

3 Health and hygiene



Keeping your wheelie bins clean

Did you know that the wheelie bins are designed to safely store household rubbish for two weeks? To help you manage your rubbish, we have prepared a number of hygiene tips.

- ✓ Rinse out packaging such as plastic bottles and tins before putting them in the recycling bin.
- ✓ Rinse out non-recyclable containers for the rubbish bin at the end of your daily washing-up. This will minimise smells.
- ✓ Dispose of liquid or very sloppy cooked food waste in the sink.
- ✓ Tie all rubbish securely in plastic bags.
- ✓ Double bag items such as meat and fish waste.



- ✓ Keep the lid of the wheelie bin closed.
- ✓ Take rubbish that will not fit in the bin to one of the Civic Amenity Sites (local tips)
- ✓ Keep the inside of the wheelie bin reasonably clean and ensure that food residues are rinsed out after emptying
- ✓ Clean the wheelie bin occasionally with a strong pine disinfectant or specialist products to kill smells, bacteria or flies
- ✓ If possible, store the wheelie bin out of direct sunlight

DON'T WASTE OUR FUTURE

How to avoid maggots

The majority of maggots that are found in wheelie bins originate from the kitchen. Usually the eggs are laid in kitchen bins if they do not have lids, or on any food that has been left uncovered. When this rubbish is transferred to the wheelie bin, the eggs hatch into maggots.



To avoid this happening, you need to make sure that:

- ✓ your kitchen bin has a good lid
- ✓ bags are tied when put into the wheelie bin
- ✓ the wheelie bin is not overfilled so the lid closes properly. If the lid is kept closed, then flies cannot get to food and lay eggs



Despite all this, if you do get maggots, we would suggest that once your bin has been emptied you clean it with a mop and bucket and then spray the inside of the bin with fly spray. This should prevent any recurrence.

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.

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

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