

Paint recycling at sites

As part of the ongoing battle to reduce the amount of household waste we send to landfill, a new paint recycling pilot has now commenced for water based paints at the 14 Recycling Centres and two Community Recycling Sites.

If you find that once you have refreshed your living room wall or given your hall walls a makeover, that you still have some water based paint left over, you now have the option to take it to your local site where it will be accepted for recycling rather than disposal.

The pilot is expected to last for at least six months and will give us an idea of whether the recycling route is a viable option for the future. If you take your water based paints to one of the sites, please let the staff know and they will direct you to the appropriate container. Just as a reminder, it is still far better to offer your left over paint to someone else who may be able to make use of it rather than taking it to one of the sites.

Fount of (much) knowledge

The [SWP website](#) remains the first point of call for all Somerset Waste related queries. Frequently updated to give current and seasonal advice such as changes to collection days over the Christmas period, the site also provides easy access to find out (via our live “Queue Cams”) if there is a queue at four of our busiest Recycling Centres, how to sign up to the garden waste service and, among many other things, what happens to the plastic bottles you recycle.

Training our Champions of Food

Two successful free one-day training events have recently been held in Taunton and Shepton Mallet to recruit new volunteers to the [Somerset Food Champion scheme](#). The course develops skills and food knowledge so volunteers can help others in their community save money and waste less food. Once trained, volunteers have access to a range of resources and display materials to help bring their waste prevention messages to life.

#Our Day 2016

SWP produced a series of tweets, tailored to each partner council to promote the key messages relating to collection and disposal services offered by SWP in support of the 2016 #OurDay local government Tweetathon.

Freezer management

With Christmas just around the corner, SWP is reminding residents that now is a good time to run down stocks in their freezer ready for the large festive food shops or to make space available for meals made from festive leftovers.

Clever fridge and freezer management helps cope with festive food gluts, saving food being ruined if there is nowhere to store it between meals. For great advice see [Love Food Hate Waste](#).

Black Friday cardboard reminder

SWP continues to remind residents though the shopping weekend of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, to manage

their cardboard wastes and to not overload the kerbside collections.

To help cut down waste, SWP is reminding residents that 25 November is both Black Friday and national [Buy Nothing Day](#) when people are challenged to not buy anything for the day – think reduce, reuse, repair.

Secondly, SWP advises residents to manage their cardboard waste – do not put out more than two recycling boxes worth of card in one go as recycling trucks cannot take very big pieces or large loads of cardboard for capacity reasons. Those that can are asked to take large quantities of cardboard to recycling centres, or if that is not an option, to feed it out over two or three weeks onto the kerbside collection to help spread the load.

Latest media releases

- [Waste warning for bonfire night blaze haze hazard](#)
- [How your unwanted furniture could help change lives](#)
- [Do not dump those plastic bottles in your landfill bin](#)
- [Dark waste warning for Black Friday](#)

Somerset Waste Board

SWP is the executive arm of SWB, which consists of two members nominated by each of the six partner councils in Somerset, one of which must be the portfolio holder for waste and/or the environment.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the annual general meeting from the Board's membership.

The next Board meeting will be held on 16 December 2016.

For details of SWP, SWB and waste services: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

SWB membership by council is:

- **Mendip** – Cllrs Nigel Woollcombe-Adams (Vice Chair), Terry Napper
- **Sedgemoor** – Cllrs Dawn Hill, Gill Slocombe
- **Somerset County** – Cllrs Derek Yeomans (Chair), David Hall
- **South Somerset** – Cllrs Jo Roundell Greene, Angie Singleton
- **Taunton Deane Borough** – Cllrs Patrick Berry, Steve Ross
- **West Somerset** – Cllrs Martin Dewdney, Brenda Maitland-Walker

Agenda, papers and reports for SWB meetings are available [online](#).

Information on SWP services

The main source of advice and information on SWP services is www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Customer service helplines for all partner authorities can assist with service enquiries.

SWP publishes the Sorted monthly e-zine (sign-up on the website).

