# DON'T WANT YOUR GARDEN BIN TO BE COLLECTED?

If you don't want to continue receiving fortnightly garden bin collections, there are other ways you can dispose of your garden waste.

# Make your own compost at home

Composting is a lowcost, natural process that transforms kitchen and garden waste into a valuable and nutrient rich food for your garden.

It can help to improve your soil and reduce the chances of plant disease, and you'll also be doing your bit for the environment.

Your plants and flowers (both indoor and outdoor varieties!) will love you for doing it too.

With the right knowledge and tools, it's easy to make and easy to use. If you're new to composting at home or just looking for some hints and tips, our local composting community has plenty of advice: cheshireeast.gov.uk/homecomposting

## Household waste recycling centres

If home composting isn't an option, it remains free for you to dispose of your garden waste at our household waste recycling centres.

Remember: garden waste should never be placed in your black or silver bin.

## What to do with your garden bin

If you don't subscribe, please keep your garden bin at your property as it's assigned to the property and not a person – we won't take your bin away. If you change your mind about subscribing, you can sign up at any time.





We're facing significant financial pressures like many other local authorities. We must look at other ways of creating income – the alternative would be to cut essential frontline services.

More than 65% of local authorities already charge to collect garden waste and many have been doing so for several years. You'll only pay for the service if you opt-in.

#### Who can sign up?

Some properties are not suitable for us to collect from due to operational reasons. You can check if your property is eligible for the scheme during the subscription process.

If you currently use a larger communal bin to dispose of your garden waste (for example, you live in a flat) your housing provider or letting agent will need to arrange the garden waste subscription and the management of this.

#### Sharing your subscription

If you're eligible for a subscription and think one garden bin can meet the needs of you and your neighbour – or a group of neighbours – then you can share a bin.

The subscription fee applies per bin, so if you wish to share, then one of you will need to be the named subscriber and pay the fee. **cheshireeast.gov.uk/gardenbin** 



This leaflet has been produced using Forest Stewardship Council accredited paper. Please make every effort to recycle your copy after you've read it. Each copy of this leaflet has cost 11p to design, print and distribute to every household in Cheshire East. An electronic version can be found on our website and made available in alternative formats on request. We're sorry if you've received this leaflet but are not eligible for the Garden Waste Recycling Scheme.









#### HOW TO SIGN UP Sign up now so that you're ready to go once the new collection year starts in mid-January

#### STEP 1

The quickest and easiest way to subscribe is by visiting: cheshireeast.gov.uk/gardenbin or scan the OR code.



#### STEP 2

Click the 'subscribe' button.



#### STEP 3

You'll be taken to our subscription portal where you'll need to create a new account and register an address for the scheme (if your address is not eligible, you'll see a message on screen).



#### STEP 4

Once your account is set up, you'll be able to see the details we hold for your address, including the number of bins you have. You'll be able to make changes if any of the details are incorrect.



#### STEP 5

Click the green subscribe button under the Garden Waste Service tab, and follow the prompts from there.



#### STEP 6

You'll be asked to pay for your subscription at the end. All payments are secure. If you are not able to sign up online, contact us on 0300 123 5011

#### **SUBSCRIPTION FEES**

Signing up to the scheme **costs £56 per year, per bin**. For example, if you have two garden bins and would like us to collect both, you'll need a subscription for each bin.

If you live at the address and receive qualifying benefits, you will get a 25% reduction in the fee, meaning you will pay £42 per garden bin for the year.

We'll write to you each year before your subscription ends asking if you'd like to renew. If you do renew, you'll be sent a new subscription sticker for that year.



### YOUR SUBSCRIPTION STICKER

Once you've subscribed, we'll send you a welcome pack

This will contain your subscription sticker and details of where you should attach this to your bin so that it can be easily seen by our collection crews.

#### Place the sticker on the back of your bin

Your sticker will have your address and unique reference number on it, which allows our waste teams to check that your bin is at the correct location.





#### **YOUR COLLECTIONS**



The scheme starts on 15 January **2024** and your usual collection day will remain the same. Collections are fortnightly.

As this is a seasonal service, there are no collections between mid-December and mid-**January** each year. This year, garden bin collections will finish on 18 December and restart for subscribers on 15 January 2024.

You can check your next collection day online at: cheshireeast.gov.uk/bins

#### WHAT HAPPENS TO **YOUR GARDEN WASTE**

If you subscribe, we'll take your garden waste to our state-of-the-art facility in Crewe, where it will be turned into compost for use in agriculture and horticulture. Customers who subscribe may choose to continue to recycle their food waste by putting







