



Stay safe with less waste this autumn

From Halloween to Guy Fawkes, there are easy ways to reduce waste, recycle well and keep everyone safe.

Instead of shop-bought wear-once plastic disguises, have family fun making fearful costumes from old sheets, charity shop bargains or cardboard creations. And dodge shop-bought e-numbers and sugar for healthy homemade treats.

With recipes galore, almost every part of a carved pumpkin can become tasty meals and snacks, from soup to pies. Parts of the pumpkin not eaten should be added to the food waste bin - not your rubbish - or composted at home. Seeds not toasted as a snack can be planted to grow free future pumpkins.

Safety is key to bonfire night, from social distancing to firework rules, plus it is essential to protect both wildlife - check for hedgehogs before lighting bonfires - and noise-nervous pets. Drench spent and part-spent fireworks, check the makers' safety advice, and ensure that anything going in your

rubbish bin is soaked or completely cool to prevent a later fatal fire at your home.

Mendip homes get Bright Blue Bags

New Bright Blue Bags, what-goes-where guides and detailed collection calendars and are being delivered to all 51,000 Mendip homes with kerbside collections as they move to Recycle More expanded collections from Monday 26 October.

To handle thousands of tonnes of extra recycling, earlier this month Evercreech became the first of Somerset's five waste depots to complete its upgrading with new equipment for bulking up materials for onward transport, as well as operational and staff facilities.

Recycle More takes much more weekly kerbside recycling, adding plastic pots, tubs and trays, cartons/Tetra Paks, household batteries, small electrical items to the existing materials. This leaves far less rubbish to be collected every three weeks. Full support is being offered to any resident with extra needs.



Once Recycle More has begun in Mendip, work will continue to both improve recycling for those with communal collections and take the new service to the rest of the county: South Somerset late June/early July 2021, and Sedgemoor and Somerset West & Taunton by February/March 2022.

Full Recycle More details and dates:
somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more

Chard closure and winter site times

Maintenance work at Chard Recycling Centre means fewer vehicles will be able to use the unloading area on Monday-Tuesday 19-20 October. As well as its usual Wednesday day off on 21 October, the site will close on Thursday-Friday 22-23 October but reopen with full capacity at 9am on Saturday 24 October.

All 16 Somerset recycling sites are now on winter timetables: weekday open sites operate 9am-5pm, weekends 9am to 4pm. For details, click on recycling centres at somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Get it done 24/7 - no bother or fuss

Use the My Waste Services pull-down menu at somersetwaste.gov.uk to manage your essential tasks. Rather than time spent on emails or phone calls, you can swiftly check collection dates, order free recycling boxes, Bright Blue Bags, food waste bins and kitchen caddies, arrange paid-for bulky waste collections, buy garden waste sacks and request garden sack collections, and report any missed collections after 7pm on the due day. Check it out today.

Get yourself a garden bargain

As autumn leaves fall, grab a bargain composting bin for as little as £10 with our special offer of a 220-litre for £10 and 330L for £12.50. Save again with the buy-one-get-one-half-price deal for two of the same size. Save once more by buying two and then sharing the delivery of £9.99 per order with a neighbour or friend? **Buy your bins now at getcomposting.com**

Clothes recycling - the new system

Only clothes and shoes good enough to be worn again can be put out in kerbside collections, tied in a bag (not black sacks) to keep completely dry. No textiles, such as bedding, will be taken.

Next time: Christmass or Wastemas? How Somerset families can save.

Somerset Waste Board

SWP's governing body has two members from each of five partner councils: **Mendip** Cllrs Tom Ronan, Matthew Martin; **Sedgemoor** Cllrs Janet Keen, Andrew Gilling; **Somerset County** Cllrs David Hall, Clare Paul (Vice Chair); **Somerset West and Taunton** Cllrs Sarah Wakefield, David Mansell; **South Somerset** Cllrs Sarah Dyke (Chair), Tim Kerley. SWB agendas: somersetwaste.gov.uk/somerset-waste-board

Information on SWP services

Visit somersetwaste.gov.uk for advice and to sign up for our e-newsletter. Follow @Somersetwaste on Facebook and Twitter. All partner customer services can assist with enquiries.