



**This list is constantly being updated as new items are added. If you are reading a print copy please check our web pages or call the waste hotline.**

We know residents want to recycle as much as possible, but also that plenty of items cause confusion.

This list shows items listed on your bin tag for collection, those listed as “no thanks” as well as common specific items we get asked about. It aims to clarify which bin to put items in and why. Just as importantly, other avenues of disposal for re-use, repair or recycling available to residents are listed.

If you cannot find your item listed or to arrange any special collections (large items, electricals and medical waste) please call the waste hotline 0800 17 44 99. Details of NKDC’s waste and recycling services can be found at [www.n-kesteven.gov.uk](http://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk) where there is also a link to Lincolnshire County Council’s website for your nearest Household Waste and Recycling Centres, their opening times and the items accepted.

The SustainNK team supports residents, schools and businesses in any way we can to help the environment and save money. Our dedicated website [www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sustainnk](http://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sustainnk) is designed to help our community to take positive action. You can also find out what NKDC has done and is doing to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions each year by around five per cent, creating savings of around £140,000 in the last three years.  
The team can be contacted on 01529 414155 or [sustainnk@n-kesteven.gov.uk](mailto:sustainnk@n-kesteven.gov.uk)

Item	Where to dispose/recycle/rehome	Why
<b>Aerosol cans</b>	Empty cans go in the green-lidded recycling bin	The tin-plated steel and aluminum are recovered and recycled.
	Cans containing liquids should be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre	Our collection lorries crush items and risk puncturing containers. If they are not empty this spills the contents, make a mess and potentially creates a hazard.
<b>Asbestos</b>	This must be collected by a licensed contractor	It is classed as hazardous waste and must be disposed of at specified sites. Staff at NKDC can tell you who is licensed in your area.
<b>Ash (cold only)</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Because there is no way for us to know what was burned and so what is in your ash, it must go for landfill rather than composting via garden waste wheelie bins.
	Compost bin	If you burn wood, the ash is a great dry addition to a home compost bin. Find out about discounted bins at <a href="http://www.getcomposting.com">www.getcomposting.com</a>

	Garden	Wood ash can also be put on your flower bed (it's a high potash fertiliser).
<b>Batteries</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centre	It's illegal for batteries to go into landfill. Not only are they toxic but they contain valuable material that can only be recovered by a specialist processor.
	Collection boxes in any retail shop that sells them	Any shop which sells batteries must now offer facilities to return them for recycling
<b>Biscuit tins</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	All metal food and drink containers can be recycled. See 'scrap metal' for all other metal items.
<b>Blankets, duvets, sheets and towels</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Soiled materials are only suitable for landfill.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Soiled items can be disposed of for landfill. <b>Clean blankets and sheets can be re-used or recycled.</b>
	Textile collections, textile banks and charities.	So long as it is clean, spare bedding in good condition may be welcomed by homelessness charities for re-use. Animal charities will be able to use more worn bedding and old towels, but it must still be clean.  Clean items which are donated but found unsuitable for re-use or resale are sold on to be shredded and used for a variety of low quality recycled products.
<b>Blister packs for tablets</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	These are normally a combination of plastic and metal that cannot be easily separated for the two materials to be recycled.  The cardboard box and paper leaflet accompanying most medication can go in your green-lidded recycling bin.
<b>Books</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Books can't be collected via green-lidded bins for recycling as they are often poor quality paper and they get ripped in the process of automated collection and sorting.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Charity book banks are available at recycling centres.
	Charity via shops, door step collections and their recycling banks.	Books in good enough condition to be read again should be donated to charity.
<b>Bottle tops – plastic and metal</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	These are recycled but we ask for them to be removed from their container before binning as they are often a different type of material - and removal will have to be done by hand at the sorting facility.
<b>Bread bags and thin plastic</b>	Black wheelie bin	Thin carrier bag type plastic around bread, fruit, veg, magazines and the peel off lids from cooked meat, ready meals and fruit punnets. These thin soft plastics, similar in thickness to carrier bags, are poor quality plastic which is hard to recycle.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	These thin plastics are almost worthless to recycling processors however in large quantities collected separately in

		the 'polythene' container at Household Waste Recycling Centres it can be worthwhile.
<b>Bricks, hardcore and rubble</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres	These are too heavy to be collected via wheelie bins. Recycling Waste Recycling Centres have a limit of one bin-load per day per household.
<b>Cans and tins</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	The metals will be separated and recycled.
<b>Carpets</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	If it's a small piece, please cut it up and put in your black bin if it fits in easily.
	Bulky waste collection	A collection can be arranged by calling the waste hotline.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres (check site acceptance list)	Large pieces of carpet will be taken for recycling or for landfill depending on the materials and the collection site.
	Re-use	Worn carpet can be used to cover garden compost heaps or under the liner when constructing a new pond.
<b>Carrier bags/thin plastic</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Carrier bags and thin soft plastic that looks similar such as bread bags and food wrapping, (not cling film) is poor quality plastic which is hard to recycle.
	Supermarket bag banks	Supermarkets <i>have to</i> offer recycling if they give away a certain number of free plastic bags. The collection points are normally found near the entrance or exit.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres (check list for sites where it is accepted)	These thin plastics are almost worthless to recycling processors however in large quantities collected separately at Household Waste Recycling Centres it can be worthwhile.
<b>Catalogues</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	All catalogues can be put in the recycling wheelie bin for the paper to be recycled (plastic sleeves must be removed, see bread bags and thin plastics for more details on disposing/recycling these).
<b>CDs/DVDs and cases</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Our recycling contractor does not accept CDs and DVDs so they cannot be put in the green-lidded recycling bin. However the cases on their own can be put in the green-lidded bin for recycling, please remove any paper information sheets/booklets. We do not list these on bin tags as often the discs are left in the cases which means extra work removing them by hand.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Both discs and the cases (minus paper inserts) can be placed in the 'Rigid plastics' container at Household Waste Recycling Centres for recycling.
	Donate to charity	Discs still in their cases are accepted by many charities for resale, or by musicMagpie for fundraising.
<b>Chemicals (household)</b>	Collection on request	Chemicals should not be put in any of resident's wheelie bins as they need specialist treatment for safe disposal. Free collection can be requested e.g. fertiliser, photographic chemicals, mercury (thermometers). This is financed by

		Lincolnshire County Council, but requests can be processed by our Environmental Health team.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Household chemicals are accepted at all recycling centres where staff will access locked storage.
<b>Cling film</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	For plastic to be recycled it is shredded and then melted to make new products. Cling film generally comes in small pieces and is too thin to be shredded for melting. It is also often soiled.
<b>Clothing – soiled</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Soiled clothing should be placed in landfill.  If you must bin them then the black bin is the option as textiles are not currently collected for recycling in resident’s green-lidded recycling bins.
<b>Clothing – clean/reusable</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres or donate to charity via shops, door step collections and their recycling banks	Clean, reusable clothing should be donated to charity. What is unsaleable will generally be sold on to the rag trade.
<b>Coat hangers</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Hangers are not accepted by our recycling contractor. Wood is not on our accepted recycling list, metal hangers have a tendency to get caught in sorting machinery and plastic hangers often have a metal hook (so contaminate either the metal or the plastic).
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Plain plastic hangers can be placed in the rigid plastics container at recycling centres for recycling.
	Donate to charity	Some charities and clothing shops may also accept hangers for reuse, please check before delivering your donation.
<b>Computers</b>	See ‘Electrical items’	
<b>Crisp packets</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill.	Even the most advanced recycling facilities can’t get that combination of metal and plastic apart for recycling.
<b>Curtains</b>	Black Wheelie bin for landfill	These are not currently accepting in green-lidded recycling bins.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Collected with clothes and textiles, and are taken by the Salvation Army for resale/recycling.
	Donate to charity via shops, door step collections and their recycling banks	Charities often welcome clean curtains for sale and reuse.
<b>DVDs (see CDs)</b>		
<b>Electrical items</b>	Bulky waste collections	It’s illegal to put electrical items in landfill because the valuable materials in them can be recycled. NKDC currently does not collect these items from green-lidded recycling bins, but collects them separately on request.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Electrical items are accepted at all centres. Check individual site’s accepted list of items to ensure they accept the items you plan to take.

	Donate to charity	The Lincoln branch of British Heart Foundation will collect fully working items they consider suitable for resale from anywhere in North Kesteven. Call 0844 412 5000.  Sleaford and District Furniture Recycling Project collect working items from within a 12 mile radius of Sleaford. Call 01529 307 060
<b>Engine oil</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres	This needs specialist treatment to enable it to be cleaned and re-used. It should be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre in a sealed container.
<b>Engine parts</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Most engine parts can be placed in the metals skip.
<b>Flower pots</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Flower pots tend to be made out of cheap, low quality, and therefore hard to recycle, plastics and so are not collected for recycling.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	As with all hard plastics these can be taken and placed in the Rigid Plastics container at recycling centres.
	Garden centres	Many garden centres accept pots back for re-use and recycling. Call and check before taking pots to them.
<b>Foil</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	Clean foil can easily be recycled – bigger pieces are most worthwhile.
<b>Food trays (plastic or cardboard)</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	Rinsed hard plastic trays (whatever their colour) for cardboard e.g. from ready meals, meat, fruit, veg etc can be recycled.
<b>Food trays (polystyrene)</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Black/grey soft polystyrene type food trays e.g. from meat, fruit, veg, cannot be recycled.
<b>Food waste</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Food waste <u>must not</u> be put in green-lidded recycling or brown garden waste bins. Recycling and compostable materials must remain free of food for it to go on for reprocessing, which is why we ask residents to rinse containers before putting them in their green-lidded recycling bin. The contents of our brown garden waste bins is laid outside and turned intermittently to break down into compost, by law food waste cannot be included in this process.
	Home composting bin ( <u>not</u> brown garden waste wheelie bin)	Raw fruit and vegetable food waste can be composted at home. Discounted bins available from <a href="http://www.getcomposting.com">www.getcomposting.com</a>  More information on how to compost and what to use it for is on the Sustainnk website.
<b>Furniture</b>	Black wheelie bin or bulky item collection.	Small items which fit easily in your bin will go to landfill, as will bulky items collected by arrangement.
	Household Waste Recycling Centre	There is more opportunity for materials to be sorted and recovered.

	Donate to charity or sell for re-use	Rehoming your furniture is the best option. The Lincoln branch of the British Heart Foundation, and (for people living within twelve miles of Sleaford), the Sleaford and District Furniture Recycling Project, will collect items they consider suitable for resale.  Conditions apply: see <a href="http://microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/sustainnk/residents/waste-and-recycling/re-homing-furniture/">http://microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/sustainnk/residents/waste-and-recycling/re-homing-furniture/</a> or call 0844 412 5000 for BHF, 01529 307060 for Sleaford Furniture Recycling.
<b>Glass</b> Bottles, jars and drinking glasses.	Green-lidded recycling bin	The best thing for bottles and jars is to re-use them, but if this is not possible they will be melted and made into new items.
<b>Glass</b> -Window glass, cosmetic containers and any other type of glass.	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Window glass, pyrex and other glass has subtly different properties from jars and bottles, often making them much tougher. The glass collected from recycling bins is spun in a drum like a washing machine with holes; as it spins the glass breaks and falls through. This does not work for the other glass so for now it cannot be collected and must instead be placed in the black landfill wheelie bin or taken to a Household Waste Recycling Centre.
<b>Glass</b> – window glass, mirrors and large pieces	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Large pieces of glass or those which are listed as <u>not</u> accepted for recycling in your green-lidded recycling bin can be taken for disposal at recycling centres.
<b>Glasses</b> – for Reading glasses see Spectacles		
<b>Grass sods</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres	These are too heavy to be collected from wheelie bins and are not good ingredients for making compost.
<b>Ice-cream and margarine tubs</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	These are collected for recycling.
<b>Knives</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Wrap in newspaper or similar for safety. They cannot be put in the green-lidded bin for safety reasons – the contents are hand-sorted.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Place with scrap metal.
<b>Light bulbs</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Bulbs
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Place in container for low energy bulbs and fluorescent tubes. These lights contain mercury which is recovered safely from items collected in dedicated skips.
<b>Magazines</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	These are collected for recycling (plastic sleeves must be removed, see bread bags and thin plastics for more details on

		disposing/recycling these).
<b>Mobile phones</b>	Donate to charity	Phones contain precious metals which take huge amounts of energy and environmental destruction to mine. Therefore they often have a monetary value and many charities, and some schools, collect unwanted mobile phones which are sold on for re-use, re-furbishment or recycling. Alternatively use one of the many website companies which will send you a freepost envelope to recycle your phone and maybe give you some money for it too. One example is <a href="http://www.envirophone.com">www.envirophone.com</a> , though there are many.
	Household Waste Recycling Centre	Place with electrical items
<b>Nappies (also, used tissues, sanitary protection, plasters, dressings etc)</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	They contain bodily fluids so cannot be recycled or composted regardless of the original materials. Ideally consider choosing reusable, washable nappies (Lincolnshire County Council offer £30 cash back on £50+ purchases) or next best, degradable nappies: plastic ones will sit in landfill for hundreds of years.
<b>Newspaper</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	Low quality paper can still be recycled
	Home composting bin ( <u>not</u> brown garden waste wheelie bin)	Compost heaps need wet and dry ingredients: paper counts as dry and helps when there is a high proportion of kitchen waste, lawn clippings or other 'wet' green material.
<b>Packaging</b> - E.g. from toothbrushes, toys and gadgets	Green-lidded recycling bin	Plastic and cardboard. Separate the two, remove any paper instructions and put all in your recycling bin.
<b>Paint and paint pots</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres (accepted at all sites)	Paint can contain ingredients which are harmful to the natural environment so need specialist disposal.
	Black wheelie bin	Paint pots which are <u>completely</u> empty and dry, inside and out, may be disposed of in landfill.
<b>Paper and cardboard</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	These will be sorted before being recycled.
<b>Phones (also see mobile phones)</b>	Not in your bin	These count as small electrical items. For disposal, please take to a Household Waste Recycling Centre or call NKDC who can collect electrical and electronic items by arrangement. If the item is in working order then re-homing or donating to charity is a better option
<b>Pillows</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Not acceptable in green-lidded recycling bins, they are likely to get damaged and therefore not be reuseable.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	These will be put in landfill as it is not practical to separate materials.

	Donate to charity via shops, door step collections and their recycling banks	Charities (e.g. animal and homeless) often welcome clean pillows.
<b>Plastic containers (not listed on bin tag)</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	Any rinsed out plastic containers from food, cosmetics and cleaning products are collected via the green-lidded recycling bin.
	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Any containers which cannot be rinsed out are not able to be recycled e.g. toothpaste tubes
<b>Polystyrene</b> Also see 'food trays'.	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Being an item that is lightweight and often in large pieces it takes up a lot of room compared to the other items we collect via resident's green-lidded recycling wheelie bins, it is also a low value material so we do not take it for recycling
	Household Waste Recycling Centres (check list for sites where it is accepted)	It is recyclable when collected in bulk.
	Return to sender/provider	Some companies will offer to take back the packaging of large items they deliver.
<b>Printer cartridges</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	These cannot be recycled through our green-lidded bin collection.
	Refill	Many manufacturers will provide prepaid envelopes on request or some companies offer refill services e.g. Cartridge World.
	Donate to charity	Many charities gather and sort cartridges to sell back for re-charging and recycling.
<b>Records (music)</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	We cannot recycle these.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Records which are unable to be reused can be recycled via the 'rigid plastic' container at recycling centres (please remove paper/card sleeves and recycle these separately).
	Donate to charity	Many charities will accept unscratched records for resale.
<b>Rubber gloves</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	You can reduce waste from these by only throwing out the one with the leak – replacing them one hand at a time rather than discarding a pair.
<b>Scrap metal also see 'Electricals'</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Saucepan sized or smaller only.



	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Ideally all metal items and electricals, including fire extinguishers and gas bottles, should be taken to Household Waste Recycling Centres. Metals are valuable and take a lot of energy to refine and have a monetary value.
	Scrap metal dealer	Once you've built up enough to take, metal can be taken to scrap metals dealers who will pay to take it off your hands.
<b>Shredded paper</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	Shredded paper is accepted for recycling. Sheets of paper are easier to recycle so please only shred where necessary e.g. confidential paperwork
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Shredded paper can be placed in the paper recycling bins at recycling centres. However do be aware that if you have more than one bag staff may need to check with you that it is not waste from a small business as these sites are for household waste only.
	Home composting bin (not brown wheeled bin) Use as pet bedding – see below	Discounted compost bins available from <a href="http://www.getcomposting.com">www.getcomposting.com</a> - to make good compost is made from 50% wet items (e.g. grass, fruit and veg peelings and 50% dry items (e.g. dry leaves, cardboard, shredded paper)
<b>Soiled pet bedding</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	For safety and hygiene reasons animal waste cannot be commercially composted and therefore is not collected in either the brown garden waste bin or green-lidded recycling bin.
	Home compost bin (not brown wheeled bin)	Discounted compost bins are available from <a href="http://www.getcomposting.com">www.getcomposting.com</a> . Straw and paper from plant eaters like rabbits and guinea pigs can be home-composted. Animal waste from dogs, cats, reptiles and other meat eaters is potentially hazardous and should be land-filled.
<b>Spectacles</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Because of the type of glass, chemicals that are added to the glass and the mixture of glass and metal which is hard to separate, we do not accept these for recycling.
	Opticians	Most collect old spectacles for the charity Visionaid
<b>Telephone directories and Yellow Pages</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	The paper will be recycled
<b>Toys</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	Toys are often thrown away because they are broken or dirty. Toys cannot be collected in green-lidded recycling bins, even if they are in good condition as they are likely to be damaged during collection and the recycling sorting facility we use is not designed to deal with these items.
	Donate to charity	Many charity shops and toy libraries accept toys in good condition.
<b>Tree stumps and root balls</b>	Household Waste Recycling Centres	These are too heavy to be collected in wheelie bins and no good for recycling.

<b>Tyres (car)</b>	Tyre-fitting centre or garage	It is illegal to landfill tyres. When your car tyres are replaced at the garage they go through a specialist collector to be reprocessed into materials such as surfaces for equestrian or sports pitches, carpet underlay, drainage systems, roof tiles, road and playground surfaces, even laminate flooring. If you have old spare tyres to dispose of, most tyre-fitting centres will take them for the cost of disposal (about £1.50 per tyre). Lincolnshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres no longer accept tyres.
<b>Unwanted/junk mail</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	The paper content will be recycled (remem
<b>Video cassettes</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	The tape inside causes real problems in the sorting machines, wrapping itself around the equipment. If you are a really conscientious recycler you can remove the tape (and put in landfill) and place the empty plastic case in your green-lidded recycling bin.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	With the tape removed the plastic case can also be put in the 'Rigid plastic' recycling container for recycling. Please note that book and music banks at some Household Waste Recycling Centres accept DVDs but not videos.
	Donate to charity	Many charity shops still accept these for reuse/resale.
<b>Waxed cartons</b>	Green-lidded recycling bins	These will be recycled.
<b>Wires/cables</b>	Black wheelie bin for landfill	NKDC does not currently collect these items from green-lidded recycling bins.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	These should be taken recycling centres and recycled with electrical items so that the valuable metal can be recovered and reused.
<b>Wood</b>	Brown garden waste wheelie bin	Twigs, small branches and real Christmas trees (cut into small pieces) can all be put in brown garden waste bins for composting.
	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Large pieces or other wood, broken furniture or DIY leftovers will be chipped and recycled if taken to a recycling centre.
<b>Yoghurt pots</b>	Green-lidded recycling bin	These will be recycled.