

# 7 Home composting



The benefits of home composting are twofold - on both the environment and the garden. It is better than sending food waste to landfill where it can release methane - a large contributor to climate change.

Did you know that at least 30% of your household bin could be composted? A lot of people think that only garden waste can go into your compost bin but there are lots of other items that can be composted too such as:

- ✓ tea bags
- ✓ grass cuttings



- ✓ old flowers
- ✓ vegetable peelings
- ✓ fruit scraps
- ✓ egg shells and boxes (not plastic)
- ✓ shredded confidential documents
- ✓ ashes from wood paper or lumpwood charcoal

[www.spelthorne.gov.uk](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk)

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e-mail: [customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk)

**Organic waste** sent to landfill is unable to decompose properly because, when squashed under all the other waste, there is no air. This means it produces a powerful greenhouse gas, methane, which contributes to climate change. Composting at home not only provides you with limitless soil improver for your garden but you are doing your bit for climate change too.

To find out about our offers on composters, call our helpline on **01784 451499**, e-mail [customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk) or visit our website at [www.spelthorne.gov.uk](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk)



**Green Cones and Green Johannas** are food digesters which are put in the garden and can take **all** types of food waste, cooked and

uncooked, including meat, bones and dairy products. To find out more visit [www.green-cone.com](http://www.green-cone.com) or call **0800 731 2572**



### **Kitchen composting systems**

There is a selection of composting solutions which can be used in the kitchen if your garden is too small for a composter. A popular system is the **bokashi composter** which uses a mixture of bacteria, fungi and yeast to safely compost your kitchen food scraps including meat, fish, fruit and vegetable waste.

The composter is designed for storage in a kitchen corner and can manage kitchen waste from a large family.

To find out more, visit [www.wigglywiggles.co.uk](http://www.wigglywiggles.co.uk) or call **0800 216 990**.



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*This is one of a number of fact sheets to give you more information about rubbish and recycling.*

Produced by the Communications team, Spelthorne Borough Council, June 2007

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