

# Questions and Answers

## ***Why can't I put glass into my recycling bin?***

Glass is excluded from kerbside recycling collection because glass first needs to be colour sorted and then transported to Auckland, and the costs involved in this are too great. You can drop off domestic glass for free at the Mt Cooee Landfill and the Clinton, Lawrence, Milton, Owaka and Tapanui transfer stations during normal opening hours.

## ***What plastics can I put in my recycling bin?***

Clean, rigid plastics containers numbered 1-7 only. This includes drink and milk bottles, containers, lids and trays - but **not** meat trays, polystyrene, plastic wrap, film or bags.

## ***Why do we need to separate recyclables?***

The main drivers for a two-bin scheme are environmental awareness, community demand and government legislation. By recycling we reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and therefore reduce the amount of waste levies and emissions charges we have to pay. Recycling also contributes to meeting our environmental responsibilities.

## ***How do I know what bin to put out & when to put it out?***

Collection alternates between yellow-lidded bins one week and green-lidded bins the next. You can download a calendar from Council's website if you need help remembering which bin goes out on which week. Put your bin out by 7am on your collection day - check our website if you are unsure what day bins are collected in your area.

## ***What happens if I put the wrong things in my bin?***

The rules around what can and can't go in each bin have been made to protect the health and safety of staff and to ensure a cost-effective and efficient service is provided to ratepayers. The success of the service relies on everyone putting the right items in the right bins. Contamination is taken seriously, with a "three strikes" system meaning that if contamination is found in your bin after two warnings your service will be suspended for three months.

## ***I have too much waste to fit in my wheelie bins. What can I do?***

Try reducing the amount of waste you create, composting your kitchen and garden wastes and using items more than once. If you still have too much waste for your wheelie bins to handle you can take your excess waste to the Mt Cooee landfill or one of Council's ten waste transfer stations.

## ***Can I have an extra bin?***

No - in the interests of waste minimisation only one set of bins is provided to each property. Additional waste is the responsibility of the householder and can be disposed of at the Mt Cooee landfill or one of Council's ten waste transfer stations.

## ***Where does our recycling go?***

Our waste management services provider, Delta, takes the material to Dunedin for sorting from where it is sent to a variety of places in New Zealand and overseas for processing.

## ***Who do I contact if there was a missed collection or my bin has been damaged, or stolen?***

Contact Council on 0800 801 350 or [help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz).



**Clutha District Council**  
[www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz)

# Kerbside Rubbish & Recycling in the Clutha District

## ***A guide to Clutha District Council's wheelie bin service***

Council provides kerbside rubbish & recycling service to residential properties in most urban areas of the district and to some commercial and rural residential households along collection routes.

Each property has two 240 litre wheelie bins – a yellow-lidded bin for recyclables and a green-lidded bin for residual household waste. The service alternates between collection of recyclables one week followed by residual waste the next.

Recycling was introduced in April 2012 in response to community demand, to meet our environmental responsibilities and to minimise the costs of waste disposal for ratepayers. By reducing the amount of waste going to landfill, we reduce the amount we have to pay in waste levies and emissions charges.

You can recycle clean household plastic containers, metal cans, paper and cardboard in your yellow-lidded bin. Glass is excluded from kerbside recycling because the costs involved are currently too great.

See inside for more information on what can and can't go in your wheelie bins.



**Clutha District Council**

*For more information, please contact Council on  
0800 801 350, email [help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz)  
or visit [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz).*

# What can go in my yellow-lidded bin?

Think about the staff that have to sort the recycling before you place anything in your recycling bin. Would you want to touch this item again? If not, neither would they!

## Rigid plastics

- Clean, rigid household plastic containers numbered 1-7.
- Hint: look for the number on the bottom of the plastic container - if it's not numbered 1-7 then don't put it in.
- Wash before placing loose in your bin. Please don't squash.



## Paper and cardboard

- All clean paper, newspaper, magazines, letters, envelopes, egg trays, telephone books, wrapping paper, boxes and cartons, junk mail, cardboard boxes and tubes.
- Flatten cardboard before placing loose in your bin.

## Aluminium and steel

- All clean household tins and cans, aerosols, aluminum trays and foil (including food tins and beer and soft drink cans)
- Wash tins & cans before placing loose in your bin. Please don't squash.



# What can't go in my yellow-lidded bin? ✘

## ✘ Ash

- ✘ Bubble wrap
- ✘ Ceramics, crockery
- ✘ Clothing & material
- ✘ Concrete, bricks & timber
- ✘ Cutlery
- ✘ Electrical/Electronic goods

## ✘ Glass

- ✘ Engine oil containers
- ✘ Food/garden waste
- ✘ Gas bottles
- ✘ General waste
- ✘ Liquids, fats & oils
- ✘ Medical waste
- ✘ Nappies

## ✘ Paint & chemicals

- ✘ Plastic bags & film
- ✘ Plastic ties & tubing
- ✘ Polystyrene (incl. meat trays)
- ✘ Sharp objects
- ✘ Tyres, rubber & garden hoses

# Green-lidded bins

Green-lidded wheelie bins are for general non-recyclable household waste such as food waste, glass, nappies, juice cartons, cold, bagged ashes, polystyrene meat trays, plastic bags and plastic film.



The following wastes are prohibited from going in green-lidded bins:

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✘ Hot or unbagged ashes | ✘ Liquids, fats, oils |
| ✘ Paint & Chemicals     | ✘ Concrete            |
| ✘ Sharp objects         | ✘ Bricks              |
| ✘ Explosives            | ✘ Timber              |
| ✘ Flammables            | ✘ Gas bottles         |
| ✘ Hazardous waste       | ✘ Metals              |
| ✘ Car batteries         | ✘ Medical waste       |
|                         | ✘ Demolition waste    |

## Remember:

- Have your bin out by 7am on the day of collection
- Bins must not weigh more than 30kg
- The lid must be closed when left out for collection
- Place at least 1m clear of obstacles such as cars, other bins, power poles
- Place facing the kerb (handles away from street)
- Ashes must be cold and bagged before going in green-lidded bins
- Rigid plastics only in yellow-lidded bins - don't bag your recyclables - put them in loose

# Too much waste for your green bin?

## Reduce

Use re-useable shopping bags, buy better quality products (they last longer), mend or repair worn items of clothing or equipment & avoid products with excess packaging.

## Reuse

Save glass & plastic containers for future use, refill drink bottles, printer ink cartridges etc rather than buying new all the time & donate unwanted items to charity shops or list on auction websites.

## Recycle

Make sure all your recyclables are going in your yellow-lidded bin & take your glass bottles and jars to Mt Cooee or one of the larger transfer stations (it's free!).

## Recover

Start using a compost bin or bokashi bucket to dispose of your garden and kitchen waste and create fertiliser for your garden. See Council's website for helpful brochures on composting, bokashi buckets and worm farming.