

# Bin Hygiene Advice Sheet

Here are some tips for keeping your bins clean.

## Black refuse bin

1. Always wrap up all your rubbish before putting it in the bin. You can re-use old carrier bags to tie up your rubbish. If your rubbish is thoroughly wrapped there should be no way for flies to get access to it.
2. Always keep your bin lid down. This stops flies as well as cats, dogs, birds and foxes from getting access to your rubbish.
3. Regularly clean out your wheeled bin to get rid of any residues. You can do this yourself - use an anti-bacterial cleaner to kill off any germs. If you use a cleaning product like Jeyes Fluid, the smell of the cleaner will also deter flies.
4. Pay for someone else to clean your bin. Check local suppliers of wheelie bin cleaning services.
5. Use a wheelie bin liner.

## Green recycling bin

1. Make sure all your recycling is washed clean and free from food deposits before you put it in your recycling bin, if there is nothing to attract flies to your bin they will not lay eggs.
2. Keep your green bin lid closed
3. Regularly clean out your wheeled bin to get rid of any residues. You can do this yourself - use an anti-bacterial cleaner to kill off any germs. If you use a cleaning product like Jeyes Fluid, the smell of the cleaner will also deter flies.
4. Pay for someone else to clean your bin. Check local suppliers of wheelie bin cleaning services.

## Brown compost bin

1. Try wrapping any vegetable peelings or tea bags etc. in a sheet of newspaper to help absorb some of the moisture. Please note that we do not actively want newspaper in the brown bin, but you can use a small amount in order to keep your bin clean.
2. Prevent meat and fish waste from smelling by wrapping it in newspaper or a compostable liner. Wrap up any food waste as quickly as possible to prevent flies from getting onto it and laying their eggs.
3. Always keep your bin lid down. This stops flies as well as cats, dogs, birds and foxes from getting access to your compost.
4. In summer large quantities of grass clippings may go soggy and smelly. Help to prevent this by trying to layer up clippings with other woody types of garden rubbish.
5. You can purchase compostable sacks for putting your composting materials in. You can purchase them from the Civic Offices in Civic Way, Swadlincote (call 01283 595795 for details).
6. Secure a wheelie bin liner to your bin with tape or strong clips, firmly enough to ensure that the liner does not come away with the compost waste when emptied (as normal plastic bags can't be composted).

## **Maggots...and how to deal with them in your bin!**

### **What are maggots?**

Maggots are the larva stage of the life cycle of the common house fly. Flies are attracted to food, and can lay up to 150 eggs at a time. These eggs can hatch into maggots within eight to 48 hours. Depending on the conditions, maggots can transform into flies after a few days, or several weeks.

### **Why am I getting maggots in my bin?**

Maggots occur in wheeled bins where flies have had contact with your rubbish and have laid eggs which then hatch out into maggots.

### **How can I prevent maggots?**

1. If flies do not get in contact with the rubbish you will not get maggots. Wrap up your waste as soon as possible to stop flies getting onto it.
2. Tie up any bags of rubbish tightly
3. Double wrap rubbish if it is difficult to tie the bags up very tightly.
4. Ensure the lid of your wheeled bin is kept closed.
5. Make sure you never leave food (especially meat) uncovered.
6. If you have lots of flies in the house try using fly paper, scented fly deterrent or 'knock down' spray.

### **How can I get rid of maggots?**

If maggots get into your wheeled bin, most of them should be removed when your bin is emptied.

Clean/wash your bin out - you can use professional bin cleaners if you don't want to clean it yourself.

Maggots and flies' eggs can be killed by using bleach, boiling water or disinfectants. using a cleaning product with a fragrance (e.g. Jeyes Fluid) which will help deter flies from your bin