



Newtownabbey

BOROUGH COUNCIL

FOOD WASTE AND KITCHEN CADDIES - FAQ's

Why are we collecting food waste?

Food waste creates methane when disposed of in landfill. Methane is a harmful gas which has been proven to be a major player in today's climate change problems. Taking future food waste away from landfill sites and taking it to plants which can turn it into either compost or bio fuel will ensure that it is treated in such a way that it becomes a useful product instead of a harmful one.

What are kitchen caddies?

Kitchen caddies are small lidded bins that you can put on the table top, work surface or under the sink and can be used to collect small quantities of biodegradable waste such as food waste, vegetable and fruit peelings, bones, teabags etc.

What can I put in the food waste kitchen caddy?

You can put cooked and uncooked food waste including meat, vegetable and fruit peelings, egg shells, tea bags and coffee grounds. ***No packaging.***

What size are the caddies?

The kitchen caddies have around a seven litre capacity, and measure between 18-20cm high and 15-25cm wide.

Why do I have to use liners with the caddy?

Biodegradable liners will be issued with the kitchen caddy as a liner and to help you easily take your food waste out to your brown lidded bin. The caddies are vented and liners prevent any leakage.

How many biodegradable bags will I get?

Householders will receive a roll of approx 20 bags with the new bin and caddy.

What happens when I run out of biodegradable liners?

Information on how to reorder your biodegradable liners will be available from Newtownabbey Borough Council by telephoning 028 9034 0211 or they can be obtained from the collection crew by placing a note on your bin requesting a new roll of bags.

Can I use normal plastic bags as liners?

You ***CANNOT*** use normal plastic or carrier bags as liners; they are not biodegradable and will not decompose or render down. They cannot be processed at the treatment plant and will be treated as contamination if found in brown lidded bins. Your bin will not be emptied if plastic bags are found within and a contamination tag will be placed on your bin to inform you of this.

Do I have to use a liner?

The caddies are vented so will leak if not used with a biodegradable liner.

Won't the caddy smell with food in it?

Vents on the side of the caddy are specially designed to allow water to evaporate which will minimise smells. We recommend that you empty your caddy once or twice a week. The waste should be placed in your brown lidded bin which should be kept away from radiators and other heating elements to reduce the possibility of the food waste creating any unpleasant odours.

Can I put food waste straight into the brown lidded bin?

For hygiene reasons we request that the liners provided are used at all times. Please note that we do not accept plastic in the brown-lidded bin, and we do not offer a bin cleaning service. Wrapped food waste must be presented in biodegradable liners only.

Can I put the biodegradable bags in my composter?

Yes, but we do not recommend the disposal of cooked food and meat in your home composter. Due to the open bottom in the composter it may encourage unwanted vermin.

*** Any further questions can be answered by calling Tel: 028 9034 0211.**