

Dear Resident,

I am taking this opportunity to write to all properties with a communal/shared bin area. During the Christmas period we often see an increase in the "wrong type of waste" being left in these areas and therefore thought it would be useful to provide a reminder of what is and isn't acceptable waste to put in these bins during this time.

Blaby District Council's Environmental Health team and your Housing Association are working together to prevent the issues of incorrect waste disposal, waste left on the floor and the misuse of the waste and recycling bins. This can not only be a problem for the area as it is unsightly and has negative impact on the properties but can also cause environmental problems, health and safety risks, an increase in rodents and vermin, interferes with cleansing staff's duties which result in a reduced effectiveness of this service and may be a target for arson and vandalism.

Most items are accepted in the **refuse** bin, however the following items cannot be taken away.

- Construction waste, paint, trade or business waste, liquids, garden waste

Accepted items to put in the **recycling** bins are;

- Plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, tins and cans, paper, cardboard. (Please can I ask that any food/drink containers are rinsed prior to being disposed of as heavy soiled items cannot be recycled and often end up having to go to land fill)

Items that are **NOT** for the recycling bins;

- Garden waste, nappies, black bin liners, paint tins, food, polystyrene, pet waste, household waste.

Cardboard and waste that is left on the floor, white goods such as fridges and ovens, oversized items and furniture will not be collected by the cleansing staff and your landlords may take steps to reclaim any money incurred in getting these items removed should they be dumped. Landlords can report this issue to the environmental crime team and this can be treated as fly tipping, Section 33 of The Environmental Protection Act 1990. This offence can result in a £400 fixed penalty notice being issued or if pursued in court can result in up to an unlimited fine upon conviction.

I would therefore request your co-operation in taking steps to ensure that in all domestic waste is put in the correct bins and presented for collection on the correct day, or disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Thank you

Ashley Reynolds
Environmental Health Crime Officer

Teresa Neal, Leisure & Regulatory Services Group Manager

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