Don’t waste your waste
Reduce, Reuse and Recycle for Three Rivers

Recycling a can saves 95% of the energy needed to make a new can

Plastic bottles can take 1,000 years to breakdown in landfill

Wasting food costs the average household £800 per year

The disposable nappies used by one baby equates to the weight of 1 car

95% of clothing is recyclable

Enough plastic is thrown away each year to circle the earth 4 times

Your guide to Three Rivers waste services
threerivers.gov.uk
my.threerivers.gov.uk
Collection Information

Your bins should be placed at the boundary of your property by 6am on collection days.

We will only collect bins issued by the council, lids must be closed, and waste next to bins will not be collected.

Missed bins: Please report missed bins to us within 48 hours at my.threerivers.gov.uk

To check your collection dates, please visit www.threerivers.gov.uk

We will make special arrangements for elderly, infirm and disabled residents who find it difficult to move their bins to the property boundary. To arrange assisted collections please contact us.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)

There are two local HWRCs run by Hertfordshire County Council: Riverside Drive, Rickmansworth, WD3 1BN and Waterdale, A405, St. Albans Road, WD25 0PR (near junction 6 of the M1).

For more information and opening times visit www.wasteaware.org.uk or call 0300 1234 051.

These sites do not accept commercial, trade, industrial, or hazardous waste, and please check whether you will require a van permit online.

These sites accept:
Cans and foil, cardboard, fluorescent tubes, glass, household batteries, paper, scrap metal, toners and inkjet cartridges, wood, car batteries, engine oil, fridges and freezers, garden waste, electrical items, plastics, textiles, and tyres.

73% of beach litter worldwide is plastic. Over 150 plastic bottles can be found for each mile of UK beaches.

It is important to ensure our recycling is of the highest quality. Please remember to recycle right.

We suggest you put your house number on all your bins.
Recycling bin

Please rinse items before recycling to prevent contamination of other materials. Please put items in loose (not in bags)

**Paper:** Newspapers, magazines, printer paper, junk mail, shredded paper, envelopes (including windows), wrapping paper and greeting cards (without glitter or embellishments).

**Food and drink cartons:** eg. Tetra Paks

**Chocolate/Biscuit tins/trays/tubs**

**Cardboard:** Toilet roll centres, plain greeting cards, corrugated card, cardboard boxes, sleeves and tubes.

**Plastic pots/tubs/trays**

**Glass bottles/jars:** Any colour. No drinking glasses or glass kitchenwear.

**Plastic Bottles:** Drinks, toiletry bottles, and cleaning/detergent bottles.

**Aluminium foil/foil trays** (clean only)

**Drink cans and food tins**

**Aerosol cans:** (empty)

**Please do not place the following items in your recycling bin:**

Textiles, nappies, paint tins, food waste, polystyrene, rigid plastics (toys), garden waste, electrical items, plastic bags/film, padded envelopes, paper towels/tissues, cotton wool/wet wipes, general household waste, plastic pouches, biodegradable packaging, cookware, kitchenware, ceramics, glass kitchenware/drinking glasses.

Food pod

**All food waste out of any packaging**

- Tea Bags
- Raw/cooked meat
- Plate scrapings
- Bones
- Peelings
- Egg shells
- Out of date food

**Please do not place garden waste or biodegradable packaging (other than liners) in your food pod.**

Refuse bin

**ONLY waste that cannot be recycled, reused or composted**

Please do not place textiles, batteries, electrical items, food waste, recyclables or garden waste in your refuse bin

Garden waste bin

**Fallen leaves**

**Dead plants**

**Grass cuttings**

**Wood prunings**

Please do not place biodegradable packaging, garden toys, plant pots, soil or treated wood in your garden waste bin

Garden Waste is a chargable service. Sign up at my.threerivers.gov.uk
Real Nappies

Instead of using up to 8,000 nappies, you could use just 20 real ones. Why not buy pre-loved real nappies, and pass them on once they have been outgrown to further reduce your waste. There are plenty of online groups and web pages now, to help you find the best nappies, and share best practices.

Textiles

Did you know Three Rivers offer a free home textiles collection? Book your free home textiles collection at my.threerivers.gov.uk. With this service you can recycle clothes, paired shoes, belts, handbags, curtains, towels, and bed linen.

Home Composting

With just one cotton T-shirt using 2,700 litres of water to be produced, and textiles filling our landfills as a result of fast fashion, more clothes need to be reuse, donated, and recycled.

While we do offer garden waste collections, we also encourage home composting. It is better for the environment, your wallet, and your garden! Check out deals on home compost bins at wasteaware.org.uk. You can compost leaves, dead plants, cardboard, paper, vegetable peelings, and fruit. However, please leave out cooked food, meat, dairy products, animal littler, diseased plants, and glossy paper (some of these can be recycled in your recycling bins and food pods instead).
Remember your reusables

Reducing waste is really important. As the likes of Blue Planet have shown, single use items are a big problem for our planet. So please remember your reusable bottles, cutlery, coffee cups, and bags when going out. This will save natural resources, energy, water, your money, and reduce waste and litter.

Love Food Hate Waste

If food waste was a country, it would be the third largest emitter of CO2. Follow Love Food Hate Waste online and on social media to find out how you can reduce the food you throw away, for example how to store your food correctly, meal planning, keeping your fridge below 5 degrees and how shopping lists can reduce your waste. By eliminating food waste, the average family could save up to £800 per year! lovefoodhatewaste.com

Waste aware

Three Rivers is part of the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership, formed of the district, borough and county councils working together towards a circular economy. The partnership works to increase consistency across the county, and share information through a variety of campaigns, schemes, and events. Visit: wasteaware.org.uk

Bulky waste collections

The collection of old furniture and larger items which do not fit in your refuse bin is a chargeable service. However, we will not collect anything which forms the fabric of your house. For this, a skip may be a better option.

Please contact us using the details on the back of this leaflet to arrange a collection.

Before calling us, please think about donating your items to re-use shops and furniture re-use schemes, or why not try to ‘UpCycle’ your furniture?

Remember you can take these items to your local Household Waste Recycling Centre for free. wasteaware.org.uk
Frequently asked questions

I live in a flat, what do I do with my waste and recycling?

All flats are assessed individually to determine what refuse and recycling arrangements will work best. For information about the arrangements for your flat please contact your management agent, housing officer, or speak to the Enforcement Officer for your area.

Nappies do not fit in my refuse bin?

If you are struggling with capacity, nappy sacks can be purchased from council offices and selected libraries for 30p each. These are to be left next to your refuse bin on your fortnightly collection.

Alternatively, you could try using real nappies to replace some, or all of your disposable nappies.

What if I put the wrong items in my bins?

If your bins are contaminated, they will be emptied on your next collection date, but only if you have removed the contaminating items. Persistent offenders may be prosecuted.

Where can I recycle items which can’t be recycled by the council?

Supermarkets such as Tesco and Sainsbury’s often have recycling points for many types of plastic bags, ink cartridges, water filters, lightbulbs, and other items.

Check out TerraCycle online, they collect many items for recycling including crisp and sweet packets, stationary, and beauty products.

Have a look online and find your closest drop off.

What do I do with Christmas Trees and pumpkins?

Please leave real trees out next to your bins on a garden waste collection date (even if you do not have the service), with decorations and stands removed.

Please put pumpkins in your food pod.

If wasted food was a country, it would be the third largest producer of carbon dioxide in the world.
Environmental problems such as litter, dumped rubbish, graffiti, dog fouling, and animal control affects us all and can seriously blight a neighbourhood. They influence residence fear of crime which, can in turn lower their quality of life.

Three Rivers District Council is committed to, and has a duty to ensure we maintain the local environment through litter picking, collecting refuse and recycling, removing graffiti, and dealing with abandoned vehicles and fly tipping.

Three Rivers has one of the highest recycling rates in the country thanks to the residents separating their waste so effectively.

Fixed penalty notices apply for:
Littering, graffiti, flyposting, abandoning a vehicle, waste receptacles (placing the wrong items in your recycling or refuse bins), breach of a community protection notice, fly tipping and Duty of Care.
The average time that a plastic bag is used for is **12 minutes**. We used to get through **500 million plastic bags** every week in the UK, however, since the introduction of the 5p bag, usage has **dropped by a staggering 85%**.

### Other Services

- Removal of graffiti
- Investigation and removal of fly tipping and abandoned cars
- Street cleaning
- Chorleywood Road and Woodcock Hill (including the woodland burial site) cemeteries
- Clinical waste collection
- Educational talks and resources on waste in Three Rivers.

### Service Disruptions

If there are disruptions to our services for any reason, such as snow, check out our website for updates.

Thank you for reading this information guide, and helping to make Three Rivers a cleaner, safer and more sustainable place.

### Contact Details

**WasteAware**

- **T** 0300 1234 051
- **W** wasteaware.org.uk

**Three Rivers**

- **T** 01923 776611
- **@** enquiries@threerivers.gov.uk
- **W** threerivers.gov.uk

Follow WasteAware and Three Rivers on:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- YouTube

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