership comprises North Yorkshire County Council, Craven District Council, Hambleton District Council, Harrogate Borough Council, Richmondshire District Council, Ryedale District Council, Scarborough Borough Council, Selby District Council and the City of York Council. By working together, they have developed a joint waste management strategy for the next 20 years which will work with the community and stakeholders of York and North Yorkshire to meet their waste needs and deliver a high quality, sustainable, customer-focused and cost-effective waste management service. For more information on the work of the Partnership, please visit [www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com)



**The York and  
North Yorkshire  
Waste Partnership  
c/o North Yorkshire  
County Council**

County Hall,  
Northallerton,  
North Yorkshire.  
DL7 8AD

Contact us in the following ways...

By telephone: **01609 533312**

By email: [wastecampaigns@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:wastecampaigns@northyorks.gov.uk)

or you can access all York and North Yorkshire  
Waste Partnership information online at:  
[www.letstalklessrubbish.com](http://www.letstalklessrubbish.com)

If you would like this information in another language or  
format such as Braille, large print or audio, please ask us.

Tel: 01609 532917

Email: [communications@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:communications@northyorks.gov.uk)



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