

## Getting ready for Easter

Every household in Somerset will have [Easter waste day changes](#), with pick-ups due on Good Friday 19 April taking place on Saturday 20 April.

No collections on Easter Monday 22 April mean all that week's kerbside services are one day later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday 27 April.

All [recycling sites](#) remain on their new summer schedules, which commences on 1 April, with ten sites open on Good Friday 19 April. Open sites are Bridgwater, Chard, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Somerton, Taunton, Wellington, Wells and Yeovil open from 9am to 6pm.

All 16 sites are open 9am to 4pm on both Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Please note that following the [new summer schedule](#), not all recycling sites operate on a Monday. The twelve scheduled sites to be open on Easter Monday 9am to 6pm are Bridgwater, Castle Cary, Chard, Cheddar, Crewkerne\*, Frome, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wells, Williton and Yeovil. (\*Community recycling site with £2 cash entry).

## Recycle More Update

Tenders were received from potential new collection contractors in late February and have been going through a robust evaluation process. All this work will culminate on 29 March when a report recommending the selection of a

preferred bidder will be presented to Somerset Waste Board.

A public announcement of the successful new contractor is expected after the district council elections. The new bidder will start operating in Somerset in March 2020, rolling out the Recycle More service adding many more materials to the weekly recycling service.

## Business Plan

SWP publishes a rolling five-year Business Plan, explaining our “vision” for the next five years, with a focus on the current year.

Key focus areas of the plan are delivering excellent services, changing behaviour and building our capacity. To view the latest version covering our projects, campaigns and time-table and how we plan to deliver these, [click here](#).

## Closed landfill monitoring

Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) and Somerset Scientific Services have signed a new contract for the continued monitoring of the closed landfill sites in relation to gas and leachate monitoring. The new contract will run until 2024.

## Schools Against Waste

Carymoor Environmental Trust's outreach education programme, known as Schools Against Waste, is going from strength to strength. The team, which provides waste-related primary school “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle” workshops and assemblies is proving very popular and comments from the

school's completing feedback surveys has been excellent. Visit [Carymoor's website](#) to see what the schools think about the programme.

## Cutting Easter waste

As with many seasonal celebrations, Easter can be a time of excess waste, so here are some top tips to cut your rubbish and boost your recycling:

- Remember to recycle cardboard and foil from Easter eggs on the kerbside and any plastic protective cases can be recycled with food and household plastic pots, tubs and trays at all recycling sites.
- If sending Easter cards, avoid those with ribbons, glitter or other embellishments as these contaminate cardboard recycling.
- If giving Easter gifts, consider hand-making these, sourcing pre-loved presents from charity shops or buying sustainable eco-products.
- Cut down food waste by checking out [Love Food Hate Waste's portion planner](#) or their tasty recipes made from everyday leftovers. When shopping for Easter, do remember to check your cupboards, fridges and freezers when making your list so you know exactly what you need to buy.
- Visit SWP's social media channels for more ideas about wasting less and recycling more.

## Latest media

Recent communications included:

- [April recycling site opening hours](#)
- [SWP guide to waste free shopping](#)
- [SWP weather warning](#)

Upcoming communications will include recycling site opening hour reminders.

## Somerset Waste Board

SWP is the executive arm of SWB, with two members nominated by each of the six Somerset partner councils, one of which must be the portfolio holder for waste and/or the environment. The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the Board AGM from its membership. The next SWB meeting is on Friday 29 March 2019, when the Board will decide upon the new collection contractor. SWB meeting agendas, papers and reports are available [online](#).

For more on SWP, SWB and waste services: [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk).

SWB membership:

- **Mendip** – Cllrs Nigel Woollcombe-Adams (Vice Chair), Nigel Taylor
- **Sedgemoor** – Cllrs Dawn Hill, Gill Slocombe
- **Somerset County** – Cllrs David Hall, Mike Pullin
- **South Somerset** – Cllrs Jo Roundell Greene, Derek Yeomans (Chairman)
- **Taunton Deane Borough** – Cllrs Patrick Berry, Hazel Prior-Sankey
- **West Somerset** – Cllrs Martin Dewdney, Brenda Maitland-Walker

## Information on SWP services

For all advice and information, visit [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk).

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and sign up to our e-zine on our [website](#). All partners' customer service helplines can assist with service enquiries.

