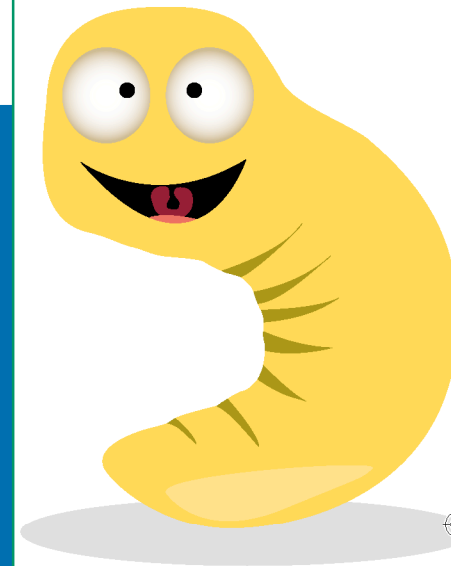


Keeping your bin clean

**DON'T WASTE
OUR FUTURE**

In warmer weather it pays to take a bit of extra care with your wheelie bin. To avoid attracting flies to your bin you need to make sure that:

- ✓ your kitchen bin has a good lid, kept closed and away from direct sunlight.
- ✓ your general rubbish is put in proper dustbin liners that are free from holes. Carrier bags are not suitable as they contain holes through which flies can enter and maggots can exit.
- ✓ squeeze the air out of your bags. If flies have already laid eggs and maggots do hatch inside the bag, they will not escape if the bag is sealed tightly.
- ✓ do not leave food and pet food uncovered.
- ✓ rinse polystyrene food trays, yoghurt pots and other food packaging.
- ✓ double bag food waste such as meat and bones.
- ✓ home compost your kitchen vegetable waste in a home compost bin. Visit www.spelthorne.gov.uk or www.recyclenow.com/compost to find out more.
- ✓ consider buying a food digester which lets everything rot down.
- ✓ if nappies are included in your waste double bag these also, or consider using real reusable nappies go to www.surreyrnn.info
- ✓ solids from disposable nappies should be emptied in to the WC before the nappies are double bagged and put in the bin.
- ✓ try not to prepare too much food.
- ✓ rinse your bin out regularly and keep it clean.
- ✓ hang an insecticidal strip inside your bin with masking tape.
- ✓ wrapping any food waste in old sheets of newspaper will help keep your bin clean and avoid smells



And finally... if you do get maggots

The only effective way to get rid of maggots is to remove them along with the contents of the bin.

After the bin has been emptied pour boiling water over flies and maggots to kill them and leave water in the bin to cool before tipping it out. Clean the bin out with disinfectant or bleach and plenty of water. Try using a cleaning product with a fragrance as this will help to deter flies in the future.

If you would like more information, please go to the Council's website www.spelthorne.gov.uk or call the customer helpline on **01784 451499**.

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