

# Frequently Asked Questions

# Reusable recycling bags

## Are the reusable bags replacing the single use plastic bags?

Yes, reusable recycling bags will replace the current single use plastic bags for your weekly recycling collections. We will no longer collect recycling in the plastic bags.

## Who is using the reusable bags?

Following a successful trial in parts of Monmouth and Caerwent on our large collection vehicles, we are rolling out reusable bags to some areas that are collected on our medium sized vehicle. This means you may see households in your area not included at this time and they will still be using the single-use plastic bags.

## I haven't received a reusable bag?

Your bags should have been left near your door. If they have gone missing please contact us.

## What should I do with large amounts of cardboard?

Any cardboard should be flattened and put inside your red recycling bag if possible. If you cannot fit the cardboard inside your bag you can place flat cardboard up to 1m<sup>2</sup> out for collection next to your recycling bag.

## I struggle to carry large bags, how can you help?

If you have difficulties carrying the bags, please contact us and our recycling officers will be able to help.

## Christmas

We realise at certain times of the year including Christmas, a lot of households will produce extra recycling. Extra recycling can be placed out either within a cardboard box or a spare plastic box that the crews will empty and return (please keep red and purple material separate). Cardboard boxes can be flattened and placed out next to your bags (Maximum size 1m<sup>2</sup>).

## Contact us:

Visit our website for more info: [monmouthshire.gov.uk/reusable-recycling-bags/](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/reusable-recycling-bags/)

01633 644644



@MonCCrecycling

Visit your local Community Hub/Library.

## YOUR NEW BAGS HAVE ARRIVED



**Collections start week of  
2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

# What you need to know...

- Following the letter you received recently, the introduction of reusable recycling bags is about to start.
- Today we have delivered your new reusable recycling bags (you will find them near your front door).
- **Please start filling them and then place them out for your first collection during the week of 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020.**
- **Your collection day has not changed.**
- **The reusable recycling bags will replace the current single use plastic bags for your weekly recycling collections.**
- The following materials can be put in the bags:

## Red recycling bag

Weekly

- Paper
- Card/cardboard
- Junk mail
- Envelopes
- Magazines and newspapers



## Purple recycling bag

Weekly

- Tins and cans
- Plastic bottles and tops
- Kitchen foil
- Empty aerosols
- Yoghurt pots and plastic punnets
- Margarine tubs and ready meal trays
- Juice cartons (Incl. Tetra Paks)



Each household has been delivered one red and one purple reusable bag.

Each bag will hold the equivalent recycling material of two of the previously supplied plastic bags. We know that this capacity will be adequate for most households, so we ask that you please try with the allocation delivered for two weeks. If you do find after two collections that you produce more recycling and think you need an extra bag, please contact us.

# Why are we changing?

- Reusable bags have been successfully trialled with over 2000 households in Monmouthshire since November 2019.
- Monmouthshire County Council have committed to reducing single use plastics. These new bags will reduce the amount of single use plastic we use, therefore lessening our impact on the environment.
- The recycling market prefers to receive the material loose, so removing our plastic bags should reduce processing cost.
- Reusable bags can be used over and over again so they will cost less to supply than the single use plastic bags we currently supply.

## How do I use the bags?

- You can write your house name/number in the box provided on the bags so they are easily identified.
- Place your clean recycling inside the correct bag.
- Use the Velcro seal to close the bag, this means the recycling will stay dry and securely contained. The bags are weighted to avoid them being blown away.
- Place your bags in the usual place by 7am on the morning of collection.

**Thank you!**

**We all need to waste less and recycle as much as we can to reduce our impact on the planet.**