



# HOW TO START YOUR OWN RECYCLING AND REUSE COLLECTION



The  
Environment  
Centre

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# BEYOND RECYCLING SWANSEA

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Beyond Recycling Swansea works to help develop the circular economy and encourage reuse, repair and recycling locally.

BRS is located in the Environment Centre, Swansea, and delivers multiple projects, a recycling and information hub and outreach events. BRS is active within the community to help people start their environmentally-friendly journey and assist those who want to be more proactive.

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# INTRODUCTION

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WALES IS

#1 IN UK

#2 IN EUROPE

#3 IN THE WORLD

FOR RECYCLING

People in Wales are some of the best in the world when it comes to recycling. However, there are many more items and materials that can be recycled than what is collected from your kerbside every week. By starting up your own collection point, you can help to deal with those hard-to-recycle waste items.

Recycling and reuse is great for the planet because it:

1. Conserves natural resources
2. Protects ecosystems and wildlife
3. Reduces demand for raw materials
4. Saves energy
5. Cuts climate changing carbon emissions

Hosting a recycling collection can also bring footfall to your club, church, shop, pub or similar, as well as in some cases raising funds for your group or charity.

We've jam-packed this guide with lots of useful information to get you going on your recycling station journey.

# WHAT TO RECYCLE?

There are many different things that can be recycled. This guide just gives a flavour of what is available and is by no means an exhaustive list. You may find there is a specific item relevant to your organisation that would suit you to recycle or perhaps your group wants to provide a more general recycling service to help your community tackle hard-to-recycle items.

ITEM		PAID	FREE POST
CDs and DVDs	The Environment Centre	No	No
Worn out kids' wellies	The Environment Centre	No	No
Bike inner tubes	Cycle of Good	No	No
Umbrellas	Eto Eto	No	No
Batteries	<a href="http://recycle-more.co.uk">recycle-more.co.uk</a>	No	Yes
Corks	<a href="http://recorkeduk.org">recorkeduk.org</a>	No	No
Ink cartridges	<a href="http://theinkbin.co.uk">theinkbin.co.uk</a>	Yes	Yes
Fishing lines	<a href="http://anglers-nlrs.co.uk">anglers-nlrs.co.uk</a>	No	No
Hearing aids	<a href="http://chillions.org.uk/specs.htm">chillions.org.uk/specs.htm</a>	No	No
Small electricals	<a href="http://recyclingforgoodcauses.org">recyclingforgoodcauses.org</a>	Yes	Yes
Stamps	<a href="http://recyclingforgoodcauses.org">recyclingforgoodcauses.org</a>	Yes	Yes
Terracycle	Terracycle local coordinator	Yes	Check locally

## TERRACYCLE

Terracycle is a scheme that collects hard-to-recycle items such as crisps packets and bread bags. The list often changes, so to get started with Terracycle try out our handy online guide: [environmentcentre.org.uk/how-to-terracycle](http://environmentcentre.org.uk/how-to-terracycle)



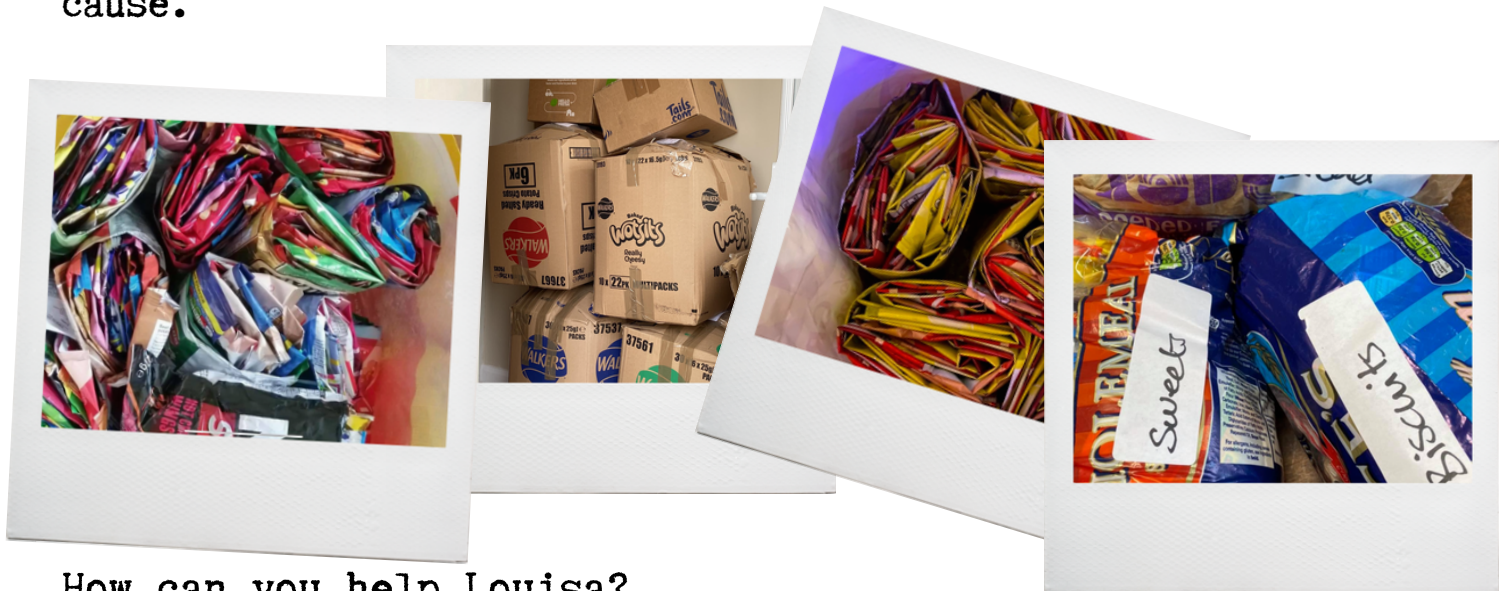
# Recycling Fundraising

## Waunarlwydd, Swansea

Recycling Fundraising is run by Local Superstar Louisa who has been collecting for Terracycle for over ten years.

If you want to collect Terracycle items in Swansea, you will need to contact Louisa to organise getting your items to Terracycle

Louisa collects on behalf of her children's school, however if you collect enough items and so wish, Louisa will record how much you have collected each year and then make payment to your cause.



How can you help Louisa?

- Regularly check her page to make sure your up to date on what items are being collected, they often change
- Make sure your items have been thoroughly sorted
- Label your collections
- Keep your collections dry and clean



To get in contact with Louisa scan this code, check out her page [facebook.com/WaunarlwyddPrimarySchoolRecycle](https://www.facebook.com/WaunarlwyddPrimarySchoolRecycle) or email [recyclingtassimos@gmail.com](mailto:recyclingtassimos@gmail.com)

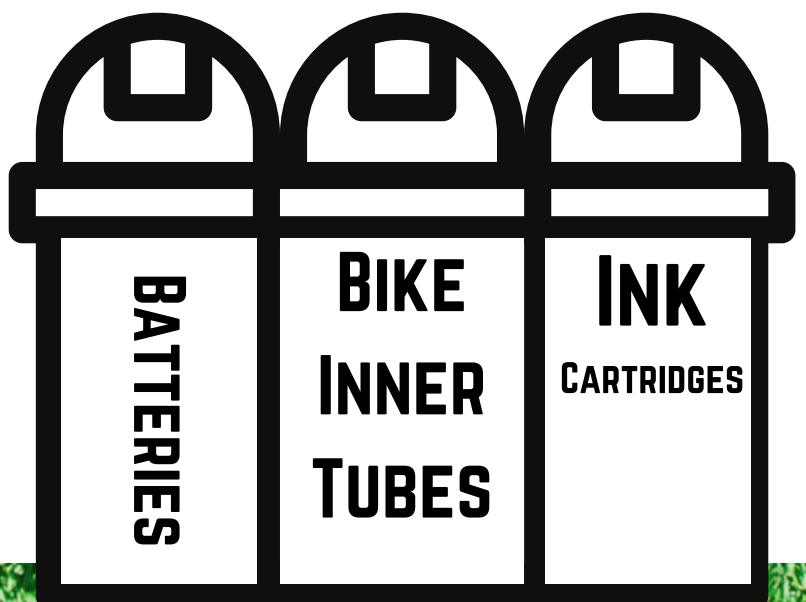
# SORTING AND SEGREGATING

As with all recycling - be that at home, in the office or at recycling centres - segregation is key. Each company is only looking for certain items, so sending the wrong items to them is a waste of time and could result in your load being rejected. Many recycling schemes are run by charities and they will have to pay to dispose of items that can't be recycled - the same will happen to you if people drop off items that you can't recycle.



## TOP TIPS

- Choose your collection point. A good collection point could be an old bin or a cardboard box. It all depends on how much you think you are going to collect, where it's going to go, as well as how often you think it might need emptying.
- Make it very obvious to people what can and can't go into the collection point
- If you are collecting several different items it may be easier to have several smaller collection points than one large one - this will also mean less sorting time for you
- When sorting through your collection be sure wear gloves and wash hands



## STORAGE AND SENDING OFF

Once you've started you've collection you may be soon faced with the reality of having to deal with heaps and heaps of recycling. Storage is an important factor to consider when starting your collection point.

You will need to balance how much space you have to store items with how often you want to send off for your recycling. It's worth noting that many schemes have minimum shipping amounts. For example, you will only earn Terracycle points for shipments of 5kg and over.

While Recycling for Good Causes asks for a minimum of 10kg. If you are responsible for delivery, it's best to collect enough for a full car load so that you are not making loads of trips. This means that will you also need to find suitable storage space. A car load of recycling takes up more space in an office than you would think. It might be worthwhile thinking about some outside storage space. There are all sorts of options including wheelie bins, or possible even a custom made covered collection point (with a green roof for bonus points!)





# RECYCLING AND REUSE CHECK LIST

- Find a suitable location
- Apply for a waste carriers' licence (if applicable)
- Decide what items you want to recycle
- Source or build your collection point
- Clearly label your collection point
- Advertise your collection
- Sort sort sort
- Prepare your recycling for collection/delivery
- Repeat
- Help save the planet

## WILL I NEED A WASTE CARRIERS' LICENCE?

A waste carriers' licence will only be needed if you will be transporting waste. In most cases, a waste carriers' licence will not be needed for a recycling point. It's really quick and easy to check if you need one and to apply if you do. For small scale recycling, a waste carriers' licence is free

For up to date guidance check out:

[naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/waste-permitting](http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/waste-permitting)